



**2018**

# ACTIVITY REPORT



# EDUCATION COURSES



- December 2017 – AFC “C” License Course
- December 2017 – TakeCare Achieve Your Goals Introduction to Women’s Coaching Course
- January 2018 – GFA GK Skill Acquisition Course
- January 2018 – GFA Referee Refresher Course
- February 2018 – GFA Conditioning Coaching Course
- February 2018 – GFA Introduction to Refereeing
- April 2018 – GFA Skill Acquisition Course
- April 2018 – TakeCare Achieve Your Goals Women’s Recreational Referee Course
- June 2018 – GFA Futsal Referee Refresher Course
- August 2018 – GFA Adult/Elite Referee Course
- August 2018 – GFA Referee Camp
- August 2018 – AFC “B” License Course Part I
- September 2018 – GFA Skill Acquisition Course
- October 2018 – GFA Game Training Course



# NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS



A total of 6 national teams from Guam competed in tournaments in 2018, beginning with the Guam U15 Boys National Team in July.

The Matao and the Masakåda, Guam men's and women's national teams, respectively, competed in EAFF E-1 Football Championship Round 1 tournament in Mongolia in September and in the same month, the Junior Masakåda, Guam U16 Women's National Team competed in the AFC U16 Women's Championship Qualifier in Sri Lanka.

In the EAFF E-1 Football Championship, the men's team defeated Northern Mariana Islands 4-0, drew 1-1 with Mongolia, and lost to Macau 2-0. The women's team defeated Macau 4-0, drew with Northern Mariana Islands 0-0, and lost to Mongolia 1-0.

In October, the Guam U17 Boys National Team and the Young Masakåda, Guam U19 Women's National Team, competed against their Northern Mariana Islands counterparts in Saipan. The U17 Boys won in a penalty kick shootout 5-3 and the U19 women's team lost 3-2. Later in the month, the Young Masakåda competed in the AFC U19 Women's Championship Qualifier in Kyrgyz Republic.



# DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS



In 2018, the Guam Football Association Competitions Department staged two domestic competitions – the Jamaican Grill 11<sup>th</sup> Annual GFA Cup men's competition, the top club competition for men's soccer and the Aloha Maid Minetgot Cup Youth Cup, the first-ever domestic competition for elite youth athletes apart from the twice yearly elite youth league.

For the first time, the Bank of Guam Strykers won the GFA Cup, becoming only the fourth team to ever hoist the trophy. The only other clubs to win the GFA Cup are Quality Distributors, Guam Shipyard, and NAPA Rovers.

The official draw for the GFA Cup was held in April 2018, featuring a preliminary round open for Masters Division teams and the lower-ranked teams from Budweiser Soccer League.

The top-ranked teams earned automatic qualification into the main draw of the tournament.

Beginning in June 2018, Guam Football Association staged the first-ever Aloha Maid Minetgot Cup Youth Cup for elite league teams. The competition included teams in the U13 and U18 divisions of the elite youth league.

In the U13 division, Wings Red swept both the league premiership and the Youth Cup championship.

In the U18 division, Quality Distributors defeated league premiership winners Wings FC for the Youth Cup trophy.

During the Youth Cup presentation ceremony, trophies for the Premiership also were awarded.

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# DOMESTIC LEAGUES



Guam Football Association accepted and has begun to implement structural changes as advised by AFC in Guam's top leagues. With a further emphasis on club licensing and adherence to league standards at the additional level, both the Budweiser Soccer League and Bud Light Women's Soccer League saw changes for the 2018-2019 seasons.

The Budweiser Soccer League now features a Premier Division and an Amateur Division. GFA member clubs may opt to put in teams in either division or both; however, non-member clubs are only able to enter teams in the Amateur Division. As member clubs pay dues, player registration fees for the Premier Division is less than at the Amateur Division. Premier Division teams now also compete for prize money as a championship bonus to aid in club development.

The Bud Light Women's Soccer League now follows a similar structure with a Premier Division and an Amateur Division. Additionally, instead of two seasons per year, the women's league now follows the same competition calendar as the men's league, with one full season overlapping the calendar year. With this schedule change, women's league players now are afforded the opportunity to participate in club transfers mid-season.

