



**2007 OFC Beach Soccer Championship
FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Qualifier - New Zealand
Narrow Beck Beach, Devonport
7 July—8 July**

Event Report



FIFA BEACH SOCCER WORLD CUP

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TOURNAMENT ORGANISATION

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FOREWORD



The Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) was proud to host its second major beach soccer tournament at the beautiful Narrow Beck Beach on New Zealand's North Shore.

Beach soccer is important to OFC because it captures the imagination of the watching public. This form of football showcases the enormous potential and talent in the Oceania region and puts it on a public stage.

Beach soccer embraces the laidback, multicultural, easy going approach to life that we enjoy in the Oceania region, but mixes it with the talent and commitment displayed by our top athletes. I believe OFC has the potential to be a real world force in this form of football.

This is an exciting time for our confederation. The 'Bilikiki Boys' from the Solomon Islands have been terrific ambassadors on the international stage at the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup - Rio De Janeiro 2007 and the enthusiasm and popularity generated by their appearances has seen an explosion in the sports popularity throughout the region.

The decision to host our qualifiers in our own region has been the correct one by OFC, and you only have to see the appreciation and inspiration in the eyes of the children who rush the field after the games to realise the potential that we have in this form of the game.

I am looking forward to many more years of exciting beach soccer in the Oceania region and competing on the world stage with the best.

Yours in football,

Reynald Temarii
President
Oceania Football Confederation

GENERAL ORGANISATION

The Venue for the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) Beach Soccer Championship—New Zealand 2007 was originally planned for an indoor facility at the Vector Arena in Auckland.

The decision was made to change to Narrow Neck Beach in Davenport due to the tremendous costs involved with building a FIFA specific indoor pitch and the risk of causing permanent damage to the Vector Arena floor.

Narrow Neck Beach turned out to be an excellent location for the tournament with the support of the North Shore City Council.

Security and medical precautions were superbly managed by the LOC and the pitch was presented in immaculate condition for each match day.

The weather held out for a beautiful two days in Auckland and the event attracted a 500-strong crowd on the first game day and that number heavily increased for the finals.

OFC ran an invitational tournament in conjunction with the main Event which involved three teams from local communities including Fiji, Solomon Islands and Asia and was a big success,



MATCH OFFICIALS

Beach soccer is still a relatively new game for most of the participating teams at the 2007 OFC Beach Soccer Championships which is why a strong set of officials is imperative to the success of the tournament.

Seven Officials from Tahiti, Solomon Islands, Fiji, New Zealand and the Cook Islands did a magnificent job of regulating the eight matches which were played in great spirit.

The development of more beach soccer match officials is linked with the development of the sport in general

Match Officials:

Michael Boury	Tahiti
Justin Mutukera	Solomon Islands
Nitesh Naiker	Fiji
Mike Brock	New Zealand
Jamie Cross	New Zealand
Teariki Goodwin	Cook Islands
Harry Attison	Vanuatu



MEDIA AND MARKETING



The interest and attractiveness of beach soccer resulted in the 2007 OFC Beach Soccer Championship being fully self funded from sponsorship.

The event garnered a lot of media interest and video clips were shown throughout New Zealand's national news channels and ESPN.

The event received a front page write up in the North Shore Times as well as coverage in the New Zealand Herald and the national sports channel—Radio Sport.

The promotion of the event was a great success, particularly within the ethnic Auckland communities who

turned out in large numbers. Entertainment between games was provided by an ethnic tournament with teams from Fiji, Solomon Islands and Iraq.

Posters were also developed and placed around Auckland in key areas and sent to clubs which helped stir a lot of interest.

Having an MC and a DJ at the venue added to the atmosphere. Future entertainment could be developed to include cultural performances.



MATCH DAY 1

VANUATU GET OFF TO PERFECT START

Vanuatu exploded into life in the first match of the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Qualifier when they sparked an unlikely comeback to beat defending Oceania champions Solomon Islands 3-2.

