

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



BOARD MEMBERS

Erick Acker

President

William (Bill) Ker Secretary General **Aaron Jones** Finance Director

Peter Topp Gary Reynolds Sport Development Director

Events Director

Margaret Hoekstra Governance Director

OUR PEOPLE

COMMISSIONS

REFEREE COMMISSION

Chair - Ian Matthew Kenneth Golden **Christopher Dolahenty** Dave Field **Erene Devall** Stewart MacDonald Darrin Sykes Sarah Mason Alister Stevenson Andrew Timoti Berkie Kapa

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Chair - Jassy Bhullar Jordan Zhu Kaitlin Sigado Benjamin Smith Donna Fraser Michael Singh David Parker

MEMBER RELATIONS COMMISSION

Federico Black Rhonda Togipau

Chair - William (Bill) Ker

COMMITTEE

Constitution Committee

Chair Erick Acker William (Bill) Ker Margaret Hoekstra **Gregg Cropper Garry Foran** Stephen Upton Graham Quinlivan Nicolas Van de Rijt

COACHING COMMISSION

Chair - Peter McNeven Anne Goh **April Jiang** Labeeb Levy Sue Salter Monica Wallace Glenn Hayes John Singh Patrick Caroll

WOMENS COMMISSION

Chair - Alex Waldren Nadeema Levy **Cindy Toms** Lily Singh

EVENT COMMISSION

Chair - Gary Reynolds Adam Collins Hamish McLean Ian Milne Kevin Hill

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Gwynne Ker









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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ERICK ACKER

It is my pleasure to present the 2019 Federation of International Touch (FIT) Annual Report, my eighth as President.

The year 2019 was successful for FIT with our first ever Asian World Cup staged in Malaysia and a workshop in France valued by all participating members.

FIT's accomplishments in 2019 were the result of the leadership, professionalism and dedication shown by its Directors, as well as the efforts of its Commissions and Committees. The outcomes outlined in this Annual Report were only possible through the commitment of passionate and committed volunteers who willingly and enthusiastically shared their expertise.

The Impact of COVID-19

Like the rest of the world, Touch was not exempt from the impact of COVID-19. However, the disruptions have provided an opportunity for each of us to rethink our way of engaging, sharing, working, and being more in solidarity with others.

Constitutional Revision

Regarding our Constitutional revision, the Touch governance model was established in the 1960s. However, COVID-19 has revealed a need to build a greater level of trust with members by giving National Touch Organisations more autonomy and refocusing the Federation's purpose on the important role it plays in coordination, regulation, control, transparency and international promotion.

In this regard, the Federation is exploring opportunities to work in a more shared collegial governance environment and transitioning away from its current role that is heavily operationally focused.

I also believe the COVID-19 experience highlighted the importance of sharing information and having in place key contacts and networks across the regions that could increase the effectiveness of measures designed to appropriately communicate during a pandemic.

Shared governance would have allowed the representative members to agree on the measures to be implemented to protect players and safeguard our sport, and I suggest members would more readily accept the decisions quicker. A possible hindrance to a shared governance approach is the diversity of the national Touch organisations due to their quantitative representation, financial position, political, and cultural environment.

The Outlook For 2020 And Beyond

As we look at 2020, it will be a year without international competition, although it is a year of reflection and positive action. This pandemic has certainly caught everyone off guard, not just our sport. My challenge to each of us as we look to post COVID-19 and the future of our sport - is simply, is it time to change FIT's way of operating and if so, what might that look like?

I invite you all to think about the challenge I have presented, and I look forward to exploring and sharing your ideas.

As a Board we also experienced challenges in responding during the pandemic under extraordinary circumstances and I wish to acknowledge the efforts of my fellow Directors during this difficult time.

PROJECTS UNDERWAY OR COMPLETED

- Organisation of a workshop attended by almost half of our member nations.
- The Touch World Cup financial reconciliation.
- Participation in and organisation of various international meetings (Asian test series, Pacific Games).
- A revision of the Constitution.
- Launching a review of the playing rules.
- Appointments of Chairpersons, followed by Panel Members at the Sport Direction level.

- The search for sponsors.
- The development of a new graphic identity for the Federation.
- The revision of the provisional budget for future years.
- A review of different policies such as Governance and Eligibility.
- A discussion on our risk management strategy ensuring the integrity of the sport of Touch and the safeguarding of its participants (including the management of COVID-19).

The Board, for its part has continued to be active and engaged in progressing several initiatives, including the establishment of its technical commissions, examining its governance, reviewing certain competition rules, finalising an events program for 2021-2023 and undertaking a comprehensive revision of our constitution.

The list above is not exhaustive and shows that our Federation is in perpetual renewal.

I would like to acknowledge the effort and work of all stakeholders including our volunteers, and members of the Board as well as the different commissions.

Whether you're a player, referee, coach, manager or volunteer, stay well, stay healthy and stay safe.