The Premier Divisions of both the Budweiser Soccer League and Bud Light Women's Soccer League enjoy full live-stream coverage thanks to the mycujoo.tv platform. The platform was provided by AFC for a two-year term. In addition to international visibility of league matches, the platform may open new revenue streams for GFA and additional value for GFA and league sponsors.



# DOMESTIC LEAGUES



- January 2018 – Budweiser Soccer League (Continuation of 2017-2018 season)
- January 2018 – Bud Light Women's Soccer League Premier & W2 Division
- February 2018 – Triple J Auto Group Robbie Webber Youth League
- March 2018 – Aloha Maid Minetgot Cup Elite Youth League
- April 2018 – Docomo Pacific Soccer Moms League & GFA Women's Recreational League
- June 2018 – Bud Light Co-Ed Masters Soccer League
- June 2018 – Bud Light Women's Futsal League
- July 2018 – Budweiser Men's Futsal League
- September 2018 – Triple J Auto Group Robbie Webber Youth League
- September 2018 – Aloha Maid Minetgot Cup Elite U13 League
- September 2018 – Docomo Pacific Soccer Moms League & GFA Women's Recreational League
- October 2018 – Budweiser Soccer League (2018-2019 season)
- October 2018 – Bud Light Women's Soccer League



# GRASSROOTS



On October 10, 2018, Guam Football Association was officially notified of successful membership into the AFC Grassroots Charter at the Bronze level.

- December 2017 – GFA 3v3 Grassroots Tournament Fall 2017
- February 2018 – United Airlines GFA Center of Excellence
- February 2018 – Triple J Auto Group Robbie Webber League U11 Developmental Division
- March 2018 – TakeCare Achieve Your Goals Women's Soccer Festival Spring
- March 2018 – 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Sugar and Spice Middle School Girls Soccer Festival
- March 2018 – Soccer Madness: 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Girls High School Preseason Challenge Cup
- September 2018 – United Airlines GFA Center of Excellence
- October 2018 – TakeCare Achieve Your Goals Women's Soccer Festival Fall



## GUAM EARNS AFC GRASSROOTS CHARTER BRONZE MEMBERSHIP

[October 10, 2018 – Harmon, Guam] Guam Football Association recently was lauded as one of Asian Football Confederation’s newest AFC Grassroots Charter Members based on initiatives and development strategies in place by the GFA Technical Department.

The announcement of GFA’s membership officially was made Oct. 10 through official communication that included an AFC Declaration of Recognition of Grassroots Charter Bronze Membership Status signed by AFC General Secretary Dato’ Windsor John.



“In recent years, football development in Guam has accelerated greatly and it is with great honor to announce that Guam has received AFC Grassroots Charter membership at the bronze level,” said Tino San Gil, GFA President. “GFA’s vision is to ensure that every person is given an opportunity to be involved in all the wonderful aspects of football as part of a life-long commitment for an active, healthy, and positive lifestyle while obtaining a life-long passion for the sport. This recent

achievement is testament to the steadfast efforts of all at GFA in moving toward realizing this vision. We still have so much more to accomplish, and I look forward to seeing the next phases of football development in Guam.”

Earlier this year, Guam Football Association submitted an application for membership, which included extensive details and photos of Guam’s grassroots football activities and strategies based on 20 performance categories: leadership, planning, structure, staffing, player programs, grassroots competitions, fair play, finance, partnerships, personal development, results, women’s projects, social schemes, special areas, promotional activities, member association events, adult education, ambassadors, communications, and facilities.

“We are very excited that Guam has earned this recognition from AFC, as GFA’s Technical Department has been working earnestly to develop new programs and document what our



local clubs and community organizations have been doing to promote participation and development of the sport in Guam,” said Belinda Wilson, GFA Technical Director. “We will continue working to maintain Guam’s bronze status, while initiating more programs and refining structures to next achieve silver status, and ultimately gold status. All of this falls in line with our goals and objectives set to achieve our overall vision. Grassroots football is the foundation of all we do at GFA as it drives all of our other programs, from coach education to success at the top level of our development pyramid.”