James Naka scored the first two goals of the tournament in the 1st period, and the Bilikiki boys were cruising, until the Masauvakalo brothers Ken and Fenedy pulled two goals back for Vanuatu. Dereck Malas finished the job late in the 3rd period for Vanuatu and set the scene for an exciting first day.

Not to be outdone, Tahiti stormed to a 9-5 demolition of a young New Zealand side. Despite being a relative novice on the international scene Tahiti thrilled the crowd with slick interplay and awesome acrobatics. Their impressive win was built on the skills of Teva Zaveroni who scored four goals.

Vanuatu then overpowered a tiring Tahitian side 10-5 in the afternoon with the help of seven goals from the Masauvakalo brothers and some incisive finishing.

In the final match of the day the Solomon Islands stole the show with a James Naka winner to come from behind and beat a very talented New Zealand side. The scene was set for a very exciting match day two.



Results - Match Day 1 (7 July 2007)

Solomon Islands 2 (Naka 2)
Vanuatu 3 (Masauvalakalo 2, Malas)

New Zealand 5 (Fry, Ellensohn 3, Gwyther)
Tahiti 9 (Zaveroni 4, Qaeze, Mataitai, Lee Fung Kuee, Petillon, Own Goal)

Tahiti 5 (Zaveroni 4, Lee Fung Kuee)
Vanuatu 10 (Sam, Masauvakalo Ken 3, Masauvalako Fenedy 4, Soromon 2)

New Zealand 3 (Munday, Johnston, Fry)
Solomon Islands 4 (Koto 3, Naka)

STANDINGS AFTER MATCH DAY 1

Rank	Team	Play	WRT	WET	Lost	GF	GA	Diff	Points
1	Vanuatu	2	2	0	0	13	7	6	6
2	Solomon Islands	2	1	0	1	6	6	0	3
3	Tahiti	2	1	1	0	14	15	-1	3
4	New Zealand	2	0	0	2	8	13	-5	0

MATCH DAY 2

Match day two began with an exciting contest between the Solomon Islands and Tahiti. After an intense opening stanza with the sides locked at 3-3 experienced striker James Naka proved to be the match winner with two late strikes to propel the Bilikiki boys to a 5-3 victory.

This result relegated Tahiti to the third - fourth playoff and left New Zealand needing a win against a polished Vanuatu side to make the final.

But Vanuatu proved too strong and in the highest scoring match of the tournament and ran out victors 10-8 with Sam and Soromon both notching up four goals a-piece.

New Zealand then beat Tahiti 5-3 in the third-fourth playoff, in the curtain raiser for the highly anticipated final between Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands.

The Solomons outgunned a fatigued looking Vanuatu side in the final in an intense and passionate affair. The experience of Henry Koto and the pace and trickery of James Naka proved too hot to handle as they pumped the Bilikiki Boys off to an early lead.

Vanuatu attempted a spirited comeback and though they scored three goals in the third period, it was not enough to stop the Solomon Islands from claiming their second successive OFC Beach Soccer Championship and a spot at the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup in Rio De Janeiro.

Results - Match Day 2 (8 July 2007)

Solomon Islands 5 (Koto 2, Mela, Naka 2)
Tahiti 3 (Zaveroni 2, Pitoeff)

New Zealand 8 (Fry 3, Ellensohn, Gwyther, Johnston, Hogg 2)
Vanuatu 10 (Sam 4, Masauvakalo 2, Soromon 4)

FINAL STAGE - Match for the third rank

Tahiti 3 (Kugogne, Petillon, Zaveroni)
New Zealand 5 (Munday, Ellensohn, Fry 2, Gwyther)

MATCH FOR TOURNAMENT WINNER

Vanuatu 3 (Soromon 2, Yelou)
Solomon Islands 5 (Takayama, Mela, Koto, Naka 2)



