



3. Four countries from Oceania competed in the XIX Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India - namely Australia, New Zealand, Norfolk Island and Papua New Guinea.

Australia and New Zealand had outstanding success, winning medals in the following events:

Women's Singles	Australia	Bronze Medal
Men's Doubles	Australia	Silver & Bronze Medals
Women's Doubles	New Zealand	Gold Medal
	Australia	Bronze Medal
Mixed Doubles	Australia	Gold Medal
	New Zealand	Silver Medal

New Zealand's success in the Squash Competition was recognised with Joelle King being given the honour of carrying her country's flag at the closing ceremony.

Norfolk Island also registered a milestone by winning its first ever match in the Commonwealth Games Squash Competition with a first round win in the Men's Doubles Event.

4. Squash is an optional sport selection in the Pacific Games and was successful in being included in the recently held XIV Pacific Games which took place in New Caledonia. Over 3,500 athletes from 22 countries participated in 27 sporting disciplines in Noumea and other areas with the French Territory. Over 150,000 spectators attended the Games which was officially opened by French President Nicholas Sarkozy.

A total of six countries competed in the Squash program which included a Men's and Ladies Teams Competition, Men's and Ladies Singles Competition and Men's, Ladies and Mixed Doubles Competition. Host nation New Caledonia dominated the medal count with 7 Gold, 3 Silver and 2 Bronze medals, followed by Fiji with 2 Silver and 2 Bronze medals and Samoa with 1 Silver and 2 Bronze medals. The prestigious Phillip Cridge Most Improved Player Award went to Lyle Marsters of Cook Islands.

Squash was well patronised and the new Singles and Doubles courts built for the Games had excellent gallery provision. Technical Officials from Australia and New Zealand assisted local officials with the running of the Squash Competition. The "Pacific Attitude" prevailed and the event ran smoothly and while the on-court competition was extremely competitive, everyone enjoyed the occasion.

The XV Pacific Games will take place in Papua New Guinea in 2015 and Squash is one of 32 sporting disciplines identified for possible inclusion in the Games programme and for facilities upgrading or the construction of new facilities. New squash facilities will be constructed in Port Moresby, however, lobbying is continuing for the inclusion of Squash in the Games programme as the number of sporting disciplines will be reduced to 28 and Squash is in optional sports category.

5. The 10<sup>th</sup> Oceania Squash Championships were held in conjunction with the XIV Pacific Games in New Caledonia. However, in 2013 it will be held in Norfolk Island as a stand-alone event as Squash is not included on the 2013 Pacific Mini Games programme in Wallis & Futuna.
6. A comprehensive review of the Squash programme is to be undertaken by the OSF in association with the Pacific Games Council in an effort to reduce costs for future Pacific Games/Mini Games/Oceania Championship participation. High costs and the time required is impacting on the availability of athletes to attend these events.



7. Almost every OSF member country now conduct a national open championship and in Australia and New Zealand these are supported by other events for touring players. For example, 43 men's and women's tour events were held across Australia in 2010.

The principal event for the region in 2011 was the Australian Open which was hosted by the Australian Capital Territory Squash Association and held in Canberra, Australia. A large contingent of PSA and WISPA players competed on the all glass court at the Canberra Convention and Exhibition Centre. The Open attracted excellent spectator attendances and media coverage.

The Oceania Open was held in 2010 in Port Moresby, PNG and plans were in progress for a significant increase in prizemoney for the 2011 event. However, due to delays in court completion this year's event has been rescheduled for 2012.

The OSF is committed to working with its member countries in developing a strong professional tour circuit in Oceania.

8. The Arafura Games is held in Darwin, Australia biennially and attracts competitors from both the Oceania and near Asian region. Squash is a competition sport in the Games and it provides an opportunity for Oceania players to match their skills against their Asian counterparts. A very successful Games was held in 2011 attracting a wide range of entries.
9. Australia welcomed a large contingent of players to Melbourne to compete in the 2010 World University Squash Championships. This was an outstanding event and congratulations to the Organisers.

Squash in the University environment is an area that has enormous potential and should be given greater emphasis in the future.