The AFC Grassroots Charter was developed in 2016 as a development tool that aims to raise the quality of grassroots programs across the continent. GFA submitted an official application for membership earlier this year. Guam’s achievement was highlighted on the AFC Web site: <http://www.the-afc.com/news/afcsection/guam-football-association-receives-afc-grassroots-charter-bronze-membership>

“Receiving recognition from AFC is a clear indication that we have set up a solid framework for grassroots football in Guam from which we can build,” said Bryan Cadiz, GFA Player Development Officer, who authored Guam’s application for membership. “The charter represents the benchmark for Asia’s member associations to aspire toward, systematically raising the quality of the



continent’s grassroots programs. In order to be approved for the bronze level of the AFC Grassroots Charter, applying member associations need to satisfy a robust set of criteria and commitment toward developing a vibrant ecosystem through wide-ranging programs, lifelong pathways, and retention of players. Given the relatively smaller size of Guam and resource limitations compared to most other member associations in Asia, Guam’s ability to fulfill each of the 20 performance categories is quite impressive.”

In 2017, only three AFC member associations – Bhutan, Hong Kong, and Macau – received bronze membership. The Chinese Football Association earned silver membership and Australia earned gold membership. The five member associations join 10 applied member associations in AFC Grassroots Charter membership, the AFC Web site states.

# RECREATIONAL LEAGUES



With the advent of women's recreational leagues in Guam, including the most popular adult league by population, the Docomo Pacific Soccer Moms League, participation by female players is now at 64%.

The Docomo Pacific Soccer Moms League continues to be a hot topic of discussion at both the FIFA and AFC Women's Football Development Symposium events.

A mothers league was recently pitched in the AFC Grassroots Conference in Kuala Lumpur as how providing the opportunity would bring more females to the sport, and more importantly, mothers into the game. Guam's successful league continues to be an international best practice example.

The table below outlines the number of registered players by league joined. Although participation at the women's level has increased dramatically over the years with the recreational leagues, participation at the girls level has not significantly changed.

<u>ADULT LEAGUES</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>		
AMATEUR	172	171		
PREMIER	159	166		
MOMS/W-REC		410		
MASTERS	76			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>1154</b>	<b><u>TOTAL ADULTS</u></b>
TOTAL ADULTS				
<u>YOUTH LEAGUES</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>		
RWYL	1211	621		
Minetgot E13	65	22		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1276</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>1919</b>	<b><u>TOTAL YOUTH</u></b>
			<b>3073</b>	<b><u>TOTAL REGISTERED</u></b>



# WOMEN'S & GIRLS FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT



In 2018, both women and girls had nearly unlimited access to football events, leagues and programs in Guam.

The Bud Light Women's Soccer League provides opportunities for women at the top level of the game, as well as intermediate players looking to develop and play at Guam's highest domestic level. Additionally, the Docomo Pacific Soccer Moms League and the GFA Recreational League provide opportunities for women solely at the recreational level.

Guam FA also staged the TakeCare "Achieve Your Goals" Women's Soccer Festival twice in 2018 with the Spring edition featuring a introductory referee course. The Fall edition featured a football administration course for women.

For girls, the United Airlines GFA Center of Excellence provides opportunities at the U9 to U14 level. Unlike previous editions, the 2018 Fall Edition focused on participation at the U9 and U10 level, allowing all who registered to take part in the program. Tryouts were held for the upper age divisions.

In March, as part of AFC Women's Football Day, Guam FA once again organized the Sugar and Spice Middle School Girls Soccer Festival for girls interscholastic teams featuring players from 11 to 13 years old. Additionally, Guam FA organized the Girls High School Preseason Challenge Cup, another event for interscholastic teams.

At the national level, the Technical Department held two national training camps – one in Dallas, Texas and one in Guam for the Masakåda.



# REFEREES | OFFICIATING



One of the most significant achievements in officiating in Guam is the adoption of the IFAB Laws of the Game for Guam's interscholastic leagues.

The IIAAG had long been utilizing the United States' NFHS rules, which contains glaring differences from international rules used at the highest level of the sport. Now, IFAB Laws of the Game are utilized in all leagues.

Number of matches officiated annually:

Youth: 1900+

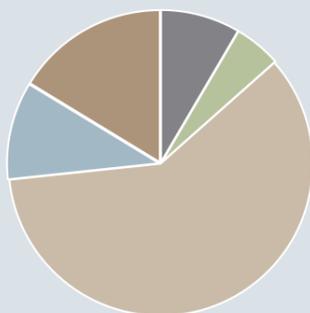
Elite Youth: 200+

Interscholastic: 300+

Women's: 250+

Men's: 500+

## FIFA IS THE BEST WAY FOR OUR REFEREES



■ Womens ■ Elite League ■ Youth ■ Schools ■ Mens

Guam Football Association, also known as GFA runs numerous leagues throughout the year.

