



# 2006 OFC Beach Soccer Championship FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Qualifier—Tahiti Temae Beach, Moorea 31 August – 3 September 2006

## Event Report



## CONTENTS

FOREWORD	3
GENERAL ORGANISATION	4
MEDIA	6
MATCH DAY 1	7
MATCH DAY 2	8
MATCH DAY 3	9
MATCH DAY 4	10
COOK ISLANDS	11
SOLOMON ISLANDS	12
TAHITI	13
VANUATU	14

## TOURNAMENT ORGANISATION

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## FOREWORD



The Oceania Football Confederation welcomed its first major beach soccer event in Moorea, French Polynesia and we are thankful that we have been able to host our own FIFA qualifiers in our confederation and give it a real Pacific flavour.

Initially the Oceania qualifiers were scheduled to be jointly held with the Asian event held in Dubai in May, but Tahiti proposed to host a tournament and the purpose-built facility at Temae Beach was constructed.

We would love for all our Member Associations to have a beach soccer pitch in their own countries to fast-track the development of the sport.

This is an exciting time for our Confederation, the event has shown us the talent and enthusiasm for beach soccer is already here. The qualification of the Solomon Islands could also be the catalyst for an explosion in the popularity of the sport in Oceania. For our confederation this is a watershed moment, the first time an island team enters the world stage an event 40 years in the making.

The decision to host our qualifier in our own region has paid off, you only have to see the number of children who invade the pitch after the matches to realize the potential we have in this form of the game.

I doubt there are many settings in world football that are as picturesque as this; we hope that Moorea becomes a permanent fixture on the international beach soccer calendar.

Yours in football,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'A' followed by some illegible characters.

Reynald Temarii  
President  
Oceania Football Confederation



## GENERAL ORGANISATION

The spectacular backdrop of the lagoon provided players, officials, and spectators with a breathtaking location for the OFC Beach Soccer Championships.

In fact Moorea was an excellent choice as the host for the tournament. Small logistical issues with team accommodation were quickly solved by the LOC, who impressed with their hospitality and willingness to assist where possible.

Each evening all participants were treated to a shared meal and performances which added to the friendly atmosphere created by the laid-back nature of the sport.

Security and medical precautions were also superbly managed by the LOC. The pitch was presented in immaculate condition for each match day and daily repairs made to signage and the grandstand when required.

As much as possible the natural beauty of the area was maintained and many thanks must be passed onto the local community for their part in allowing the site to be developed into the home of beach soccer in Oceania.

There was easy access for spectators and while initial crowds were small both weekend match days saw bumper crowds attend. However, a combination of bad weather and the elimination of the home team caused the numbers plateau for the finals day. A shift in date for the tournament to coincide with school holidays should secure good numbers in future years.

The expertise provided by Beach Soccer Worldwide representatives Fulvio Danilas and Philippe Bourdaris was invaluable and many lessons can be taken forward.

Areas of improvement include the sand quality and depth of the pitch and amendments to the existing stadium to meet FIFA and Beach Soccer Worldwide requirements.



## MATCH OFFICIALS



With beach soccer still relatively unknown for most of the participating teams at the 2006 OFC Beach Soccer Championships it was important that to have experienced match officials.

A joint agreement between OFC and FIFA saw the world body fund three beach soccer referees make the trip to Moorea to officiate at the tournament.

Earlier in the year Tahiti undertook a Member Association course under the leadership of Lakhdar Benchabane for beach soccer referees to bolster the match officials for the tournament.



Tahitian duo Danilo Pihate and David Roudaut were duly appointed for the tournament and Pihate was also given the honour of controlling the first OFC beach soccer final.

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

### Match Officials

Lakhdar Benchabane	France
Stephane Fassler	Switzerland
Christian Hauben	Belgium
Danilo Pihate	Tahiti
David Roudaut	France



## MEDIA AND MARKETING



The interest and attractiveness of beach soccer created such interest that for the first time in OFC history a tournament was self-funding from sponsorship. A family of sponsors provided financial support for the tournament.

The support of local station Tahiti Nui Television (TNTV) was invaluable in providing a platform for the event to be showcased to the football family of Oceania and the world.

Through their existing arrangements Beach Soccer Worldwide secured a one hour highlights package to be screened on ESPN International to an audience of 200,000 households around the globe.

