



# Athletics training taking break

Rara: "Room for improvement"

BY TAROMANE MARTIN

TRAINING for the Solomon Islands Athletics Federation's track and field athletes will resume on the second week of January 2017.

Chairman for the Solomon Islands Athletics Commission Francis Manioru announced yesterday that trainings will stop for this Christmas break but urges all athletes to continue with their own trainings during this break.

"Dear all Track and Field athletes (Sprinters), we will be having our X-mas break as of next week and resume training on the second week of January 2017.

I encourage you to do your own training or play other sports while on Holiday to prevent detraining. Wish you all a merry Christmas and happy New Year 2017. Good Sporting," Mr Manioru said.

Meanwhile, re-elected President for the Athletics Federation Martin Bai Rara said his re-election was timely as the federation slowly built itself towards the 2023 Pacific

Games in Honiara.

Mr Rara highlighted while there are areas his past executive did not fulfill he stressed that there are rooms for improvement.

He also highlighted that to achieve our goals they will need to continue to work with OAA and the IAAF.

The newly elected Athletics Solomon for the next term are as follows:

Athletic Solomons New Executive Board

President: Martin Ba'ai Rara

Vice President/Administration: James Iroga

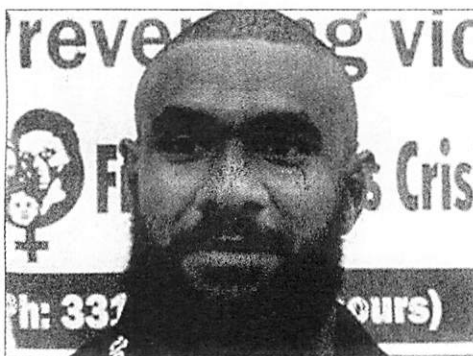
Vice President Technical: Robert Aaron

Treasurer: Donation Damikura

Secretary General: Chris Meke Wala'asi

Members

1. Fox Qwaina
2. Reginald Hou
3. Nelson Kabitana
4. Michael Kwali



Marika Koroibete playing for the Melbourne Storm in the 2016 NRL Grand Final. Photo: PHOTOSPORT

## Koroibete cleared to light up Brisbane 10s

THE Melbourne Rebels have confirmed new recruit Marika Koroibete will debut for the club at February's Brisbane Global Rugby Tens.

The 24 year old Koroibete showed positive signs when he made his first appearances in the 15-player code in the Wallaby XV loss to the French Barbarians in Bordeaux last month, where he helped to set up the opening try with an offload and made several key tackles.

"Marika's power, speed, and strength will suit the extra space available in the Tens format so we will provide him the opportunity in Brisbane to continue his re-introduction to Rugby in a competitive environment," head coach Tony McGahan told the Melbourne Rebels club website.

"The Spring Tour allowed Marika to transition to rugby with the opportunity to learn and train aside the best players so we're prepared to give him

this unique opportunity ahead of the 2017 Super Rugby season."

The former Fiji Bati winger, who scored 46 tries in 74 NRL appearances with the Wests Tigers and Melbourne Storm, said he was excited about the new challenge in front of him.

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity to play for the Melbourne Rebels for the first time in a competitive tournament at the Brisbane Tens," Koroibete said.

"The Spring Tour was a great opportunity to kick off my rugby journey but I'm excited to continue to develop my game, play with my new teammates and positively contribute to the Melbourne Rebels in 2017."

The Brisbane Global Rugby Tens, which also feature the Manu Samoa national team, will be held from on February 11-12 at Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane.

—RNZ SPORT

## SPORTS



Players with donated equipments.

## Pan Oceanic Softball continues next week

BY TAROMANE MARTIN

THE Pan Oceanic Xmas Softball knockout competition games will resume Tuesday next week after kicking off last weekend.

The softball competition kicked off Sunday last week with six games taking place on the day according to a statement from Japanese International Cooperation Agency Coordinator Sakae Inoue yesterday.

Inoue who worked previously in the country from 2008-2011 as a JICA Volunteer is now back in the country as a JICA Coordinator.

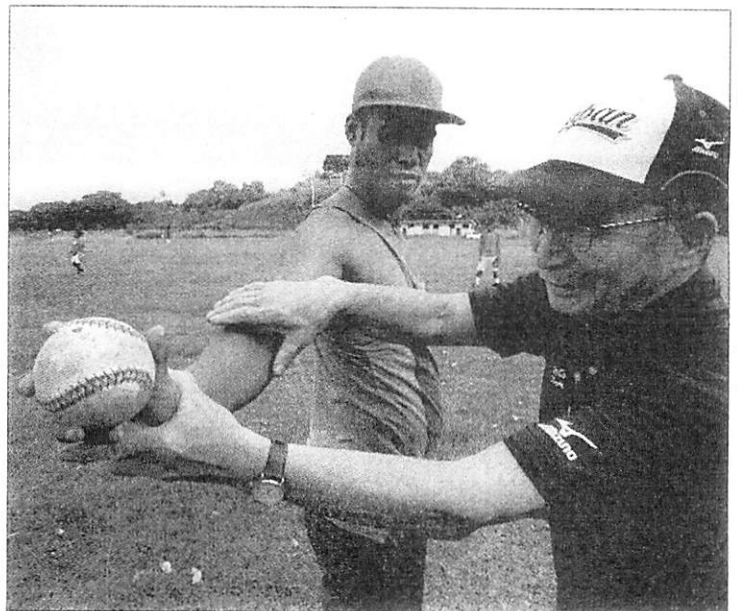
"The Pan Oceanic Bank Xmas knockout game 2016 started on Sunday 18th December. A total of six teams and more than 70 players are registered in this competition," Inoue said.

"The aim is this competition is to call every player, whoever is interested in softball, to the field. There are many new players and many old players."

"First day, we played six games as a first robin, but we didn't complete this competition. We will play next game on 27th, Tuesday," she said.

Inoue adds players on Sunday also had the chance to meet two Mr Masataka Takeshima an executive member of the Japan Softball Association and Mrs. Mayumi Kobayashi, who is a president of Sammy Japan, a company of softball equipment.

Equipment donated for sport revival



Mr Masataka Takeshima demonstrating pitching clinic on Sunday.

"Softball players got big X'mas gift from Pan Oceanic Bank and Japanese softball players."

"They donated 23 gloves, six

bats, 46 balls and umpire gear to softball committee in Japan."

"And also, they shared skills for umpiring and some basic skill of fielding on Sunday 18th

and 19th.

The batting coaching clinic according to Sakae Inoue took place on Tuesday at Panatina rugby oval.



Briefing after the fielding clinic