



# 14<sup>th</sup>

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# NMIFA ORDINARY CONGRESS

## ACTIVITY REPORT





## FOREWORD FROM GENERAL SECRETARY



### **Hafa Adai and Tirow!**

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association's local competitions for youth, men's and women's adults, and students form the core of the NMI soccer program as seen in this Activity Report for the 14th NMIFA Ordinary Congress.

Our TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 seasons saw some interesting and exciting results as clubs continue to do their best to beef up their pool of young players. The Dove Women's Soccer League showcased the increasing number of female players taking their acts into the pitch, while the Marianas Soccer League 1 and 2 had their own highlights. The Interscholastic Soccer League, on the other hand, continues to provide the NMIFA soccer a strong support to its grassroots program with schools, particularly in the elementary level, fielding multiple teams.

Our players also brought their game outside our home turf with the NMI Men's National Team participating in the Pacific Games for the first time and recording its first win during the 2023 Pacific Games hosted in the Solomon Islands. The NMI Women's National Team went to Zhuhai, China for the Women's EAFF E-1 Football Championships in December 2023, and the NMI U15 Women's were also in China (Dalian) for the East Asian Football Federation U15 Women's Championship 2024 in August.

Alongside these regular local leagues and international tournaments are significant events/activities that go beyond competitions, touching on the continued growth of all aspects of the NMI soccer program and trying to create opportunities for the different stakeholders in the sport and the general public.

These activities included hosting anew the Marianas Cup to strengthen relationship with the Guam Football Association and holding new events—LPK Cup and Women's U21 Three Nations Cup—to build new ties (with Japan's Shonan Bellmare, Tuloy Football Club, Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong, and Mongolian Football Federation).

Fostering strong partnerships locally is as equally important as building relationships internationally and the NMIFA, for the Spring 2024 and Summer 2024 was able to work with local organizations in bringing soccer and its benefits closer to home. The NMIFA partnered with the CNMI Public School System's Athletic Department for the 2024 AFC Grassroots Football Day, bringing together over 500 elementary students and teachers from 7 schools to experience the joy of the game. In the summer, the NMIFA teamed up with the 4-H Marianas in holding the 4-H Magalahi Summer Camp and hosting two sessions of football drills and fun games for more than 400 children.

In the same summer period, the NMIFA welcomed World Cup veteran and Japan's pride Saki Kumagai, who had generously shared her soccer skills to the NMI through a clinic. The 2019 AFC Women's Player of the Year also delivered key messages that were well-received and should serve as an inspiration to everyone.

All these activities and special events were made possible through the continued support of the players' parents, our local and international partners, the various clubs' leaders, coaches, and volunteers, and referees and national coaches, the CNMI Public School System and its Athletics Department, and other members of our community.

Thank you for your continued support through the years and together, we look forward to more achievements and opportunities for NMI soccer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ross Zapanta".

**Ross Zapanta**  
General Secretary



# NATIONAL TEAM PROGRAM

The NMIFA National Team Program reached a couple of milestones. First on the list was the NMI Men's National Team's participation for the first time in the Pacific Games and the group's first historic win (against American Samoa) in the quadrennial competition hosted in the Solomon Islands from November 17 to December 2 in 2023. Then there's the NMI Women's National Team's pair of victories in the Women's East Asian Football Federation E-1 Football Preliminary Competition in December 2023, and the NMI U21 Women's National Team's reign in the NMI U21 Women's Three Nations Cup in July 2024. International training camps and friendlies also provided players under the NMIFA National Team Program more opportunities to compete and continue their development.

## INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

EVENTS	DATE	VENUE	RESULTS
Pacific Games 2024-NMI Men's NT	Nov. 17-Dec. 2, 2024	Solomon Islands	NMI (0), Fiji (10) NMI (0), Tahiti (5) NMI (4), American Samoa (0) NMI (1), Tuvalu (4)
Women's EAFF E-1 Football Championships Preliminary Competition	Nov. 30-December 7, 2023	China/Macau	NMI (4), Mongolia (3) NMI (1), Hong Kong (6) NMI (0), DPR Korea (17) NMI (4), Macau (0)
East Asian Football Federation U15 Women's Championship 2024	August 16-25, 2024	Dalian, China	NMI (1), Macau (2) NMI (0), Mongolia (0) NMI (0), Hong Kong (8) NMI (0), Guam (3)
Marianas Cup 2024-NMI U23 Men's NT	August 3&4, 2024	Saipan, NMI	NMI (2), Guam (0) NMI (0), Guam (2) NMI (5), Guam (4), Shootout









Northern  
Mariana Islands  
Football Association



## **FRIENDLIES**

### **Events**

Marianas Friendlies 2024-NMI U21 Men's NT

### **Date**

April 6 & 7, 2024

### **Venue**

Saipan

### **Results**

NMI (2), Guam (2)

NMI (2), Guam (1)

Marianas Friendlies 2024-NMI U21 Women's NT

April 6 & 7, 2024

Saipan

NMI (0), Guam (3)

NMI (2), Guam (2)

LPK Cup 2024-NMI Women's NT

July 18, 2024

Saipan

NMI (0), Kick it Hearts Ltd. (2)

NMI (1), Tuloy FC (0)

NMI (0), Shonan Bellmare (0)

## **INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CAMPS**

### **Events**

NMI Men's NT Training Camp

### **Date**

Nov. 24-28, 2023

### **Venue**

Japan

### **Delegation**

22 players, 4 officials

NMI Women's NT Training Camp

June 21-25, 2024

Hong Kong

20 players, 7 officials

NMI Women's NT Training Camp

July 1-14, 2024

Philippines

19 players, 5 officials

NMI U17 & U20 Men's NT Training Camp

Philippines

30 players, 5 officials

## **OTHERS**

### **Events**

NMIFA U21 Women's Three Nations Cup

### **Date**

July 23-28, 2024

### **Venue**

Saipan

### **Delegation**

NMI (1), Mongolia (0)

NMI (3), Guam (2)

NMI (2), Mongolia (0)

NMI (5), Guam (1)











## JUNIOR NATIONAL ACADEMY

Batch 2023-2024 of the Junior National Academy was made up of 29 players (13 girls and 16 boys) and 5 coaches. Selected players underwent twice-a-week training sessions for nearly seven months and culminated the season with the JNA Training Camp that incorporated both on and off the pitch activities. Players had training matches against the NMI U16 National Team Pool, MP United FC U14, and Paire FC U14; held an educational tour at the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research, Extension, & Education Service's Aquaculture & Natural Resources (A&NR) at the Center for Aquaculture Development (CAD) and the Center for Agriculture Development Agroforestry Demonstration; and did tree planting in support of the Marianas Visitors Authority's program.









## SCHOOLS OUTREACH

This is the Physical Education Support Program that is supported by the Japan Football Association and caters to girls and boys from first to third grade from both private and public schools. The P.E. Support Program aims to introduce football and encourage student participation beyond school settings. It hopes to boost interest in football at the school level, fostering increased involvement in NMIFA's Junior National Academy and ISL Programs. The program also aims to develop P.E. teachers as football coaches and officials.

For the 2023-2024 School Year P.E. Support Program that ran from March 18, 2024 to May 31, 2024, 636 students from 5 schools benefitted from the outreach program.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Garapan Elementary School	241
William S. Reyes Elementary School	182
Kagman Elementary School	149
Grace Christian Academy	42
Brilliant Star School	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>636</b>









## INTERSCHOLASTIC SOCCER LEAGUE

A report released by the CNMI Public School System's Athletic Department on August 16, 2024 showed **652** students both from private and public schools in elementary, middle school, and high school levels participating in NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League for the 2023-2024 School Year.