The final screened live in Tahiti and copies are able to be provided to OFC Member Associations for the promotion of the sport.

The TNTV crew also produced pre and post-match interviews which added to the presentation and professionalism of the event.



OFC was also able to provide daily updates for all media and also provided copy for the FIFA and Beach Soccer Worldwide websites as well as the OFC website.



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



## MATCH DAY 1

### TAHITI AND VANUATU RECORD FIRST UP BEACH WINS

The picturesque setting at Temae Beach exploded into life with the colour and vibrance that beach soccer brings as Tahiti sounded a warning to their fellow competitors at the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Qualifier with an 8-1 demolition of the Cook Islands on the opening day in Moorea, French Polynesia.

Not to be outdone, Vanuatu accounted for their Melanesian neighbours the Solomon Islands 9-4 in a highly entertaining opening match.

Despite still being novices on the international scene Tahiti showed the benefit of having a purpose-built home facility thrilling the crowd with slick interplay and awesome acrobatics. Their impressive win was built on the skills of Abel Terevaura, Teiva Izal, Thierry Qaeze.

The plucky Cook Islanders gave it their all but their inexperience showed through as the size and aggression of the hosts won the day. Tahiti raced to a 5-0 lead after the first period and scored another before the Cooks pulled one back. The hosts eased of the pressure but maintained their dominance.

The match between the pre-tournament favourites Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands did not disappoint. The teams traded goals in the early stages of the first period with Vanuatu taking a slight advantage 3-1 into the first interval. Carlos Buzzetti's side then took a 6-2 lead into second interval. In the final period the Solomons staged a mini-comeback led by Henry Koto to take the score to 6-4 before Vanuatu scored regularly in final stages to secure the win.



### Results – Match Day 1 (31 August 2006)

**Vanuatu 9** (Sam 2, Maleb 2, K. Masauvakalo, Malas, Soromon, F. Masauvakalo, Chilia)  
**Solomon Islands 4** (Koto 3, Naka)

**Vanuatu** – 1. Chiaku Mansale; 2. Saen Fanai; 3. Ken Masauvakalo; 4. Derek Malas; 5. Mousa Sam; 6. Seimata Chilia; 7. Fenedy Masauvakalo; 8. Jean Emmanuel Maleb; 9. Seule Soromon; 11. Yanick Merka

**Solomon Islands** – 21. Fred Hale; 3. Gideon Omokirio; 4. Eddie Ngaitini; 5. Richard Anisua; 6. George Kwanae; 7. Henry Koto; 8. Sylvester Rogy; 9. Joe Luwi; 10. James Naka; 11. Paul Huia

**Tahiti 8** (T. Qaeze 4, Izal 2, Terevaura, J. Qaeze)  
**Cook Islands 1** (Mateariki)

**Tahiti** – 1. Mikael Roche; 2. Sebastien Labayen; 3. Jacques Qaeze; 4. Rainui Tirao; 5. Angelo Tchen; 6. Raimana Lee Fung Kuee; 7. Thierry Qaeze; 8. Abel Terevaura; 9. Teiva Izal; 11. Pierrot Malfati

**Cook Islands** – 1. Rouruoaroa Une; 2. John Pareanga; 3. Eugene Tattuava; 4. Grover Harmon; 5. Teariki Mateariki; 6. Paavo Mustonen; 7. Ruatoto Henry; 8. Eddie Brogan; 9. Tereapii Angene; 11. Anonga Tisam

## MATCH DAY 2

### 2 FROM 2 FOR VANUATU AS SOLOMONS SHOCK HOSTS



There was all to play for on Match Day 3 after a thrilling days play at Temae Beach. The Solomon Islands silenced the home supporters with a 3-2 win over the impressive Tahiti, while Vanuatu continued their winning ways with a 12-1 thumping of the Cook Islands.

In a hugely entertaining match in front of a parochial crowd it was the Solomon Islands who clinched the 3 points with James Naka scoring with a minute to play in the third period sending the Melanesians into ecstasy and the hosts into a winner-takes-all match with Vanuatu.

