



VA'A

COMPETITION MANUAL

8TH MICRONESIAN GAMES

July 20-29, 2014

POHNPEI MICRONESIAN GAMES ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

P.O. Box PS319 • Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

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VA'A (CANOE)

Dates: Saturday - Monday, July 26-28, 2014

Venue: Tekehtik Harbour

Technical Meeting 3:00pm, Friday, July 25, 2014

Tournament Director Details

Competition Manager: Donald David

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Va'a Technical Official: Baklai Temengil

COMPETITION DETAILS

1. General Information

- 1.2 The Pohnpei 2014 Micronesia Games Organizing Committee will coordinate the 2014 Micronesian Games Va'a (Outrigger Canoeing) competition under the International Va'a Federation (IVF):
 - a. Race Rules and Management
 - b. Organization & administration guidelines and Explanation
 - c. Be monitored by an IVF Official
 - d. Guidelines and rules of International Va'a Federation

2. Technical Meeting

- 2.1 The Va'as Technical Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, July 25, 2014 at 3:00pm (at a site to be announced).
- 2.2. The Technical Committee shall ensure that the 2014 Micronesian Games Va'a competition is conducted in agreement with the technical rules and regulations of the International Va'a Federation (IVF).

3. Competition Management

- 3.1 The 2014 Micronesian Games Va'a competition will be held on Saturday and Monday, July 26-28, 2014 at Tekehtik Harbour.

4. List of Events

Men

V6 500m sprint
V6 1500m sprint
V6 20km Long Distance

Women

V6 500m sprint
V6 1500m Sprint
V6 15km Long Distance

5. Competition Schedule

Race #	Date	Time	Race Heat	Event	Competition
0	Sat July 26	7:00am	Blessing of Canoes	Blessing of Canoes	Blessing of Canoes
1	Sat July 26	7:30am	Race 1 /1 st Heat	V6 Women	1500m Preliminary
2	Sat July. 26	7:50am	Race 2 /2 nd Heat	V6 Women	1500m Preliminary
3	Sat July 26	8:50am	Race 3 /2nd Heat	V6 Men	1500m Preliminary
4	Sat July 26	9:10am	Race 4 /3rd Heat	V6 Men	1500m Preliminary
5	Sat July 26	9:30am	Race 5 /1 st Heat	V6 Women	500 Preliminary
6	Sat July 26	9:50am	Race 6 /2 nd Heat	V6 Women	500 Preliminary
7	Sat July 26	10:10am	Race 7/2nd Heat	V6 Men	500m Preliminary
8	Sat July 26	10:30am	Race 8/3rd Heat	V6 Men	500m Preliminary
9	Sat July 26	10:50am	Race 9/1st Heat	V6 Women	1500m Repechage
10	Sat July 26	11:10am	Race 10/2nd Heat	V6 Men	1500m Repechage
11	Sat July 26	11:30am	Race 11/1st Heat	V6 Women	500m Repechage
12	Sat July 26	12:50pm	Race 12/2nd Heat	V6 Men	500m Repechage
13	Sat July 26	12:30pm	Race 13/1st Heat	V6 Women	1500m Finals
14	Sat July 26	12:50pm	Race 14/1st Heat	V6 Men	1500m Finals
15	Sat July 26	1:10pm	Race 15/1st Heat	V6 Women	500m Finals
16	Sat July 26	1:30pm	Race 16/2nd Heat	V6 Men	500m Finals
	AWARD	AWARD	AWARD	AWARD	

Sunday July 27th 2pm Long Distance Course Tour					
1	Mon July 28	8:00am	Race 17/1st Heat	V6 Men	20km Long Distance
2	Mon July 28	10:00am	Race 18/1st Heat	V6 Women	15km Long Distance
3	Mon July 28	after race	Award Ceremony		Canoe Venue

6. Medals

6.1 Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded in the Micronesian Games competition in accordance with the Micronesian Games Charter.