10. The promotion and development of Masters Squash continues to be an important element of our sport in the region.

The Oceania Masters Championship is an annual event and the 17<sup>th</sup> Oceania Masters in 2010 was hosted by the Samoa Squash Rackets Association and held in Apia during the Tevila Festival.

The 18<sup>th</sup> Oceania Masters is being held shortly in Norfolk Island while Cook Islands Squash will host the 19<sup>th</sup> Masters in Rarotonga for the first time.

Australia and New Zealand also continue to run a strong Masters program.

11. New Zealand was a proud host of the World Women's Team Championship in November last year at Palmerston North with 16 nations competing in the event. The Championship was an outstanding success and the New Zealand organisers are to be congratulated for their superb conduct of the event. Matches were covered by Sky Sports and there was live web streaming of the semi-finals and final. The Championship was also a great occasion for Oceania with the Australian Women's Team taking out the Gold Medal and New Zealand gaining 4<sup>th</sup> place.
12. Refereeing and the interpretation of the rules of both the Singles and Doubles Game is an important aspect of our sport - greater than most sports due to the confined playing area. The OSF is fortunate in having a very active Refereeing & Rules Committee with highly qualified people who also make a significant contribution to the world body.



There are over 230 Markers & Referees accredited across the region while Oceania now has 6 fully accredited Regional Referees. The WSF is to be commended for sending an international refereeing assessor to the 2010 and 2011 Australian Open. A great deal of work has also been done on an appropriate CBTA program for the region.

13. The 2015 Commonwealth Youth Games will be held in Samoa and Squash is one of the sports on the Games programme. Preparations have already commenced for the Games which will include the construction of additional squash courts.
14. Youth and Junior development still remains a major challenge for the OSF and the region generally. The region does not have an Oceania Youth or Junior Championship which is both disappointing and of concern to the future development of the sport.

The lack of funding to provide adequate coaching resources and on-going competitive opportunities for our young players makes it extremely difficult to retain their interest and commitment to the sport.

The introduction by the WSF of a Junior ranking system is an important step in the Olympic bid process as well as increasing pressure on our region and its member countries to review their current practices in the youth and junior area. Australia is already addressing this with a review of its National Junior Series which attract players from throughout the Oceania Region.

15. The OSF continues to be supported by a number of standing committees who provide specialist advice to the Federation. These committees are aligned to their respective WSF standing committees. The committees play a valuable role in Oceania and in contributing to the WSF through their OSF appointed representatives.
16. The OSF has undertaken a comprehensive review of its constitution and governance structure and has developed a new constitution for presentation and adoption at its Workshop and General Meeting in Brisbane, Australia on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2011. The existing constitution has been in operation since 1992 and is well overdue for review. The new constitution includes provision for a streamlining of the governance process, more effective administration, and allowance for incorporation of the Federation. Following its adoption the Vision and Mission Statement and Strategic Objectives 2010 to 2015 will be reviewed and modified where necessary to comply with the new constitution and incorporation requirements.
17. New Zealand has had a busy twelve months with the appointment of a high performance coach and new club development director, the development of a major IT platform for squash members throughout the country and the ongoing development and implementation of a national coaching strategy. Planning for the next twelve months is -
  - A major structural reform of the organisation;
  - Ongoing development of the IT platform with emphasis on a competition management module, access and security systems for clubs and web based court booking systems throughout the country;
  - Appointment of a programme co-ordinator for the national office to look after masters, referees, national events and high performance;
  - Appointment of a regional manager to develop MOA's with each region working to a nationally aligned plan; and
  - Continuing development of national coaching resources and implementation.

18. The OSF continues to maintain its membership of the Olympic Sports Federation of Oceania (OSFO) and the Pacific Games Council (PGC). It also maintains a close relationship with the Oceania National Olympic Committee (ONOC) and the various NOC's, particularly in our developing countries. The OSF plays an active role on these organisations to maintain the awareness of our sport and lift its profile in the region. It is committed to supporting the objectives of these organisations.
19. The OSF maintains its commitment to the WSF and supports its strategic objectives in the development of squash on a world wide basis. It is also committed to the WSF achieving the Olympic" dream".

The prime objective of the OSF, however, is to service its members in Oceania and assist them in furthering the development of Squash in the Oceania.

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26<sup>th</sup> September, 2011