### ***PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS***

#### **Boys Middle School (10 Teams)**

<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>
Hopwood Middle School 1	Saipan International School
Francisco M. Sablan MS 2	Agape Christian School
Dandan Middle School 2	Mt. Carmel School
Tanapag Middle School	Hopwood Middle School 2
Chacha Oceanview MS	Saipan Community School
<b>TOTAL PLAYERS</b>	<b>146</b>

#### **Girls Middle School (8 Teams)**

<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>
Saipan International School	Tanapag Middle School
Francisco M. Sablan MS	Tinian Middle School 2
Tinian Middle School 1	Hopwood Middle School
Chacha Oceanview MS	Dandan Middle School
<b>TOTAL PLAYERS</b>	<b>101</b>



## Boys High School (6 Teams)

Group A	Group B
Saipan Southern High School	Marianas High School (V)
Mt. Carmel School	Saipan International School
Marianas High School (JV)	Rita H. Inos High School
<b>TOTAL PLAYERS</b>	<b>109</b>

## Girls High School (4 Teams)

Kagman High School
Marianas High School
Saipan Southern High School
Saipan International School
<b>TOTAL PLAYERS</b>

**59**

## Co-Ed Elementary School (21 Teams)

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
William S. Reyes ES 1	San Vicente ES 2	Kagman Elementary School 1	Saipan International School
Garapan Elementary School 1	Koblerville ES 1	Grace Christian Academu	Gregorio T. Camacho 1
Koblerville ES 2	Garapan Elementary School 2	Saipan Community	William S. Reyes ES 2
Mt. Carmel School 1	Kagman Elementary School 2	San Vicente ES 1	Brilliant Star School 1
Gregorio T. Camacho 2	Brilliant Star School 2	Eucon International School	Mt. Carmel School 1

Girls	<b>67</b>
Boys	<b>153</b>
Sinapalo ES (Exhibition)	<b>12</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>232</b>











## YOUTH PROGRAM

The TakeCare Youth Soccer League's Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 seasons each drew 70-plus teams, showing a steady growth for the NMIFA's youth program. Three different clubs were crowned champions in the Fall 2023, while two reigned supreme in the Spring 2024.

### TAKECARE YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE FALL 2023

(September 16 – December 9, 2023)

**Total Teams: 73**

Division	Number of Teams	Champion
<b>Non-competitive</b>		
Under 6	7	N/A
Under 8	15	N/A
Under 10	13	N/A
Under 12 Girls	7	N/A
Under 12 Boys	4	N/A
<b>Competitive</b>		
Under 12 Boys	5	Kanoa FC
Under 14 Girls	6	Kanoa FC
Under 14 Boys	7	Kanoa FC
Under 17 Girls	5	Southern United FC
Under 17 Boys	4	Matansa FC

### TAKECARE YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE SPRING 2024

(February 10 – May 11, 2024)

**Total Teams: 75**

Division	Number of Teams	Champion
<b>Non-competitive:</b>		
Under 6	7	N/A
Under 8	16	N/A
Under 10	11	N/A
Under 12 Girls	7	N/A
Under 12 Boys	5	N/A
<b>Competitive:</b>		
Under 12 Boys	6	MP United FC
Under 14 Girls	5	MP United FC
Under 14 Boys	7	Kanoa FC
Under 17 Girls	5	Kanoa FC
Under 17 Boys	6	Kanoa FC



## ADULT PROGRAM

The men's teams of Kanoa Football Club swept the Spring 2024 championships in the MSL 1 and 2, while Shirley's Football Club squad duplicated the fete in the Dove Women's League's two competitive divisions.