Medal Events	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Men's V6 500m	10	10	10
Men's V6 1500m	10	10	10
Men's V6 20km	10	10	10
Women's V6 500m	10	10	10
Women's V6 1500m	10	10	10
Women's V6 15km	10	10	10
Total	60	60	60

7. Eligibility

In order to be eligible to compete at the Micronesian Games, an athlete must comply with one of the following criteria:

(1) The athlete must have been born in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council -- that is, Palau, Guam, the CNMI, Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, or Kiribati -- and must have lived in any of those states, countries, or territories for a period of three years up to and including the start of the Games; OR

(2) The athlete must be the child of at least one parent, or two grandparents, who were born in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council (see above), without regard to residence; OR

(3) The athlete must have resided in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council (see above) for a period of seven years up to and including the start of the Games, AND, resides in the state, country, or territory for which the athlete will compete, as of the start of the Games, without regard to ancestry.

The temporary absence of an athlete from the territory of a member of the Micronesian Games Council for purposes such as education, sports, training, military service, and health care, or other legitimate absences of a similar kind, are not considered as interrupting a previously-established residency.

In addition, athletes must:

- (a) Complete all necessary entry and participation forms;
- (b) Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by any relevant authority;
- (c) Comply with all relevant rules and regulations of the Micronesia Games Council, the MGC Constitution, and the World Anti-Doping Code.

It is the responsibility of each participating state, country, or territory to ensure that all competitors comply with these requirements.

These requirements apply only to athletes. There are no eligibility requirements for coaches or technical officials.

Entries by name must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the start of the Games. Late entries will not be accepted. At the close of entries, the Pohnpei Organizing Committee will communicate a list of all named competitors to each competing state, country, or territory. Each competing state, country, or territory will have ten days to challenge the eligibility of a competitor. A \$50 bond is required for each challenge. The bond is refundable if the challenge is successful, but is forfeited if the challenge is unsuccessful.

The burden of proof of eligibility is on the sponsoring state, country, or territory, rather than the challenging state, country, or territory. In the event of a challenge, the sponsoring state, country, or territory must submit documents proving eligibility.

Challenges to athlete eligibility are made to the Micronesia Games Council Executive Board, not to the Pohnpei Organizing Committee, which will refer them for decision by a Disputes Tribunal, consisting of three persons appointed by the Micronesia Games Council Executive Board. All challenges to eligibility shall be decided at least 10 days prior to the start of the Games. The decisions of the Disputes Tribunal are final and may not be appealed.

A state, country, or territory whose athlete is successfully challenged and is deemed ineligible to compete will be liable for a penalty in the amount of \$100. Failure to pay the penalty means that the state, country, or territory will not be allowed to compete in the sport in which the ineligible athlete was registered.

The contents of this section are a summary of the relevant provisions of the Micronesia Games Council Constitution. While every attempt has been made to assure the accuracy of this summary, in the event of any inconsistencies between this summary and the provisions of the Micronesia Games Council Constitution, the provisions of the Constitution shall be controlling.

8. Maximum Entries

8.1 The Pohnpei 2014 Micronesia Games Organizing Committee is limiting the number of entries for the Outrigger Canoeing competition to 10 Men and 10 Women per country. No more than 1 team entry per event in accordance with Micronesian Games Charter.

9. Entries

9.1 All athletes must comply with entry requirements as specified in the Micronesian Games Council Charter.

10. Individual Entries

10.1 Fully completed Entry by Name Forms for each potential competitor must be received from the Micronesian Games Council Member Country by July 20, 2014.

11. Final Entries

11.1 The names of competitors finally entered for each event shall be confirmed to the Organizing Committee within 12 hours of arrival for the Games or at the Delegation Registration Meeting but before the first Technical Committee Meeting of each sport in which there are entries.

11.2 Only those competitors whose names appear on the Entry by Name Forms shall be eligible for final nominations.

11.3 When a competitor is injured after being included in the Final Entry by Name Forms, a substitute may be nominated on production of a medical certificate established by the doctor designated by the Games Organizing Committee provided this nomination is made before midnight preceding the opening event of the tournament in which the injured competitor would have taken part.

11.4 The substitute's name must have been entered in the Entry by Name Forms or the Reserve Entry by Name Forms of that sport.