John

Erick Acker President





SECRETARY GENERAL REPORT

WILLIAM (BILL) KER

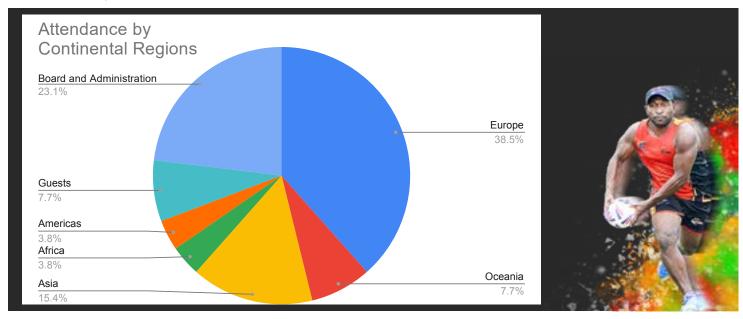
Operating Highlights

INAUGURAL 2019 MEMBER WORKSHOP

The FIT Member Workshop staged in Paris-Saclay, France was a huge success. It was great to see the delegates from all the attending nations sharing information, ideas and various challenges in progressing Touch in their respective nations.

The Inaugural 2019 Members Workshop was attended by 18 nations and 42 delegates.

Workshop sessions were well attended, with attendees engaged in lively discussion and debate across a variety of topics. Attendees also had the opportunity to further network and continue discussions outside of the workshop sessions.



2019 PACIFIC GAMES SAMOA

The 2019 Pacific Games were hosted in Samoa and the Touch discipline was staged by Samoa Touch well led by their President Mr. Michael Wulf. There was seven nations in attendance represented by 19 teams in Men's Women's and Mixed divisions. The results of the Pacific Games are detailed in the Events section of the FIT Website.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

The Constitutional Review Committee are meeting on a monthly basis and progressing the drafting of a new Constitution. One of the deciding factors in this review is the proposed transition from an Incorporated Association registered in NSW Australia to a Company Limited by Guarantee which will be registered with Australian Securities and Investment Commission. Other considerations for the changing of the Constitutional articles are to ensure the Constitution is contemporary and meets the modern trends of FIT and its National Touch Organisations (NTOs). It is planned to have the review completed by November 2020, with member consultation to be undertaken in late 2020/early 2021.



Photo Above: President Erick Acker welcome and opening address at the Paris workshop.

Photo Below: Delegates and visitors at the Inaugural 2019 Member Workshop.



Board Activities

It's been a hectic year for the FIT Board. In 2019/20, we introduced several new policies including, the Revised Eligibility Policy and the Drone Policy. The Board also appointed in August 2019 Governance Director Margaret Hoekstra and Anthony O'Brien as the Communications Director. Hamish McLean did not continue with the Board post April 2019. The Board also established in 2019 the Member Relations Commission.

The Board directed the 2019 World Cup in Malaysia and the 2019 Member Workshop in Paris, as well as initiated a Constitutional Review.

The Board held meetings in 2019 with attendance by Directors as per the table below.

NAME	ATTENDANCE
ERICK ACKER	9 out of 9
WILLIAM (BILL) KER	9 out of 9
AARON JONES	9 out of 9
HAMISH MCLEAN	3 out of 4
PETER TOPP	7 out of 9
GARY REYNOLDS	7 out of 9
MARGARET HOEKSTRA	3 out of 3
ANTHONY O'BRIEN	2 out of 3

Operational Support

As FIT continues to expand with more countries joining the Federation, and the number of endorsed tournaments across the world increasing, the Board began discussions on the creation of a paid position to perform the day to day operations of the Federation, thereby relieving the operational responsibility from the Board.

This will allow the Board to focus on strategic and high-level decision-making activities. Due to the financial impact of COVID-19, the appointment of this paid position has been postponed until late 2020 or the first half of 2021.

Communication

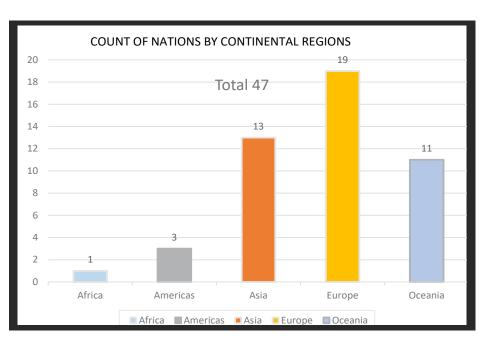
Communication to members and external organisations as well as other sports, is mainly undertaken via email and WhatsApp. A snapshot of email traffic prior to the World Cup in April 2019 is detailed below.

SNAPSHOT EMAIL STATS APRIL 2019 WORLD CUP MONTH

Messages Sent	Recipients	Avg. Response Time	Messages Received	Senders
294	281	1 Day	1,921	292
		9 Hours		

Member Relations





CURRENT FULL MEMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS

Europe

England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Guernsey, Jersey, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Czech, Luxembourg, Italy, Netherlands, Germany Portugal, Sweden Spain, Austria.

Americas

USA, Canada, Chile.

Asia

Singapore, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Philippines, Malaysia, Japan, Qatar, India and Middle East.

Africa

South Africa.

Oceania

Cook Islands, Samoa, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS

Europe: Bulgaria

Asia: Sri Lanka, Thailand

Oceania: Niue, Tokelau, Kiribati, Solomon

Islands and Tonga.

INCREASE TO MEMBERSHIP

Associate members joined or rejoined are Niue, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

FIT is in contact with clubs/Organisations from Kenya, Uganda, Argentina and Finland.

LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

Unfortunately FIT lost one member through the 2019 year being Mauritius and the loss was mainly due to personnel and directional changes within their sporting community.

Looking Forward

FIT is progressing the review and development of its operational policies together with formation of Eligibility and Inclusivity Committees in 2020. An important focus will also be exploring member relations activities and initiatives.





EVENTS

GARY REYNOLDS

The last 12 months was enormously fruitful for the Federation with the delivery of arguably the best Touch World Cup ever, and two test series.

World Cup 2019

In April-May 2019, the rapidly expanding sport of Touch enjoyed a memorable World Cup. The event in Putrajaya, Malaysia, attracted 117 teams from 26 member nations. There were 515 matches with a total of 6,489 touchdowns scored over six electrifying days.

Also, a first World Cup in South East Asia, this landmark event was successful due to the hard work and enthusiasm of many, many stakeholders. However, we would like to single out several individuals and event partners for special mention, including:

- **Bryan O'Connor** of FIT Touch Malaysia whose years of dedication ensured the event transpired.
- Host City partners **Perbadanan Putrajaya** and **Taman Ekuestrian Putrajaya** for their support, which included constructing additional fields to accommodate the global tournament.
- Broadcast partners **247.tv** and **BIRDI**, who produced over 140 hours of video content. This partnership enabled us to live-stream 192 matches via YouTube, with 5-6 hours per day simulcast on the **BBC Sport** website and iPlayer in the UK.
- The **Tour Managers**, who were extremely obliging as conduits to the participants. Like all international sporting events, on-the-run decisions occurred. Yet the support from team management never wavered.
- The **2,460 registered** players, referees, coaches, managers, medical and event personnel.



World Cup Highlights

The event in Putrajaya, Malaysia, attracted 117 teams from 26 member nations. There were 515 matches played and Australia maintained its star status by winning the three Open divisions, and five of the Senior divisions contested. New Zealand, who caused an early stir in the World Cup, won the remaining three titles, the Women's 27s, Men's 40s, and Men's 50s.

Apart from the antipodean heavyweights, in all nine nations scored podium finishes – Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Cook Islands, England, South Africa, France, Scotland and Singapore.

For more details, jump onto <u>internationaltouch.org/events/world-cup/2019.</u>

DIVISION	GOLD MEDAL	SILVER MEDAL	BRONZE MEDAL
Men's Open	Australia	New Zealand	Japan
Women's Open	Australia	New Zealand	Japan
Mixed Open	Australia	New Zealand	Scotland
Women's 27	New Zealand	Australia	England
Men's 30	Australia	South Africa	France
Mixed 30	Australia	New Zealand	New Zealand
Men's 35	Australia	New Zealand	Cook Islands
Women's 35	Australia	New Zealand	England
Men's 40	New Zealand	Australia	Japan
Men's 45	Australia	New Zealand	South Africa
Men's 50	New Zealand	Australia	Singapore

Test Matches

In the wake of the stunning success in Malaysia, Japan hosted Hong Kong in a three-test series in early January 2020 between the Men's Open and Women's Open national teams. Held in Tokyo, Japan won the series with victory in all six matches played.

For more details, jump onto international touch.org/events/test-matches/2020-japan-vs-hong-kong.

A few weeks later, Australia hosted New Zealand for the 2020 Youth Trans-Tasman series. Played in Newcastle, each nation fielded Boy's 18, Girl's 18, Mixed 18, Men's 20, Women's 20, and Mixed 20 teams. Australia dominated their neighbours winning 16 of the 18 test matches, winning all six divisions contested.

For more details, jump onto international touch.org/events/trans-tasman/2020-youth.

FIT HERMANN.

Future Events

Following on the tailwind of the 2019 Touch World Cup, 2020 promised to be another fantastic year for international Touch. In July 2020, a European Championships was scheduled for Nottingham, England, followed by the first-ever Asian Cup in Shanghai, China, in October. However, a once in a generation pandemic intervened. Consequently, all tournaments were postponed as international borders closed.

Nonetheless, the Event Commission led by Gary Reynolds has continued to plan its Future Events Calendar with the rescheduled European Championships and Asian Cup penciled in for 2021.

From 2021, the Event Commission plans to introduce additional regional events as soon as possible. We've seen consistent growth in Asia, including the playing of several Test Matches, and it's exciting that an Asian Cup has been added to the event calendar.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
World Cup				√				√
Youth World Cup		Х				✓		
European Championships	Х		_/		/		√	
Asian Cup	Х	CN	†		†		†	
Pacific Cup		†				†		
Americas Cup					†		†	
Pacific Games ¹				†				†

Tier 1 events such as a World Cup, and Asian Cup and European Championships (Tier 2 events) represent the best opportunity for national teams to play in meaningful competitions at a single venue. Moreover, Tier 1 and 2 events provide more games for competing nations and subsequently, a healthier return on investment.

Regional interest and commitment to host international tournaments will determine the rollout of new Tier 2 events. Initial Tier 2 events will be administered by the Federation partnering directly with a host. After several regional competitions, the longer-term plan is to invite bids from nations to host Tier 2 events.