After a goalless first period the match burst into life soon after the resumption of play with Naka opening the scoring. Tahiti replied directly from the restart through Raimana Lee Fung Kuee squeezing his shot past the impressive Fred Hale in the Solomons goal. Richard Anisua gave the "Bilikiki Boys" the lead again with the help of a deflection from Angelo Tchen, but the hosts buoyed by their noisy home fans fought back with Tchen making amends for his earlier error.

With Naka continually causing a threat for the Tahitian rearguard it seemed only a matter of time before the Bilikiki would regain the lead but the goal would not come. The visitors struck the crossbar twice in quick succession, while at the other end Hale was being kept busy turning away wave-after-wave of Tahiti attacks. With overtime looming Naka buried a free-kick past Mikael Roche and the Solomons were then content to defend their slender lead.

Earlier in the day Vanuatu struggled to find cohesion against another brave Cook Islands effort. The lop-sided scoreline masked the difficulty Carlos Buzzetti's side had in breaking down the Cooks, in fact it was only a glut of goals in the third period of the match that ballooned the score out.

### Results – Match Day 2 (1 September 2006)

**Cook Islands 1** (Harmon)

**Vanuatu 12** (Soromon 4, Sam 2, Chilia 2, F. Masauvakalo 2, K. Masauvakalo, Maleb)

**Cook Islands** – 1. Rouruoaroa Une; 2. John Pareanga (c); 3. Eugene Tattuava; 4. Grover Harmon; 5. Teariki Mateariki; 6. Paavo Mustonen; 7. Ruatoto Henry; 8. Eddie Brogan; 9. Tereapii Angene; 11. Anonga Tisam

**Vanuatu** – 1. Chiaku Mansale; 2. Saen Fanai; 3. Ken Masauvakalo (c); 4. Derek Malas; 5. Mousa Sam; 6. Seimata Chilia; 7. Fenedy Masauvakalo; 8. Jean Emmanuel Maleb; 9. Seule Soromon; 11. Yanick Merka

**Tahiti 2** (Lee Fung Kuee, Tchen)

**Solomon Islands 3** (Naka 2, Anisua)

**Tahiti** – 1. Mikael Roche; 2. Sebastien Labayen; 3. Jacques Qaeze; 4. Rainui Tirao; 5. Angelo Tchen; 6. Raimana Lee Fung Kuee; 7. Thierry Qaeze; 8. Abel Terevaura (c); 9. Teiva Izal; 11. Pierrot Malfati

**Solomon Islands** – 1. Fred Hale; 3. Gideon Omokirio; 4. Eddie Ngaitini; 5. Richard Anisua; 6.



## MATCH DAY 3

### NEW WORLD CALLING FOR EITHER VANUATU OR SOLOMON ISLANDS



Either Vanuatu or the Solomon Islands would become the first Pacific Island country to qualify for a FIFA World Championship following the conclusion of Match Day 3 at the FIFA Beach Soccer Qualifier – Tahiti.

With the Solomons accounting for the Cook Islands 13-0 in the first match of the day, the hosts needed to topple the unbeaten Vanuatu to advance to the final at Temae Beach in Moorea. Four times Tahiti equalized but try as they may, it was not their day with Vanuatu triumphant 5-4.

Derek Malas opened the scoring before Teiva Izal equalized sending the packed stadium crazy. Seule Soromon again but the visitors in front but Izal again drew the teams level soon after. The third period had

the 2,000 plus crowd on the edge of their seats as the action shifted from end to end with each looking for the advantage.

Jean Emmanuel Maleb nudged Vanuatu ahead poking past Pierrot Malfati, but Raimana Lee Fung Kuee blasted past the impressive Chikau Mansale. Seimata Chilia scored making it 4-3 before Izal completed his hat-trick from the restart to again draw the teams level.

Finally it was Soromon who broke the deadlock a minute from the end to eliminate Tahiti and allow Melanesian neighbours the Solomon Islands to sneak into the final.

The Solomons sent out an ominous warning to their final opponents with their clinical dismantling of the young Cooks side. Richard Anisua (5), Henry Koto (3), Gideon Omokirio (3), and James Naka (2) shared the goals as the Bilikiki Boys dictated the pace of the game and rarely allowed their opposition to play.