12. Draws

12.1 All draws will be done randomly either before or by assignee of the Technical Committee at the first Technical Committee Meeting as per IVF requirements either by computer software or draw from the hat. Both under IVF delegate control.

13. Lane Allocation

13.1 Heat assignments will be made randomly. Thereafter, lane assignments will be made by computer based on place and time as followed by IVF.

14. Allocation of Canoes

14.1 Canoes will be in a pool. Each canoe will be allocated to a lane. Countries will use the canoes assigned to that lane.

15. Competition Rules and Regulations

15.1 The 2014 Micronesian Games Va'a competition will be conducted in accordance with most of the rules and regulations of the International Va'a Federation (IVF).

15.2 The Micronesian Games Council shall have complete control of the Policy of the Games as stated in the Micronesian Games Charter. However, the International Federations of all sports on the Games Program, in association with the Technical Committee shall have final technical control of the organization of their respective sports in accordance with the IVF Rules.

15.3 In cases of disputes the Micronesian Games Council decision shall be final.

COMPETITION PROCEDURES

16. IVF Rules

16.1 These rules are excerpts from the 2014 IVF Rules and Regulations used as part of the World Sprints, if applicable to these games. They are included as a general guide for competing paddlers. Refer to the IVF Rules 2014.

17. Hull Specifications

17.1 All Va'a are to be made from the same mold, using the same materials, with weight and dimensions to be the same. Prior to the competition, officials will check the weight and make alterations as need so that all Va'a are of the same weight, with tolerance levels set by the hull and equipment committee.

17.2 If the Tournament Director determines there is a need to measure the Va'a to ensure uniformity, the Va'a shall be compared using the standards as mentioned in the IVF Rules.

18. Call in and Holding Areas

- 18.1 A check-in location termed the call-in area will be designated where the contestants will report to the paddler inspectors when called. An area (termed the holding area) for contestants to go to after they leave the call-in area and before they enter the Va'a will be designated near where the Va'a are kept between races.

19. Starts

- 19.1 Contestants must be present on time at the starting line, in the order stated for the day's events. Starting signals shall be given regardless of absentees.
- 19.2 The position at the start should be such that the bow of each competing Va'a is lined up without movement behind the starting line. The Va'a must be in their assigned lanes, and may be allowed to be held in some way by a person(s) chosen by the contestant.
- 19.3 The competition director may order all or certain races to have a holder for each Va'a.
- 19.4 The start will be controlled by the aligner, located at the side of the course, and the flag person, located in a boat in the middle of the course approximately sixty meters in front of the starting line.
- 19.5 Starting procedures must be as follows:
- 19.5.1 Immediately prior to race start time, the starter will raise a white flag signaling Va'a to come to the pre start line.
 - 19.5.2 As soon as the Va'a are lined up on the pre start line, the aligner will communicate to the starter the OK to raise a red flag signaling the Va'a are lined up evenly on the start line. At the same time the aligner will verbally instruct the Va'a, as recorded, to do this in the English language.
 - 19.5.3 As soon as the Va'a are lined up evenly, the aligner must communicate quietly to the starter by radio to start the race.
 - 19.5.4 Instantaneously upon radio communication, the flag person will simultaneously lower the red flag and raise a green flag and an assistant will sound an air horn, signaling the start of the race.

- 19.6 If the aligner is unable to line up the Va'a evenly within one minute, he or she may choose to continue to try to line up the Va'a or may order the white flag to be raised and begin the process again.
- 19.7 At the start of a race, no Va'a shall have an illegal advantage. All Va'a that are lined up illegally must be given a warning to line up correctly and the opportunity to do so. If, after an official warning, a Va'a persists in lining up so that an illegal advantage is gained, the aligner may start the race, signaling this infraction by raising a black flag. If the aligner, after communicating to the starter to start the race, sees an unfair situation not previously noticed, a rerun must be immediately called.
- 19.8 If the aligner sees any reason to immediately halt the race for a rerun, he or she will communicate such to the course boats by radio and the waving of a red flag.