¹ The Pacific Games is endorsed by FIT as a Tier 2A event organised by the Pacific Games Council (PGC). FIT supports the games with delivery personnel and access to our referee network. Whether or not the sport of Touch is played as part of this multi-sport event is at the discretion of the Host Nation and PGC. We hope that it will be played but can not guarantee it will be part of all future Pacific Games.

SPORT DEVELOPMENT

PETER TOPP

The last 12 months has been rewarding with the 2019 World Cup showcasing the development of the sport at the highest level. The portfolio is led by the FIT Director Peter Topp.

Also, FIT is fortunate that our Coaching Commission, Referee's Commission, Woman's Commission and Youth Development Commission are driven by extremely capable individuals who volunteer their time to grow our sport.

After achieving the stellar heights of the 2019 World Cup, we were determined to maintain our momentum despite the international pandemic. Our Commissions quickly adjusted their focus from training to safety and education.

FIT is extremely fortunate to have the assistance of dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers to guide and assist in our development as a global sport. The FIT Board recently appointed its Commission Chairs and Members to continue to drive the development of our sport.

It would be remiss if we didn't pay tribute to the efforts of outgoing Women's Commission Chair Nadeema Levy and Youth Development Chair Rob Devine. The efforts of Nadeema and Rob have not been lost in the overall development of the sport globally.

In truth, we are humbled by the quality of our amazing volunteers. These individuals give their time, skills and knowledge freely in an effort to ensure the environment that we compete in is safe, challenging and enjoyable for everyone.

Our game is dependent on the millions of participants including players, coaches, referees, selectors, managers, administrators, event personnel and parents, and we would like to thank you for your involvement in 2019/20. These people are the true heroes of our sport.

The influence of the World Cup on development

The World Cup is the culmination of years of preparation and we congratulate all of those who competed. The event is an opportunity for players, coaches, referees and support staff to experience the atmosphere in and around the World Cup.

While we applaud the performances at the World Cup, the improvement in the sport globally is the result of the excellent work of coaches, referees and players locally. Many of these individuals would not have the opportunity to be involved in international tournaments, however they will benefit indirectly from the performances of their national teams.







The highlights for Sport Development in 2019 include:

- Referee Coaching course presenters and referee coaches.
- World Cup assessment of all referees.
- Coach feedback sessions at the World Cup.
- Coach accreditation courses reviewed and refreshed.
- Referee and coaching development in Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe and the Pacific.
- Mentoring and advice for coaches and referees around the world.
- Ongoing consultation with stakeholders to identify, enhance and potentially initiate development opportunities.
- Identification of the support currently being developed for youth internationally.
- Promotion, through social media, of the involvement of women in our sport.
- Identification of the critical role women play at all levels of the sport.
- Engagement of NTOs through the recently introduced YouTube series "Set of 6" hosted by Adam Collins.

The global brief for our commissions

The FIT Commissions undertake global development through a dedicated network of skilled volunteers. As the sport grows, so too does the weight of delivery, which largely falls to our NTO personnel.

The development of international standard referees and coaches are key priorities for FIT, and our Commission's personnel have their sights set firmly on developing a strong base from which these international level athletes, coaches and referees will emerge.

The following pages outline the outcomes delivered by the FIT coaching and refereeing personnel during the World Cup and the plans for these Commissions.





Contributions to the World Cup

Coaching

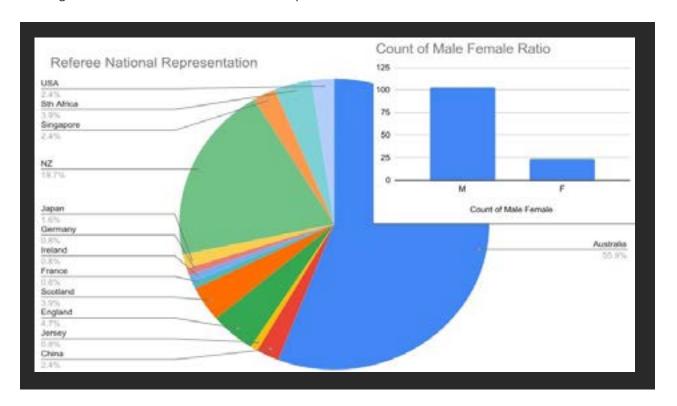
- Delivered a FIT General Coaching Principles Course and Introductory Coaching Course to 19 participants and 2 observers.
- Completed 54 FIT Coaching Feedback and Discussion sessions.
- Met with NTO Coaching Directors/Representatives and players such as Hong Kong, Philippines, England, Samoa, Fiji, China, Netherlands, Cook Islands, UAE to discuss ongoing coaching development.
- Attended the FIT World Cup Managers meeting to answer questions regarding coaching at the World Cup.
- Selected the player of the finals for the 11 Divisions.
- Promoted future plans to deliver FIT Coaching Courses to coaches seeking FIT coach accreditation on site prior to the commencement of future FIT Youth World Cup and FIT World Cup.

FIT would like to acknowledge Anne Goh, Sue Salter, Steve Hughes and Commission Chair Peter McNeven for their commitment and contribution to the Coaching Commission at the 2019 World Cup.