In total we have roughly 3300 official matches. Of those matches, the school leagues take up roughly 300.

# REFEREES | OFFICIATING



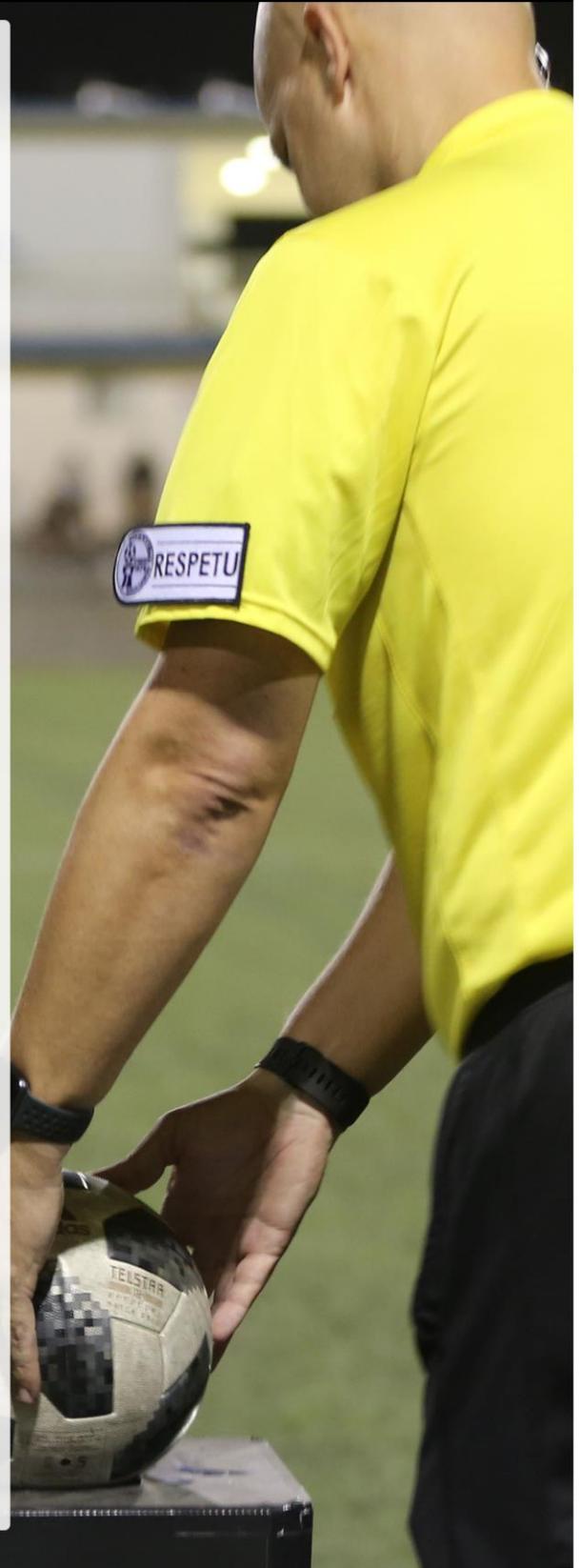
The GFA Referees Department created a Referee Development pathway and has instituted referee contracts.

Earlier in the year, national referees Michael Topasna and Josiah Elwell were selected by GFA to take part in the EAFF U15 Boys Championship as officials in Beijing, China PR.

Topasna and Elwell trained with FIFA Assistant Referees Shawn Spindel and Kyle Legozzie, as well as GFA Referee Fitness Instructor Eladio Manansala.

For major competitions, referee teams utilized referee communication devices, beep flags, and digital substitution boards.

In December, Guam played host to the EAFF E-1 Football Championship Round 2 women's competition, welcoming 3 FIFA Referees and 4 FIFA Assistant Referees from Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States. The visiting referees utilized Guam FA equipment to successfully officiate matches played among former FIFA Women's World Cup finalists China PR, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, and Mongolia.