20. Turns

- 20.1 Turns are to be made counter-clockwise, with the ama nearest the flag.
- 20.2 If contact is made by any part of the hull, iako or ama so that the flag touches the water, the contestant shall be disqualified.

21. Finish

- 21.1 The finish line is crossed when the bow of the Va'a passes the finish flags.
- 21.2 All competitors must be on the Va'a at the finish of their race.
- 21.3 Any Va'a finishing outside its assigned lane will be disqualified.

22. Drawing of Lanes

- 22.1 Lanes shall be assigned randomly for preliminary races with the process carried out under the supervision and the control of the IVF and the Tournament Director.
- 22.2 The race schedule for the entire regatta and the lane assignments shall be posted the day prior to the start of the day's event. Unless for some unforeseen reason (protest, medically excused paddler, etc.)
- 23.3 Subsequent lane assignment postings shall be done as early as possible. Copies shall be available for each area coordinator.

23. Replacements and Withdrawals

- 23.1 V6 teams shall be entered with 6 paddlers. Where a paddler is deemed unable to paddle in a race progression for any verified medical reason, any eligible paddler from within that country roster list may replace them.
- 23.2 A contestant may withdraw without penalty by notifying the competition director the day before his race is scheduled. If a contestant does not start, and has no valid reason approved by the competition committee a fine shall be levied. These fines shall not be refundable and no contestant from that area will be allowed to compete until the fine is paid. The amount of the fine will be confirmed at the Technical Committee Meeting.

24. Disqualification

- 24.1 Besides the reasons set out for disqualification in other parts of these rules, any individual who attempts to win an event by means other than those which are honest, does not respect the race rules, or who displays unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be disqualified for the entire duration of the Games.
- 24.2 All disqualifications pronounced by the Tournament Director or Infractions Director shall be immediately confirmed in writing with reasons given. The Team Manager or Assistant Team Manager of any disqualified athlete shall then be notified, given a copy of the disqualification form and acknowledge receipt thereof on a copy indicating the precise time, which is the start of the protest time. The disqualification shall then be publicly announced and posted.
- 24.3 The following provisions as stated in these rules, are cause for automatic disqualification:
 - 24.3.1 Competing for more than one crew in an event will disqualify both crews from the competition. (Section 2b)
 - 24.3.2 A competitor who is a citizen of or resides in one member area competing in a team from another area. (Section 2b)
 - 24.3.3 Not meeting the age requirements. (Section 3)
 - 24.3.4 Using prohibited drugs. (Section 4)
 - 24.3.5 Starting or finishing outside one's lane. (Section 14)
 - 24.3.6 Paddling in a non-seated position. (Section 13)
 - 24.3.7 Starting incorrectly. (Section 14)
 - 24.3.8 Not rounding the flags in a counter-clockwise direction. (Section 16a)

- 24.3.9 Contacting the flag so that it touches the water. (Section 16b)
- 24.3.10 Finishing without the entire crew in the Va'a. (Section 17b)
- 24.3.11 Unsportsmanlike conduct. (Section 23a)

25. Protests

- 25.1 A protest to any result or disqualification may be lodged by filling out the protest form and handing it to either the Competition Director, or Infractions Director, not later than 20 minutes after the announcement and publication of the results of the race in question when there is no disqualification, or after the signed receipt of the Team, or Assistant Team Manager, when there is a disqualification
- 25.2 Once a protest has been received, the Protest Committee must notify immediately all parties involved in the protest, allowing time for other or counter protests to be received. After 20 minutes, the Protest Committee closes the case and starts deliberating.
- 25.3 The decision of the Protest Committee, on each protest, must be confirmed in writing, giving reasons for the decision. The decision must be handed to the affected Team Managers, who must acknowledge receipt of it by signing the Protest Committee's copy and recording the time in case of any further appeal.
- 25.4 All protests shall be made in writing and be accompanied by a fee. The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld. The amount of the fee will be confirmed at the Technical Committee Meeting.
- 25.5 If a protest or an official decision results in a rerun, no change in the competitors is allowed.