Refereeing

- 150 referees, referee managers, medical crew and panel members.
- 435 Referee on-field Assessments.
- 11 Referee Coach course candidates from South Africa, China, Japan, USA, Australia.
- 66 Referee Coach Practical assessments.
- 11 Finals involving 33 appointments.
- 13 upgraded to Gold Badge Highest Badge only available for International referees.
- Inclusion of cultural dance from South African and New Zealand Referees performing the Haka highlighted cultural aspects of the game.
- Introduction of Team Leaders with a primary role of being Mentors for referees provided a role in performance enhancement.

Referees in attendance was 127 of which 24 (19%) were females and 103 were males; these referees represented 13 nations.



COACH DEVELOPMENT

The Coaching Commission plays a lead role in the ongoing development of Touch globally, with a commitment to continuous development and innovation in the coaching programs and approaches that are facilitated and delivered by FIT to NTOs.

Key Highlights for Coaching Commission 2019

- Completion of a review and update of FIT's Coaching Courses to align with contemporary trends and approaches in coaching Touch.
- Initiated options and started trialling online access of the FIT Coaching Courses and developed and piloted a FIT Touch Schools Program.
- Initiated discussion and options for online access for Touch skills and drills.
- Identification of suitably qualified presenters in each region where Touch is played to deliver FIT Coaching Courses.
- Supported NTOs in coaching development by providing experienced and qualified coaches to conduct courses, workshops and on field coaching sessions.

- Continued conducting coaching workshops for the Hong Kong Touch coaches.
- Attended as an observer and participated in sessions relating to coaching at the FIT Workshop in France in October 2019 and met with NTO representatives to discuss ongoing coaching development.
- Commenced discussions with Belgium Touch to identify and arrange future development coaching sessions and workshops.
- Ongoing maintenance of a global register for coaches and presenters





REFEREE DEVELOPMENT

The Referees Coaching Commission is established to set a progressive platform for the development of our referees operating within our NTOs. This service offering includes referees' courses presented throughout the year.

The 2019 World Cup played a significant role in the work of the Referee's Commission as it was attended by a record number of teams. The very diverse yet well balanced group of individuals who undertook on-field refereeing and off-field coaching were very committed. This level of dedication ensured the very best referees officiated the best games.

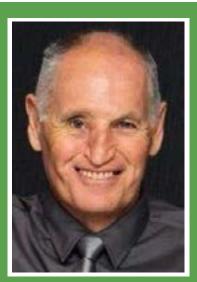
The Referees' panel was established before the event in Malaysia and each panel member was involved in the way the tournament was to be delivered from a referee perspective. With 18 hours of referee coaching throughout the tournament the efforts of the Referee Commission's coaching contingent cannot be understated.

Across the board the referee standards were good, although there is a real need to upskill referees from Nations, which are not exposed to regular high-level competition. We will address this issue with a plan designed and set for the future with the involvement of the whole FIT Referee Panel.

The presentation of the FIT Introductory Referees Coaching Course at the World Cup was successful, resulting in 11 newly qualified referee coaches. These additional coaching resources will help NTOs in the development of referees.

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Referees Commission initiated coaching development through the delivery of short courses via Zoom. The Referee Commission intends to use videoing conferencing to expand its reach to a larger number of referees world-wide.

The future plans for the Referee Commission include upgrading referee courses, initiating the development and delivery of courses online, together with referee coaching development remotely. This will involve a review of all Badge Level, Referee Coaching and Facilitator coaches' courses to bring them in line with the latest trends and expectations.



VALE: LOU TOMPKINS A MUCH LOVED AND RESPECTED MEMBER OF THE FIT REFEREE PANEL HAS BEEN LOST TO THE SPORT.

The Federation of International Touch would like to acknowledge the contribution Lou Tompkins has made to the development of the sport over many years of involvement. As most will know Lou made a huge contribution to the Referee arm of the sport, specifically in the education, training and coaching of referees. Lou lost his long battle with cancer in 2020, and all members of the FIT Sports Development Commissions extend our deepest condolences to the Tompkins family.



WOMEN IN TOUCH DEVELOPMENT

The Womens Commission was established to provide global standards for the development, recognition and promotion of female players, coaches and referees, and the Standards and codes of conduct for the management of, and behaviour towards women in Touch.

The FIT Womens Commission plans for 2020 and beyond include increasing women's participation by assisting NTOs to create awareness and to develop Touch for women and girls in their respective countries.

The Commission will also explore innovations to elevate the Women's game, while other initiatives include:

INNOVATIONS TO ELEVATE WOMEN IN THE GAME

- Developing and leveraging elite coaches and referees to help increase the level and participation of women's coaches.
- Increase the level and participation of female referees and referee coaches.
- Developing future women administrators to help foster an understanding of the benefits of a diverse and inclusive organization.
 - Revising regulations towards gender balance best practices.
 - Creating a network of adapted development and training programs.

Increasing gender diversity in NTOs is another major goal for the Commission. More diversity will be developed by the development of a state-of-the-art gender balance strategy. As part of this strategy, the Commission hopes to encourage existing participants and attract new talent to all levels of the sport. The strategy will also aim to support NTOs with best practices to adapt their own regulations towards a gender balance regulation.

One of the first initiatives will be the delivery of targeted women in Touch programs that provide a learning platform that provides a safe and appropriate learning environment.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

This Commission has been appointed to assist NTOs to develop appropriate programs to introduce the sport to youth globally.