STANDINGS AFTER GROUP STAGE

Rank	Team	Play	WRT	WET	Lost	GF	GA	Diff	Points
1	Vanuatu	3	3	0	0	23	15	8	9
2	Solomon Islands	3	2	0	1	11	9	2	6
3	Tahiti	3	1	0	1	17	20	-3	3
4	New Zealand	3	0	0	0	16	23	-7	0

FINAL STANDINGS

Rank	Team
1	Solomon Islands
2	Vanuatu
3	New Zealand
4	Tahiti

TEAM DATA

TAHITI

Tahiti

Final Ranking (4th)

Results

Vs. New Zealand 9-5
Vs. Vanuatu 5-10
Vs Solomon Islands 3-5

Third/Fourth Playoff

Vs. New Zealand 3-5

Goal Scorers

Tera ZAVERONI (11)
Raimana LEE FUNG KUEE (2)
Johan PETILLSON (2)
Thierry QAEZE (1)
Georges PITOEFF (1)
Billy MATAITAI (1)
Pierre KUGOGNE (1)

Squad

1. Tapeta DANIEL
2. Mikael ROCHE
3. Pierre KUGOGNE
4. Georges PITOEFF
5. Teva ZAVERONI
6. Raimana U FUNG KUEE
7. Jerem DUBOIS
8. Johan PETILLON
9. Billy MATAITAI
10. Thierry QAEZE



TEAM DATA

VANUTAU

Vanuatu

Final Ranking (2nd)

Results

Vs. Solomon Islands 3-2

Vs. Tahiti 10-5

Vs. New Zealand 10-8

Grand Final

Vs. Solomon Islands 3-5

Goal Scorers

Seule SOROMON (8)

Ken MASAUVAKALO (6)

Simon MOUSSA SAM (5)

Fenedy MASAUVAKALO (5)

Dereck MALAS (1)

Jean Robert YELOU (1)



Squad

1. Chikau MANSALE
2. Yanick MERKA
3. Dereck MALAS
4. Ken MASAUVAKALO
5. Iwai RICHARD
6. Poida MOISE
7. Seule SOROMON
8. Simon MOUSSA SAM
9. Fenedy MASAUVAKALO
10. Jean-Emmanuel MALEB



TEAM DATA

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand

Final Ranking (3rd)

Results

Vs. Tahiti 5-9

Vs. Solomon Islands 3-4

Vs. Vanuatu 8-10

Third/Fourth Playoff

Vs. Tahiti 5-3

Goal Scorers

Nathan FRY (7)

Daniel ELLENSOHN (5)

Michael GWYTHYR (3)

Stuart HOGG (2)

Dean JOHNSTON (2)

Mikael Olof MUNDAY (2)



Squad

1. Mitchell O'BRIEN
2. Simon EADDY
3. Joel MATTHEWS
4. David SAMSON
5. Dean JOHNSTON
6. Mikael MUNDAY
7. Stuart James HOGG
8. Nathan FRY
9. Michael GWYTEHR
10. Daniel ELLENSOHN



TEAM DATA

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Solomon Islands

Final Ranking (1st)

Results

Vs. Vanuatu 2-3

Vs. Tahiti 5-3

Vs. New Zealand 4-3

Grand Final

Vs. Vanuatu 5-3

Goal Scorers

James NAKA (7)

Henry KOTO (6)

Benjamin MELA (2)

Samson TAKAYAMA (1)

Squad

1. Fred HALE
1. John ANGA
2. Samson BILLY
3. Eddie NGAITIN
4. Richard ANISUA
5. Benjamin MELA
6. Henry KOTO
7. Gideon OMOKIRIO
8. Joe LUWI
9. James NAKA



AWARDS



James Naka (Solomon Islands)
Best Player



Fair Play Trophy
New Zealand



Solomon Islands
2007 OFC Beach Soccer Champions



Teva Zaveroni (Tahiti)
Top Goalscorer



Chikau Mansale
Best Goalkeeper (Vanuatu)

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