26. Appeals

- 26.1 An appeal against a decision of the Protest Committee must be addressed to the Chairman of the Appeals Jury in writing on the appeals form and be accompanied by a fee of US\$50.00. The appeal must be handed to the Chairman of the Jury not later than 20 minutes after the Team Manager has been informed with written communication of the decision against the athlete or team and has signed the receipt given.
- 26.2 The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld. The decision of the jury is final.

27. Jury of Appeal

- 27.1 The Jury of Appeal will deal with any appeals lodged against a decision of the Technical Committee and arising from the conduct of the competition in accordance with the Micronesian Games Charter.
- 27.2 Each sport shall appoint a Jury of Appeal at its first Technical Committee Meeting. The Committee will comprise four persons from different countries and four alternate members plus a chairperson. The alternate delegates will take the place of any member whose teams are involved in a dispute.
- 27.3 The Jury decision will be final.

28. Court of Appeal

- 28.1 The Court of Appeal appointed by the Micronesian Games Council shall decide on all questions of non-technical nature outside the jurisdiction of the Juries of Appeal in accordance with the Micronesian Games Charter.
- 28.2 Regarding eligibility matters, the Court of Appeal shall have a regular schedule for meetings throughout the Games and protests must be submitted in writing no later than 48 hours after the first Technical Committee Meeting of each sport involved. Protests submitted after that time will not be addressed.
- 28.3 Should a Country wish to protest a matter to the Court of Appeal, it must adhere to the following procedure:
 - 28.3.1 Pay a Protest fee of US\$50.00 at the administration desk at the Main Operations Office. The fee is refundable if the Protest is in favor of the protesting country.
 - 28.3.2 Provide all the relevant evidence pertaining to the person(s) about whom it is protesting.
 - 28.3.3 Submit its protest to the Chairman of the Court of Appeal no later than 48 hours after the first Technical Committee Meeting of the sport involved together with the evidence of the protest fee being paid.

29. Competition Clothing and Equipment

- 29.1 There shall be no advertising or publicity on personal equipment and competition clothing used or worn at the Games except that of the official sponsors as prescribed by the Organizing Committee.

- 29.2 Identification of the manufacturer (name and/or logo) of the equipment and or clothing may appear, if not marked conspicuously for advertising purposes in accordance with the Micronesian Games Charter.
- 29.3 All Countries are required to bring paddles. Canoes will be supplied by the Organizing Committee.

COMPETITION VENUE

30. Venue

- 30.1 The Micronesian Games Va'a Competition will be held at Tekehitik Harbour. In case of high marine craft traffic an alternate is Nett Point.

31. Facilities at the venue

- 31.1 6 Sprint Lanes
- 31.2 Warm-up area
- 31.3 Country tents for competing athletes
- 31.4 Medical facilities will also be available at venue

32. Training Venue

- 32.1 Training will be available at the competition venue.

33. Equipment

- 33.1 The Organizing Committee will only provide canoes for training on the training dates.

34. Training Schedule

- 34.1 Teams will be provided with a training schedule upon arrival for pre-competition training only. Training will not be available during competition.
- 34.2 Scheduled training times may be amended with the Competition Manager.

MEDICAL

35. Competition Venue Medical Services

- 35.1 An appropriate level of medical services will be provided at each competition venue for Athletes, Team and Technical Officials.

36. Doping Control

- 36.1 Athletes are advised that random drug testing will be conducted for the duration of the 2014 Micronesian Games.
- 36.2 It is the responsibility of the athlete to check the status of all medications and refrain from using prohibited substances.
- 36.3 Any athlete that tests positive to a prohibited substance will be disqualified from the 2014 Micronesian Games.

37. The Mixed Zone

- 37.1 The Mixed Zone is an area immediately adjacent to the race course. Athletes exiting the field of play will move through this area where they have the option of interacting with the media. Athletes and Team Officials are requested to cooperate with the media.

38. Technical Officials Uniforms

- 38.1 All technical officials will be provided with a Micronesian Games uniform to be worn on each day of competition.