



PNC MATCH PREVIEW

JAPAN



TONGA

Sunday 10th June 2012, KO: 14:10
Prince Chichibu Memorial Stadium, Tokyo

Headlines

- HITOSHI ONO wins his 60th cap for Japan against Tonga on Sunday. The Japan lock made his debut for his country as a replacement against Korea in 2004.
- Meanwhile 32 year-old TAKASHI KIKUTANI will make his 50th Test appearance if he comes off the bench against Tonga.
- KURT MORATH's 18 points last week against Samoa saw the 27 year-old Tonga flyhalf become the top points scorer in IRB Pacific Nations Cup history. He also overtook Japan's James Arlidge's record for most overall penalties in the competition, kicking six last weekend to take him to 24. Two conversions this weekend will see him top overall conversions in the competition also. The record is currently held by Fiji's Taniela Rawaga with 19 successful conversions. MORATH is currently on 18.
- Eight players in Tonga's starting line-up have less than ten caps. The first XV have 145 caps between them in total compared to Japan's 268. Tonga's bench continue with the inexperienced theme, with just 16 caps between the seven players.

Head to Head

- Japan have played Tonga 13 times in all competitions, winning seven of those games. Samoa have won six whilst there have been no draws.
- The two sides last met in the Pool A Rugby World Cup 2011 clash in Whangarei, with Tonga running out convincing 31-18 winners.
- Sunday's clash between Japan and Tonga is the 6th time these countries have met in the Pacific Nations Cup. Japan have been victorious on 5 of those occasions and Tonga just once.
- The last few Nations Cup matches have been incredibly close affairs with Japan winning by two, three and a single point in the last three matches. In terms of overall competition points tallies, only 10 points separates the two sides (Japan's 146 to Tonga's 156 points).
- Japan were the most recent winners between the two sides in the Pacific Nations Cup, beating Tonga 28-27 in Suva last year.
- The biggest result in this fixture came back in 2006 when Japan were beaten 57-16 by Tonga. The 41 point difference remains the biggest margin of victory between the two sides.

Form guide

- Japan's 25-19 loss to Fiji was their first loss in five games and also their first under new coach Eddie Jones. Japan finished off their Rugby World Cup with a 23-23 draw against Canada in Napier and four wins on the trot in the Asian Five Nations looked to have set them up nicely to defend their Pacific Nations Cup title until the defeat against Fiji.
- Tonga's nail-biting 20-18 loss to Samoa in Round 1 of the Pacific Nations Cup was their third in five games but coach Toutai Kefu will look to make sure they bounce back against Japan this weekend playing the type of rugby which saw them beat France 19-14 during Rugby World Cup 2011.

New Kids on the Block

- No.8 HENDRIK TUI wins his first cap for Japan when he lines out for his country against Tonga. The 24 year-old plays for Panasonic Wild Knights.

Man in the Middle

- Pascal Gauzere makes his 5th appearance as an international referee when he officiates the Pacific Nations Cup match between Japan and Tonga on Sunday. Gauzere will be making his first Pacific Nations Cup appearance. He made his Test debut back in 2010 refereeing Russia versus Germany.

Pacific Nations Cup Facts & Figures

- KURT MORATH'S six successful penalty kicks against Samoa last Tuesday set a new record for the most penalty kicks in a PNC game. Tonga need just one more successful penalty kick to break the 50 barrier in the competition.
- Of the four sides that have consistently competed in the PNC since its beginnings (Fiji, Japan, Samoa & Tonga) Japan remain the last side to break 500 points. They currently lie on 467.
- ALASKA TAUFU's yellow card in Tuesday's game against Samoa was Tonga's 19th yellow card in the history of the competition. It means they have earned almost double the yellow cards as their nearest rival (Fiji with 10) for the unsavoury award. Japan by contrast, have had just two yellow cards awarded against them.