The support currently being developed by the Youth Development Commission will include programs targeted at Introduction of Touch in schools. It is anticipated that this will include the development of a Junior Talent Identification Program, as well as more quality youth coaches through increased teacher involvement.

The future targets for the Youth Development Commission include engaging with stakeholders to identify what support is required to provide to NTOs. Other initiatives include developing initiatives and strategies to assist member nations in youth development.

The Commission also plans to provide NTOs with a dedicated Commission member as a point of contact, along with a support process to consider member nation requests. The collection of data will be used to evaluate the status of the sport in NTOs, while the Commission is considering the development of an App to assist with the coaching of youth skills, tactics and strategies for member nations.









GOVERNANCE

MARGARET HOEKSTRA

The Federation continues to benefit from the vision and direction of the Board in facilitating and nurturing the development and expansion of Touch globally. In August 2019, the Board agreed to prioritise the Federation's governance, accountability and risk minimisation measures and appointed Margaret Hoekstra as its Governance Director.

Introducing our newest director

Margaret Hoekstra has enjoyed a diverse and extensive career within the government, not-for-profit and commercial sectors involving local government, health, water, aged care, transport, and entertainment and performing arts. Her career highlights include a stint as Deputy Chair of the Queensland Local Government Grants Commission working across three levels of government to deliver grants programs for communities across Oueensland.

A Fellow of The Institute of Managers and Leaders, Australia and New Zealand, Governance Institute, Australian Institute of Company Directors and Women on Boards, Margaret is a former Executive Director, Queensland Office for Women. Margaret has also held various executive level roles in leading corporate, legal, and regulatory divisions. In these roles, FIT's newest director was responsible for organisational change and government policy reforms, and program and services delivery. She also has extensive experience in procurement managing million-dollar contracts involving diverse industries, such as domestic and international travel, and petroleum.

With a Bachelor of Business (Management) and Bachelor of Social Sciences (Psychology), Margaret has developed an appreciation for governance in sport with over 25 years involvement in field hockey at the community level, as an administrator, coach, referee and selector. Margaret is a Life Member of her Association for her services to the sport.







The Governance Program

As part of the Governance program, FIT is seeking new ways to improve performance and sustainability. With the Board committed to continuous improvement, FIT policies, systems, and processes are being appraised to ensure they are contemporary and relevant, and meet any regulatory and compliance requirements.

The initial focus has been to consider Board and Commission operations; and commence a review of governance policies and frameworks including strategic and business planning, risk management, performance, and internal and external reporting. Internationally, FIT and its Members have demonstrated a collaborative commitment to good governance by sharing common issues and challenges and engaging in open debate and discussion.

The successful 2019 FIT Members workshop held in Paris provided a fantastic opportunity for face to face discussion on technical and governance-related topics. Effective relationships and regular engagement between Members and the FIT Board and Commissions also demonstrate how our sport is functioning.

Post COVID-19, understanding the impact of the recent pandemic and examining how effectively we responded, will be vital to inform future governance decisions. Early indicators of areas to be considered include organisational processes and systems, financial management, risk management, decision making, stakeholder communication and engagement, and service delivery.

In 2020, key priorities include progressing the governance review program of work, delivering a new FIT Strategic Plan for the coming three to four year period, and implementing outcomes from the review of FIT's Constitution (2011). Collaborating with Members and exploring opportunities to build awareness, understanding and knowledge of governance in sport is also an important focus in the year ahead.









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FINANCE

AARON JONES

The Federation has recorded a surplus for the year of A\$235,860 (2018 surplus: A\$11,521). The surplus was generated from the 2019 FIT World Cup Event conducted in Malaysia. Due to a record number of team nominations, strict monetary and budgetary control processes and favourable exchange rates, the event generated greater revenue than forecasted.

FIT has completed the 2019 tax year with a surplus asset position of A\$354,600, up from A\$118,739 in 2019. Due to the success of the World Cup, the Federation has built a small level of capital that can be used for achieving its short-term financial objectives.

The World Cup

The Federation managed the financial processes for the event, collecting team nomination fees and administering the transfer of funds for expenditure. This level of management ensured the risk of expenditure leakage was minimised. The success of the tournament allowed the Federation to also recoup losses from the 2018 Youth World Cup. This item is shown as the Reimbursement Income in the Profit and Loss Statement of the financial report.

FIT was also responsible for the collection of levies and payment of expenses for the World Cup Referees. Thanks to Bill and Gwynne Ker on the administration of the FIT Referees World Cup Budget and handling much of the communication with the referees.

In providing the nations with clarity of the financial performance of each of the three main revenue divisions of the Federation this year, being the World Cup, World Cup Referees and General Funds, a profit and loss statement is provided with this financial report for each of those divisions.

You will note a small discrepancy in the sum of these three profit divisions and the total surplus. This is due to slight currency adjustments connected to items that were linked to the 2018 Youth World Cup Division, within the Federation's accounting software.

Funding For The Paris Workshop

Due to the success of the World Cup, the Board agreed to conduct a member participation event. The 2019 FIT Touch Workshop was held in Paris in October, where the Federation provided the accommodation, course and content materials, and food and beverages for all delegates. The total cost of the event to the Federation was A\$23,951. The Board considers this a valuable investment as it allowed delegates from every geographical area to gather, present their thoughts and views on the sport of Touch. The event provided the Board with feedback on the challenges faced by NTAs and how we can assist them into the future.

