

2007 ROTUMA GAMES REPORT

The Fiji Rotuman Sports Council has continuously invested in the talents and skills of Rotuman sportsmen and women. This is evident in the annual Rotuman Sports Day held in two separate months; volleyball tourneys which are usually scheduled around mid year, in May while rugby and netball are held in October. Documented games records and results available on the Rotuman website (www.rotuma.net) date back to 1997. However, the Rotuma Games are thought to have started way before 1995 when the FRSC Constitution was revised and passed at the Council meeting held in March. More than a decade later, an increasing number of Rotumans have come out to showcase their sporting talents at the Rotuma Games.

More recent and positive developments have come to light in this new century. The 2007 Rotuma Games was tagged a successful event. The 2007 volleyball tourney was hosted by Suva based Satarua, while the Rugby and Netball tourneys were hosted by the Council. However, participating in these yearly games is never an easy task especially for affiliated Clubs who live further away from where the games are held. The volleyball tourney this year saw only five Clubs participate; Suva Clubs Satarua, Rae'sea and Sarafui, Nadi based Granville and Mairo from the 'Burning West', Lautoka. Economic uncertainty faced by Rotumans living in Vatukoula as a result of the controversial operations of the Vatukoula Gold Mine during mid year resulted in their absence from the games.

For affiliated Clubs from overseas, the obvious transportation, financial difficulties, home and work commitments hindered their participation in the volleyball, rugby and netball tourneys this year. Our Motherland team, Rotuma managed to participate in the netball and rugby tourneys and their efforts to participate was exceptionally overwhelming considering the difficulties they faced. On the whole, the games provided a great opportunity for families to spend the day relaxing and cheering for their respective teams. On the other hand, some people took this opportune time to make business selling food, soft drinks and snacks. Something different though at the October Games was face painting for kids and this was indeed a very creative way to conduct business. The valiant effort of players from different Clubs was thrilling and awe-inspiring. However, at the end of it all, the dedication and commitment of a particular team throughout the year is recognized with the announcement of the Overall Winner. In this instance, Suva Club Satarua was named the 2007 Overall Winner of the Rotuma Games. The most crucial objective of these annual games is to promote, improve and develop the standard of players in the competition. If this objective is given top priority, no doubt more Rotuman representation in national and international sports would emerge. Below are the game results from the 2007 Rotuma Games in Fiji.

(Geraldine Panapasa – Media Liaison Officer, FRSC- 2008)

RESULTS OF THE 2007 ROTUMA GAMES
(game results provided by Council Secretary Feaserue Kafoa)

Volleyball

Venue – Suva Grammer Courts

Hosts – Satarua

Date – May 4th-5th

Womens “A”	-	Satarua
Womens “B”	-	Satarua
Mens “A”	-	Mairo
Mens “B”	-	Granville
Mixed	-	Rae’sea

Best Players

Womens “A”	-	Monica Vaurasi (Satarua)
Womens “B”	-	Susana Konrote (Satarua)
Mens “A”	-	Frances Pesamino (Mairo)
Mens “B”	-	Solomoni Qisavola (Mairo)
Mix	-	Lavenia Soqonalawa (Mairo)

Netball

Venue – Suva Grammer Courts

Hosts – Rae’sea, Sarafui, Satarua

Date – October 6th And 8th

Womens “A”	-	Sarafui
Womens “B”	-	Sarafui
Best Player	-	Jillian Tigarea (Rotuma)

Rugby

Venue – Suva Grammer Grounds

Hosts – Rae’sea, Sarafui And Satarua

Date – October 6th And 8th

Mens	-	Satarua
Mens “B”	-	Not Contested
Best Player	-	Mamatuki Wong (Rotuma)

Overall Winner – Satarua

Ends.