2012 PNC Records

>> Points

Points	Player
18	Kurt Morath Tonga
14	Ayumu Goromaru Japan
10	Ki Anufe Samoa
10	Setareki Koroilagilagi Fiji

>> Tries

Tries	Player
1	David Lemi Samoa
1	Isake Katonibau Fiji
1	Nalu Tuigamala Samoa
1	Vereniki Goneva Fiji
1	Waisea Nayacalevu Fiji

All Time PNC Records

>> Points

Points	Player
113	Kurt Morath Tonga
103	Taniela Rawaqa Fiji
96	James Arlidge Japan

>> Tries

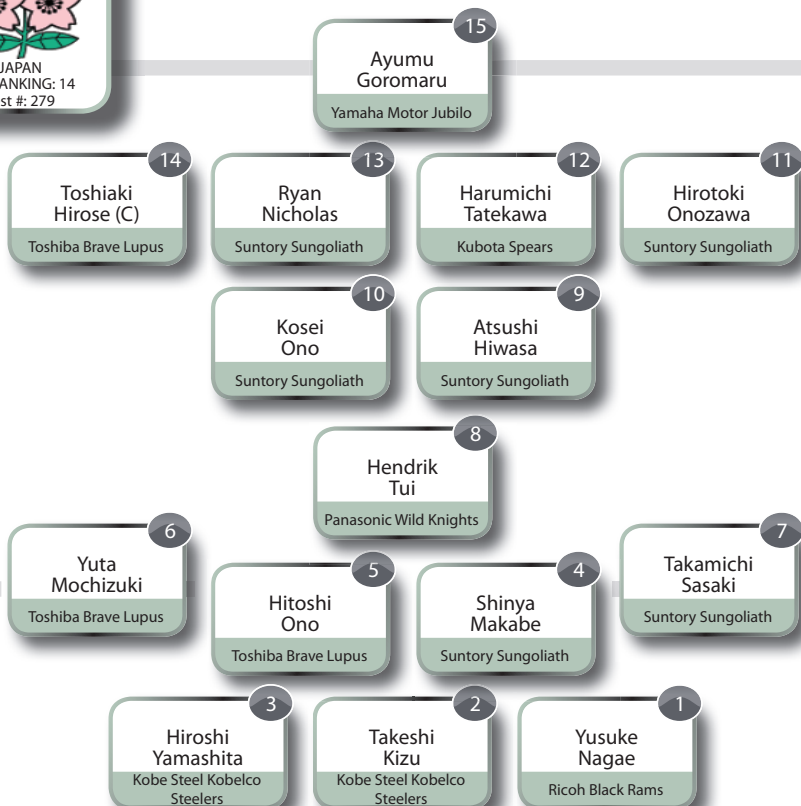
Tries	Player
11	Hosea Gear Junior All Blacks / New Zealand Maori
7	Anthony Tuitavake Junior All Blacks
7	David Lemi Samoa
7	Lachie Turner Australia A
7	Vungakoto Lilo Tonga



Team Sheets



JAPAN
IRB RANKING: 14
Test #: 279



Replacements

16 Ryuhei Arita (Coca Cola West Red Sparks)
17 Kensuke Hatakeyama (Suntory Sungoliath)
18 Shoji Ito (Kobe Steel Kobelco Steelers)
19 Takashi Kikutani (Toyota Verblitz)
20 Jun Fujii (Toshiba Brave Lupus)
21 Tomohiro Senba (Toshiba Brave Lupus)
22 Yasunori Nagatomo (Suntory Sungoliath)