The Impact Of COVID-19

The COVID-19 19 Pandemic has re-iterated the need for sporting organisations to have sufficient capital reserves to successful mitigate the unforeseeable.

Those NTAs that operate on a tight budget have likely found the experience significantly more difficult than those with a decent cash reserve. For those associations that are having trouble raising funds to cover their 2020 affiliation levy, please contact finance@internationaltouch.org to arrange a suitable payment plan to ensure your membership with the Federation is preserved.

SUPPORTING FILES TO THE FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT

World Cup 2019

PROFIT AND LOSS

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INCORPORATED

WORLD CUP

1 JANUARY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2019

	31 Dec 19
INCOME	
WC - Event Proceeds	\$90,380.27
WC - Nominations Fees	\$202,495.46
Clothing Sales	\$23,622.37
Sponsorship	\$2,366.00
Travel and Accommodation	\$4,261.15
TOTAL INCOME	\$323,125.25
GROSS PROFIT	\$323,125.25
LESS OPERATING EXPENSES	
Event Expenses	\$7,567.08
Event Travel	\$22,597.36
Printing, Postage and Stationary	\$267.15
Event Accommodation	\$29,790.85
Event Staff Meals and Incidentals	\$4,892.45
Event Uniform	\$28,895.98
Foreign Currency Gains and Losses	-\$43.51
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$93,967.36
NET PROFIT	\$229,157.89

World Cup Referees 2019

PROFIT AND LOSS FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INCORPORATED WORLD CUP REFEREE

1 JANUARY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2019

	31 Dec 19
INCOME	
WC Nomination Fees	\$242,308.00
Sponsorship	\$12,800.00
Travel and Accommodation	\$5,264.83
TOTAL INCOME	\$260,372.83
GROSS PROFIT	\$260,372.83
LESS OPERATING EXPENSES	
Event Expenses	\$70,898.09
Event Travel	\$16,229.40
Printing, Postage and Stationary	\$289.95
Event Accommodation	\$78,859.94
Event Medical	\$7,937.53
Event Staff Meals and Incidentials	\$11,440.00
Event Uniform	\$75,096.00
Foreign Currency Gains and Losses	-\$43.51
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$260,294.39
NET PROFIT	\$78.44

General Account

PROFIT AND LOSS FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INCORPORATED UNASSIGNED PROFIT CENTRE **1 JANUARY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2019**

	31 Dec 19
INCOME	
Affiliation Fees	\$94,000.00
Clothing Sales	\$949.00
Interest Received	\$1,440.31
Office and Administration	\$640.00
Other Income	\$43.50
Processing Fees	\$2,319.13
Reimbursements	\$23,499.14
Travel and Accommodation	\$465.12
TOTAL INCOME	\$123,356.20
GROSS PROFIT	\$123,356.20





General Account (continued)

	31 Dec 19	
LESS OPERATING EXPENSES		
Accounting	\$6,330.00	
Annual General Meeting	\$2,369.33	
Audit Fees	\$2,090.00	
Bank Fees	\$5,586.64	
Computer	\$327.57	
Directors Travel and Accommodation	\$10,295.21	
Event Expenses	\$1,378.46	
Event Travel	\$5,470.68	
Executive Secretarial	\$24,000.00	
Honorariums	\$12,001.00	
Insurance	\$4,090.50	
Meeting Expenses	\$144.54	
Printing, Postage and Stationary	\$1,564.90	
Resource Expenses	\$640.00	
Travel Expenses	\$941.97	
Travel Insurance	\$2.09	
Uniform and Clothing	\$1,380.95	
Uniform Clothing	\$796.00	
Website Construction and Hosting	\$4,786.71	
Event Accommodation	\$1,181.65	
Event Media & Technology	\$850.00	
Event Staff Meals and Incidentals	\$209.15	
Event Uniform	\$2,137.47	
Foreign Currency Gains and Losses	\$650.15	
Interest	\$49.99	
Telephone and Internet	\$1,496.95	
Workshop Printing and Supplies	\$1,903.15	
Workshop Travel and Accommodation	\$23,950.58	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$116,625.64	
NET PROFIT	\$6,730.56	

Note: All dollar amounts presented in these statements and the annual report are denoted in Australian Dollars.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2019

FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2019

AUDITORS REPORT 2019

Federation of International Touch Inc.
ABN 27 798 448 661
Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2019
SPECTRUM ACCOUNTANTS
74 Smith Street
Southport QLD 4215
Phone: (07) 5556 2600

Email: in fo@spectrum financial.com. au



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INC. ABN 27 798 448 661 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT	2019 \$	2018 \$
INCOME		
Income Membership		
Affiliation Fees	94,000	96,500
	94,000	96,500
Event Income		
Youth World Cup		115,500
World Cup	535,549	536
	535,549	116,037
Interest Received	1,440	766
Foreign Exchange Profit		414
Event Income		
Reimbursements	23,499	
Travel and Accommodation	9,991	
Office and Administration	640	
Processing Fees	2,319	
	36,449	
Other Income	43	
Sponsorship	15,116	7,064
Clothing Sales	24,206	
Total Income	706,854	220,780