### MSL Spring 2024 Results

#### MSL 1: February 18 – May 26, 2024

- 1st Kanoa FC
- 2nd Matansa FC
- 3rd MP United FC
- 4th Paire FC
- 5th Men's Development Team

#### MSL 2: February 11 – May 26, 2024

- 1st Kanoa FC
- 2nd Paire FC
- 3rd Old B Bank
- 4th MP United FC
- 5th Matansa FC
- 6th Hana FC
- 7th Shirley's FC

### Dove Women's League Spring 2024

#### Tinekcha-Awaal League: February 11 – May 5, 2024

##### Results

- 1st Shirley's FC
- 2nd Kanoa FC
- 3rd MP United FC
- 4th U16 NMI Development Team
- 5th Paire FC

#### Flores-Pee Luwal League; February 11 – April 21, 2024

##### Results

- 1st Shirley's FC
- 2nd MP United FC Pink
- 3rd Matansa FC
- 4th Latte FC
- 5th MP United FC Blue
- 6th Kanoa FC
- 7th Paire FC

#### Simiya-Faayul League; February 11 – April 21, 2024

##### Participating Teams

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Shirley's FC      | MP United FC Pink |
| Matansa FC 2      | Latte FC 1        |
| Matansa FC 1      | Paire FC          |
| MP United FC Blue | Kanoa FC          |
| Latte FC 2        |                   |















## TECHNICAL & REFEREE PROGRAMS

The continued education and improvement of skills of coaches and referees are among the priorities of the NMIFA. Every year, the NMIFA seeks to provide opportunities for these individuals as they play a critical role in the further growth of the different NMIFA programs, particularly those that cater to our young players.

Coaching Course /Seminar Title	Dates	Number of Participants	Tutors/Instructors	
NMIFA 'B' Diploma Coaching Course: Module 2	August 8-14, 2023	7	Main Tutor: Assistant Tutors:	Michiteru Mita Jershwin Angeles, Konomi Suzuki, Mae Ito
NMIFA Grassroots Kids Leader	September 8, 2023	20	Main Tutor: Assistant Tutors:	Jershwin Angeles Mae Ito, Konomi Suzuki
NMIFA 'B' Diploma Coaching Course: Module 3	December 6-12, 2023 January 15-21, 2024	7	Main Tutor: Assistant Tutors:	Michiteru Mita Jershwin Angeles, Konomi Suzuki, Mae Ito Special Guests: Hide Takahashi
NMIFA Grassroots Kids Leader	February 3, 2024	18	Main Tutor: Assistant Tutors:	Jershwin Angeles Mae Ito, Konomi Suzuki
NMIFA 'D' License Coaching Course	August 8-11, 2024	12	Main Tutor: Assistant Tutors: Observer:	Konomi Suzuki Jershwin Angeles, Mae Ito Irish Pagarao
Coaching Seminar	August 30-31, 2024	38	Main Instructor: Assistant Tutors:	Takahiro Suzuki Jershwin Angeles, Mae Ito, Jireh Yobech, Konomi Suzuki







Referee Course Title	Dates	Number of Participants	Tutors/Instructors
NMIFA Basic Referee Course	January 26-27, 2024	12	Instructors: Davy Laxa, Mae Ito, and Ruselle Zapanta
NMIFA Referee Course (Stamping Your Authority)	April 12-13, 2024	25	Instructors: Davy Laxa, Mae Ito
NMIFA Introductory Referee Course	August 30-31, 2024	18	Instructor: Davy Laxa
Referee Academy 1&2 (Online & Onsite Module)	September 2023 August 2024	1	AFC Referee Academy





## OTHER EVENTS

In between competitions, the NMIFA had either hosted events or participated in Asian Football Confederation-led programs, such as the AFC Grassroots Football Day and AFC Women's Football Day. These events proved that the NMIFA is not only committed to competitions itself, but in the overall development of NMI soccer and for various programs that benefit our general community.



***Saki's Soccer Journey: The Way of My Life***



***Soccer Clinic with Saki***







**4-H Marianas Camp Magalahi**







**AFC Grassroots Football Day**







**AFC Women's Football Day**



**Marianas Club Championship**