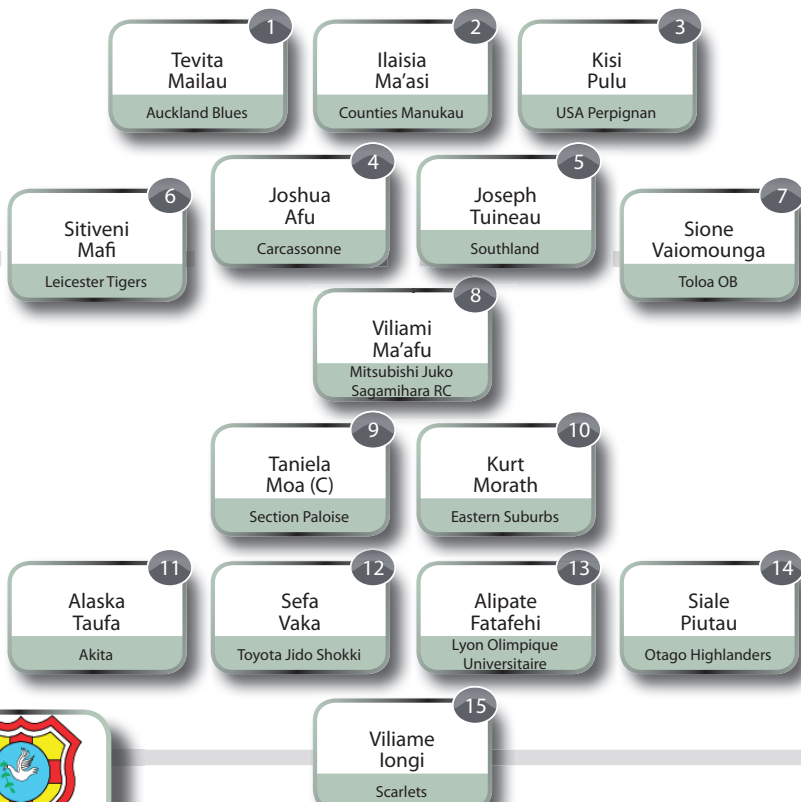
Key Stats

Caps Starting Lineup: 268
Avg Age Starting Lineup: 27
Oldest Player: Hirotoki Onozawa (34)
Youngest Player: Harumichi Tatekawa (22)
Avg Weight Forwards: 107 kg

Officials

Referee:
Pascal Gauzere (France) - 4 Tests

Tests at Venue: 0 Tests
Japan: 0 Tests
Tonga: 0 Tests
Test Debut: 13/03/2010 - Russia v Germany



Replacements

16 Viliami Pola (Timaru)
17 Sila Puafisi (Sila Pelu Ua)
18 Paula Kaho (Souths)
19 Pepa Koloamatangi (Counties Manukau)
20 Thomas Palu (Norths)
21 Mafileo Kefu (US Dax)
22 Edmond Paea (Eastern Suburbs)

Key Stats

Caps Starting Lineup: 145
Avg Age Starting Lineup: 27
Oldest Player: Kisi Pulu (34)
Youngest Player: Sitiveni Mafi (22)
Avg Weight Forwards: 108 kg



TONGA
IRB RANKING: 9
Test #: 237

Head to Head

Recent Results

Date	Team A	Result		Team B	Venue
21/09/2011	Tonga	31	18	Japan	Whangarei
09/07/2011	Tonga	27	28	Japan	Suva
26/06/2010	Japan	26	23	Tonga	Apia
27/06/2009	Tonga	19	21	Japan	Lautoka
15/06/2008	Japan	35	13	Tonga	Sendai

Summary

Japan		13 Matches (0 Draw)	Tonga	
7		Won		6
322		Points		358
34		Tries		46
17		Conversions		27
38		Penalties		25
0		Drop Goals		0

Player Records

For Japan against Tonga		For Tonga against Japan	
4 Players - 6	Appearances	6 - Vungakoto Lilo	
Keiji Hirose - 40	Points	46 - Kurt Morath	
Shaun Webb - 3	Tries	3 - 2 Players	
James Arlidge - 6	Conversions	10 - Pierre Hola	
Keiji Hirose - 11	Penalties	9 - Kurt Morath	
-	Drop Goals	-	

Player Records in a Match

For Japan against Tonga		For Tonga against Japan	
Keiji Hirose on 08/05/1999 - 34	Points	17 - On 3 Occasions	
On 2 Occasions - 2	Tries	2 - On 3 Occasions	
James Arlidge on 09/07/2011 - 4	Conversions	4 - Pierre Hola on 26/05/2002	
Keiji Hirose on 08/05/1999 - 9	Penalties	4 - On 2 Occasions	
-	Drop Goals	-	

Team Records in a Match

For Japan against Tonga		For Tonga against Japan	
On 08/05/1999 - 44	Points	57 - On 04/06/2006	
On 26/05/2002 - 5	Tries	8 - On 04/06/2006	
On 09/07/2011 - 4	Conversions	4 - On 2 Occasions	
On 08/05/1999 - 9	Penalties	4 - On 3 Occasions	
-	Drop Goals	-	