### Results – Match Day 3 (2 September 2006)

**Solomon Islands 13** (Anisua 5, Koto 3, Omokirio 3, Naka 2)  
**Cook Islands 0**

**Solomon Islands** – 1. Fred Hale; 3. Gideon Omokirio; 4. Eddie Ngaitini; 5. Richard Anisua; 6. George Kwanae; 7. Henry Koto; 8. Sylvester Rogy; 9. Joe Luwi; 10. James Naka; 11. Paul Huia

**Cook Islands** – 1. Rouruoaroa Une; 2. John Pareanga (c); 3. Eugene Tattuava; 4. Grover Harmon; 5. Teariki Mateariki; 6. Paavo Mustonen; 7. Ruatoto Henry; 8. Eddie Brogan; 9. Tereapii Angene; 11. Anonga Tisam

**Tahiti 4** (Izal 3, Lee Fung Kuee)  
**Vanuatu 5** (Soromon 2, Maleb, Malas, Chilia)

**Tahiti** – 1. Mikael Roche; 2. Sebastien Labayen; 3. Jacques Qaeze; 4. Rainui Tirao; 5. Angelo Tchen; 6. Raimana Lee Fung Kuee; 7. Thierry Qaeze; 8. Abel Terevaura (c); 9. Teiva Izal; 11. Pierrot Malfati

**Vanuatu** – 1. Chiaku Mansale; 2. Saen Fanai; 3. Ken Masauvakalo (c); 4. Derek Malas; 5. Mousa Sam; 6. Seimata Chilia; 7. Fenedy Masauvakalo; 8. Jean Emmanuel Maleb; 9. Seule Soromon; 11. Yanick Merka

## MATCH DAY 4

### FAIRYTALE FOR SOLOMON ISLANDS AS BILIKIKI EYE BRAZIL

The Solomon Islands produced a piece of history after their 6-2 defeat of Vanuatu at the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Qualifiers on the island of Moorea. The Solomon Bilikiki were the first team other than New Zealand or Australia – when they were part of the Oceania Football Confederation – to qualify for a FIFA world event.



For years the Solomon Islands were described as the “Brazilians of the South Pacific” and now have the opportunity to see for themselves by qualifying for November’s World Cup at the famous Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro.

The Solomons outgunned a fatigued looking Vanuatu outfit holding them scoreless in the opening and closing periods of the match. The Bilikiki attack was spearheaded by the experience of Henry Koto and the pace and trickery of James Naka, both got on the scoresheet, as did Richard Anisua (2) and captain Gideon Omokirio.

Jean Emmanuel Maleb’s double strike was the only reward for Vanuatu, after the match coach Juan Carlos Buzzetti conceded that perhaps the pre-tournament favourites had played their final a day earlier against Tahiti.

Buzzetti could thank his ‘keeper Chikau Mansale that the scoreline was not higher after the custodian produced a string of top-class saves in the first period, and maintained his high standards throughout the rest of the match. In fact Mansale was presented the Best Goalkeeper of the Tournament award at the conclusion of the match. His opposite number Fred Hale was also in spectacular form thwarting wave-after-wave of Vanuatu attack.

In the match for third place Tahiti outlasted the Cook Islands 12-4 in a highly entertaining match in atrocious conditions. The Cooks saved their best for last with a much improved performance against a wounded Tahitian team. At 4-4 in the early stages of the second period an upset looked as though it could be on the cards but the hosts kicked clear scoring eight unanswered goals.

### Results – Match Day 4 (3 September 2006)

**Vanuatu 2** (Maleb 2)

**Solomon Islands 6** (Anisua 2, Koto 2, Naka, Omokirio)

**Vanuatu** – 1. Chiaku Mansale; 2. Saen Fanai; 3. Ken Masauvakalo (c); 4. Derek Malas; 5. Mousa Sam; 6. Seimata Chilia; 7. Fenedy Masauvakalo; 8. Jean Emmanuel Maleb; 9. Seule Soromon; 11. Yanick Merka

**Solomon Islands** – 1. Fred Hale; 3. Gideon Omokirio; 4. Eddie Ngaitini; 5. Richard Anisua; 6. George Kwanae; 7. Henry Koto; 8. Sylvester Rogy; 9. Joe Luwi; 10. James Naka; 21. Paul Huia