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INC. ABN 27 798 448 661 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019 \$	2018 \$
EXPENSES		
Sports Development Expenditure		
Travel Expenses	942	520
Resource Expenses	640	
Uniform Clothing	796	
Workshop Travel and Accommodation	23,951	
Workshop Printing and Supplies	1,903	
	28,232	520
Event Expenses		
Event Expenses	79,844	18,164
Event Travel	44,297	26,881
Event Accommodation	109,832	35,185
Event Media and Technology	850	18,219
Event Uniform	106,129	27,205
Event Staff Meals and Incidentals	16,542	15,375
Event Medical	7,938	
	365,432	141,029
Administration Expenses		
Outsourcing Fees		1,000
Executive Secretarial	24,000	24,000
Company Registration		82
Printing, Stationary, Telecommunication	2,122	1,200
Telephone and Internet	1,497	1,339
	27,619	27,621

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INC. ABN 27 798 448 661 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019 \$	2018 \$
EXPENSES (continued)		
Meetings		
Annual General Meeting	2,369	
Meeting Expenses	145	158
Directors Travel and Accommodation	10,295	6,104
Travel Insurance	2	170
	12,811	6,432
Financials		
Bank Fees	5,587	2,403
Accounting	6,330	4,680
Audit Fees	2,090	2,090
Insurance	4,090	5,250
Legal Fees		1,749
Postage, Printing and Stationary		246
Interest	50	1,002
	18,147	17,419
Volunteers		
Honorariums	12,001	12,000
	12,001	12,000
External Relations		
OSFO Membership Fee		400
		400
ICT		
Computer	328	3,100
Foreign Exchange	4,787	152
	5,114	3,252

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INC. ABN 27 798 448 661 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019 \$	2018 \$
EXPENSES (continued)		
DIRECTORS		
General Expense		50
Uniform & Clothing	1,381	
	1,381	50
Foreign Exchange	257	
TOTAL EXPENSES	470,994	208,723
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax	235,860	12,057
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax		
Net Profit attributable to the association	235,860	12,057
Total changes in equity of the association	235,860	12,057
Opening retained profits	118,739	106,682
Net Profit attributable to the association		
NECTION ACCIDATIONE TO THE 0220CIOUNT	235,860	12,057
Closing retained profits	354,600	118,739

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INC. ABN 27 798 448 661 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

DETAILED BALANCE SHEET	2019 \$	2018 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
CBA Cheque Account	332,833	598,910
Term Deposit	70,000	70,000
Smart Access	21,562	
Cash On Hand	1,407	2,291
	425,801	671,201
Receivables		
Trade Debtors	5,617	171,590
	5,617	171,590
Inventories		
Finished Goods - At Real Value	16,747	14,954
	16,747	14,954
Other		
Prepayments	3,845	34,790
	3,845	34,790
Total Current Assets	452,011	892,535
Total Assets	452,011	892,535

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INC. ABN 27 798 448 661 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019 \$	2018 \$
CURRENT LIABILITIES Payables Unsecured:		
Trade Creditors	90,413	9,085
Sundry Creditors		1,200
FIT Credit Card	1,397	263
2019 WC Host Nation Fees (Trust)		363,952
	91,810	374,500
Other:		
Prepaid Income	1,125	394,070
Deposits Held	2,476	3,226
	3,601	397,296
Total Current Liabilities:	95,411	771,796
Total Liabilities:	95,411	771,796
Net Assets:	356,600	120,739
Members' Funs Reserves		
African Development Fund	2,000	2,000
Accumulated Surplus (deficit)	354,600	118,739
Total Members' Funds	356,600	120,739

FINANCE

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act of New South Wales. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

(a) Receivables

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

(b) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

(c) Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue. Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established. Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(d) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the assets and liabilities statement are shown inclusive of GST.

(e) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period, which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

FINANCE

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee the Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position, and Notes to the Financial Statements:

- 1. Presents fairly the financial position of Federation of International Touch as at 31 December 2019 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- **2.** At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Erick Acker President

Aaron Jones
Finance Director





AUDITORS REPORT

Kevin Butt BBus (Acc & Legal Studies) CPA

Partner - Helios Accountants



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL TOUCH INCORPORATED

To the members of Federation of International Touch Incorporated

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Federation of International Touch Incorporated, which comprises the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2019, the Income and Expenditure Statement for the year then ended, Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the Statement by Members of the Committee.

Committee's responsibility for the financial report

The Committees of the Association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporated Act 2009 and the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility also includes such internal control that the Committee determines are necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgments, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Association's preparation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Radu Maxim, CPA. Portner: Kevin Butt, CPA.

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ABN 17 338 950 941



AUDITORS REPORT

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of the Federation of International Touch Incorporated presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Federation of International Touch Incorporated as at 31 December 2019 and of its financial performance for the year then ended on that date and complies with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's reporting responsibilities. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Dated: 27 February 2020

Kevin Butt BBus (Acc & Legal Studies), CPA Partner **Helios Accountants** Suite 30609 Southport Central 9 Lawson Street

Southport QLD 4215





Federation of International Touch Inc. ABN 27 798 448 661

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