Head Coach: Eddie Jones

Debut: 28/04/2012 v Kazakhstan (W 87-0)
 Winning Ratio: 80.00%
 Average Tries per Match: 9.80

Japan Record Under Eddie Jones

4 Wins	0 Drawn	1 Lost
331 For	Points	36 Against
49 For	Tries	4 Against
37 For	Conversions	2 Against
4 For	Penalties	4 Against
0 For	Drop Goals	0 Against

Recent Matches

Date	Opponent	Result	Venue
05/06/2012	Fiji	L 19 25	Nagoya
19/05/2012	Hong Kong	W 67 0	Tokyo
12/05/2012	Korea	W 52 8	Seoul
05/05/2012	United Arab Emirates	W 106 3	Fukuoka
28/04/2012	Kazakhstan	W 87 0	Almaty
Points For		331	
Points Ag		36	
Tries For		49	
Tries Ag		4	

Player Info For Japan

Player	Pos	Age	Debut	Caps	Caps as Sub	Caps v Opponent	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Tries	Cons	Pens	DGs
Yusuke Nagae	1	26	28/04/2012	5	1	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Takeshi Kizu	2	23	21/11/2009	12	8	0	10	0	2	25	5	0	0	0
Hiroshi Yamashita	3	26	25/04/2009	11	8	1	7	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Shinya Makabe	4	25	21/11/2009	7	2	0	6	0	1	5	1	0	0	0
Hitoshi Ono	5	34	16/05/2004	59	11	6	34	3	22	50	10	0	0	0
Yuta Mochizuki	6	30	28/04/2012	5	1	0	4	0	1	10	2	0	0	0
Takamichi Sasaki	7	28	29/04/2007	11	2	1	6	0	5	20	4	0	0	0
Hendrik Tui	8	24		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Atsushi Hiwasa	9	25	30/04/2011	13	7	1	6	1	6	0	0	0	0	0
Kosei Ono	10	25	22/04/2007	10	3	0	5	0	5	20	2	2	2	0
Hiroto Onozawa	11	34	17/06/2001	72	8	6	37	3	32	255	51	0	0	0
Harumichi Tatekawa	12	22	28/04/2012	5	2	0	4	0	1	11	1	3	0	0
Ryan Nicholas	13	33	26/04/2008	36	2	5	22	1	13	193	9	53	14	0
Toshiaki Hirose (C)	14	30	29/04/2007	6	0	0	5	0	1	25	5	0	0	0
Ayumu Goromaru	15	26	16/04/2005	16	5	0	10	0	6	125	9	34	4	0
Total				268	60	20	160	8	100	739	99	92	20	0
Ryuhei Arita	16	23	28/04/2012	5	2	0	4	0	1	5	1	0	0	0
Kensuke Hatakeyama	17	26	16/11/2008	32	7	4	21	1	10	40	8	0	0	0
Shoji Ito	18	31	28/04/2012	5	4	0	4	0	1	5	1	0	0	0
Takashi Kikutani	19	32	05/11/2005	49	7	6	29	1	19	115	23	0	0	0
Jun Fujii	20	29	28/04/2012	5	2	0	4	0	1	5	1	0	0	0
Tomohiro Senba	21	29	28/04/2012	5	0	0	4	0	1	10	2	0	0	0
Yasunori Nagatomo	22	27	01/05/2010	8	5	0	7	0	1	20	4	0	0	0

Records For Japan

Caps

79 - Yukio Motoki
 72 - Hiroto Onozawa
 61 - Takeomi Ito

Tries

69 - Daisuke Ohata
 51 - Hiroto Onozawa
 28 - Terunori Masuho

Points

413 - Keiji Hirose
 347 - Toru Kurihara
 345 - Daisuke Ohata

Player Records (In a Match)

Points: 60 - Toru Kurihara v Chinese Taipei on 21/07/2002
 Tries: 8 - Daisuke Ohata v Chinese Taipei on 06/07/2002
 Conversions: 15 - Toru Kurihara v Chinese Taipei on 21/07/2002
 Penalties: 9 - Keiji Hirose v Tonga on 08/05/1999
 Drop Goals: 2 - Kensuke Iwabuchi v Argentina on 15/09/1998

Team Records (In a Match)