**Tahiti 12** (Izal 6, Lee Fung Kuee 4, Terevaura, Malfati)

**Cook Islands 4** (Harmon, Angene, Meteariki, Mustonen)

**Tahiti** – 1. Mikael Roche; 2. Sebastien Labayen; 3. Jacques Qaeze; 4. Rainui Tirao; 5. Angelo Tchen; 6. Raimana Lee Fung Kuee; 7. Thierry Qaeze; 8. Abel Terevaura (c); 9. Teiva Izal; 11. Pierrot Malfati

**Cook Islands** – 1. Rouruoaroa Une; 2. John Pareanga (c); 3. Eugene Tattuava; 4. Grover Harmon; 5. Teariki Mateariki; 6. Paavo Mustonen; 7. Ruatoto Henry; 8. Eddie Brogan; 9. Tereapii Angene; 11. Anonga Tisam

## TEAM DATA

### COOK ISLANDS

Cook Islands

**Final Ranking** (4th)

**Results**

vs. Tahiti 1-8  
vs. Vanuatu 1-12  
vs. Solomon Islands 0-13  
vs. Tahiti 4-12

**Goal Scorers**

Grover HARMON (2)  
Teariki MATEARIKI (2)  
Paavo MUSTONEN (1)  
Tereapii ANGENE (1)



**Squad**

1. Rouruoaroa UNE
2. John PAREANGA (c)
3. Eugene TATTUAVA
4. Grover HARMON
5. Teariki MATEARIKI
6. Paavo MUSTONEN
7. Ruatoto HENRY
8. Eddie BROGAN
9. Tereapii ANGENE
11. Anonga TISAM



## TEAM DATA

### SOLOMON ISLANDS

Solomon Islands

**Final Ranking** (1st)

**Results**

vs. Vanuatu 4-9  
vs. Tahiti 2-1  
vs. Cook Islands 13-0  
vs. Vanuatu 6-2

**Goal Scorers**

Henry KOTO (8)  
Richard ANISUA (7)  
James NAKA (6)  
Gideon OMOKIRIO (4)

**Squad**

1. Fred HALE
3. Gideon OMOKIRIO
4. Eddie NGAITINI
5. Richard ANISUA
6. George KWANAE
7. Henry KOTO
8. Sylvester ROGY
9. Joe LUWI
10. James NAKA
21. Paul HUIA



## TEAM DATA

### TAHITI

Tahiti

**Final Ranking** (3rd)

#### Results

vs. Cook Islands 8-1  
vs. Solomon Islands 2-3  
vs. Vanuatu 4-5  
vs. Cook Islands 12-4

#### Goal Scorers

Teva IZAL (11)  
Raimana LEE FUNG KUEE (6)  
Thierry QAEZE (4)  
Abel TEREVAURA (2)  
Jacques QAEZE (1)  
Angelo TCHEN (1)  
Pierre MALFATI (1)

#### Squad

1. Mikael ROCHE
2. Sebastien LABAYEN
3. Jacques QAEZE
4. Rainui TIRAO
5. Angelo TCHEN
6. Raimana LEE FUNG KUEE
7. Thierry QAEZE
8. Abel TEREVAURA (c)
9. Teiva IZAL
11. Pierrot MALFATI



## TEAM DATA

### VANUATU

Vanuatu

**Final Ranking** (2nd)

#### Results

vs. Solomon Islands	9-4
vs. Cook Islands	12-1
vs. Tahiti	5-4
vs. Solomon Islands	2-6

#### Goal Scorers

Seule SOROMON	(7)
Jean Emmanuel MALEB	(6)
Mousa SAM	(4)
Seimata CHILIA	(4)
Fenedy MASAUVAKALO	(3)
Ken MASAUVAKALO	(2)
Derek MALAS	(2)

#### Squad

1. Chiaku MANSALÉ
2. Saen FANGI
3. Ken MASAUVAKALO (c)
4. Derek MALAS
5. Mousa SAM
6. Seimata CHILIA
7. Fenedy MASAUVAKALO
8. Jean Emmanuel MALEB
9. Seule SOROMON
11. Yanick MERKA



**AWARDS**



Solomon Islands  
2006 OFC Beach Soccer Champions



Chikau Mansale (Vanuatu)  
Best Goalkeeper



Teva Izal (Tahiti)  
Top Scorer and Best Player



Cook Islands  
Fairplay Trophy

## **Oceania Football Confederation (OFC)**

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