Points: 155 v Chinese Taipei on 06/07/2002
 Tries: 23 v Chinese Taipei on 06/07/2002
 Conversions: 20 v Chinese Taipei on 06/07/2002
 Penalties: 9 v Tonga on 08/05/1999
 Drop Goals: 2 v Argentina on 15/09/1998



Head Coach: Toutai Kefu

Debut: 05/06/2012 v Samoa (L 18-20)
 Winning Ratio: 0.00%
 Average Tries per Match: 0.00

Tonga Record Under Toutai Kefu

0 Wins	0 Drawn	1 Lost
18 For	Points	20 Against
0 For	Tries	2 Against
0 For	Conversions	2 Against
6 For	Penalties	2 Against
0 For	Drop Goals	0 Against

Recent Matches

Date	Opponent	Result	Venue
05/06/2012	Samoa	L 18 20	Nagoya
01/10/2011	France	W 19 14	Wellington
21/09/2011	Japan	W 31 18	Whangarei
14/09/2011	Canada	L 20 25	Whangarei
09/09/2011	New Zealand	L 10 41	Auckland
Points For		98	
Points Ag		118	
Tries For		7	
Tries Ag		15	

Player Info For Tonga

Player	Pos	Age	Debut	Caps	Caps as Sub	Caps v Opponent	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Tries	Cons	Pens	DGs
Tevita Mailau	1	27	05/06/2012	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ilaisia Ma'asi	2	30	13/06/2009	10	5	3	4	0	6	5	1	0	0	0
Kisi Pulu	3	34	06/07/2002	27	4	2	10	0	17	15	3	0	0	0
Joshua Afu	4	25	15/06/2008	8	2	2	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Joseph Tuineau	5	30	02/07/2011	8	4	2	5	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Sitiveni Mafi	6	22	12/06/2010	4	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Sione Vaiomounga	7	23	28/11/2009	10	3	2	4	0	6	5	1	0	0	0
Viliami Ma'afu	8	30	08/06/2011	9	2	2	5	0	4	10	2	0	0	0
Taniela Moa (C)	9	26	13/08/2011	7	1	1	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Kurt Morath	10	27	28/11/2009	14	2	3	7	0	7	205	1	31	46	0
Alaska Taufua	11	28	12/06/2010	7	1	2	1	0	6	10	2	0	0	0
Sefa Vaka	12	31	29/05/2004	11	4	1	2	0	9	10	2	0	0	0
Alipate Fatafehi	13	27	13/06/2009	12	4	2	4	0	8	20	4	0	0	0
Siale Piutau	14	26	13/08/2011	7	3	1	3	0	4	10	2	0	0	0
Viliame Iongi	15	22	08/06/2011	10	3	1	5	0	5	35	7	0	0	0
Total				145	40	25	55	0	90	325	25	31	46	0
Viliami Pola	16	24	19/06/2010	3	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Sila Puafisi	17	24	09/07/2011	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Paula Kaho	18	28	08/06/2011	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Pepa Koloamatangi	19	29	08/06/2011	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Thomas Palu	20	25	13/07/2011	5	4	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mafileo Kefu	21	29	05/06/2012	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Edmond Paea	22	24	08/06/2011	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Records For Tonga

Caps

41 - 'Elisi Vunipola
 38 - Benhur Kivalu
 37 - Pierre Hola

Tries

12 - Siua Taumalolo
 11 - Fepikou Tatafu
 10 - Benhur Kivalu

Points

289 - Pierre Hola
 205 - Kurt Morath
 190 - Sateki Tuipulotu

Player Records (In a Match)

Points: 39 - Pierre Hola v Korea on 21/03/2003
 Tries: 5 - Benhur Kivalu v Korea on 21/03/2003
 Conversions: 17 - Pierre Hola v Korea on 21/03/2003
 Penalties: 6 - Kurt Morath v Samoa on 05/06/2012
 Drop Goals: 1 - 8 players

Team Records (In a Match)

Points: 119 v Korea on 21/03/2003
 Tries: 17 v Korea on 21/03/2003
 Conversions: 17 v Korea on 21/03/2003
 Penalties: 6 v Samoa on 05/06/2012
 Drop Goals: 1 on 8 Occasions