# FOOTBALL RELATED SEMINARS



The Guam Football Association Referees Department put on its second annual GFA Referees Camp in August 2018.

The event expanded from a daylong seminar to a weekend seminar, catered to young referees with the potential to be appointed as officials in Guam's top domestic leagues and eventually for possible selection to international tournaments.

The camp, open to both boys and girls, featured a fitness test, classroom sessions, and guest speakers. Guest speakers include former youth referees who were recently appointed by Guam FA to officiate at the 2018 EAFF U15 Boys Tournament in Beijing, China.

For women at the novice and intermediate level, Guam FA's Technical Department worked in collaboration with TakeCare Insurance Asia to put on two TakeCare Achieve Your Goals Women's Soccer Festivals in 2018.

In the first festival, participants engaged in an introductory women's referee course and in the second festival, Guam FA organized a Football Administration Course for participants. The festival attracts over 100 women twice yearly.



# STRATEGIC PLAN



Guam FA's four-strategic plan was developed to encompass 2017-2020, setting goals and objectives for various Guam FA departments within the four-year period.

Although the document was accepted by AFC and published on Guam FA's Web site, various committee workshops were organized to further define strategies for particular departments within Guam FA. A strategic review committee also will be created to measure Guam FA's development based off of objectives from the Strategic Plan.

Following the successful Guam Football Association Technical Strategic Plan Workshop to establish goals and objectives for Guam's technical development in June 2017, the Guam FA Media & Marketing Department held its own strategic plan workshop in January 2018 .

Invited to the various strategic plan workshops were key stakeholders, Guam FA staff, and experts.

Particularly for the Media & Marketing workshop, keys areas for the department's growth were highlighted and used as the basis for the Guam FA Commercial Plan developed to submit to AFC.

Media and Marketing Committee Chairperson Tina Esteves and Media & Marketing Officer Jill Espiritu attended the AFC Regional Commercialization Seminar 2018 in May in Kuala Lumpur and linked with AFC consultant Iqbal Maricar.

# GOVERNANCE



- Launched Compliance to Statutes with all member clubs and provisional member clubs
- Implemented GFA Electoral Code
- Voted in new GFA Electoral Committee members at the conclusion of the 2018 GFA Extraordinary Congress:
  - Frederick Horecky
  - Jeffrey Larsen
  - Hiro Kurashina
  - Jack Chan
- 100% successful audit via AFC, FIFA and local Government (six (6) audits in twelve months with timely completion of regular audits for 2017 fiscal year.
- Improved governance from administration to technical operations (i.e., accounting policy, procurement policy, conformance review, electoral code, code of conduct, zero tolerance policy, Conflict of Interest Disclosure)
- Implementation of Club Licensing Administration System (CLAS) for those in Budwesier Soccer League Premier Division



# FACILITY & INFRASTRUCTURE



- Implemented AFC Infrastructure Project – Fitness Center Equipment
- Soundproof & renovation – Lecture Hall
- Build out of Locker Rooms, Utility Room for competition support: The new building was fully utilized for the hosting of the EAFF E-1 Football Championship Round 2 Women's Competition, the highest level international women's tournament held in Guam to date. Former FIFA Women's World Cup finalists China PR won the tournament.
- Appointment of Construction Management – AMORIENT for oversight of development of three properties
- Acquisition of 8 acres (Chalan Pago) property to support clubs' utilization – FIFA Funding \$703K
- Approved Bill 364-34 for 8 acres (Talofofo) property for clubs utilization



# SPONSORSHIPS | PARTNERSHIPS



In addition to increased financial travel expense support from FIFA and AFC for Guam's national teams, the program also received a boost signing a partnership contract with European sports apparel manufacturer Macron for a multi-year term.

Macron has been named the "Official Technical Kit Supplier" of Guam's national football teams.

The Matao and Masakåda debuted the new national team kits at the EAFF E-1 Football Championship Round 1 Preliminary Competition held in Mongolia in September.

UEFA has identified Macron as the third main football apparel brand in Europe behind Nike and Adidas.

Macron's portfolio includes outfitting several national teams in Europe as part of UEFA's Top Executive Programme Kit Assistance Scheme, as well as professional clubs playing in top leagues all over the world, including Italy's Serie A, France's Ligue 1, Portugal's Primeira Liga, and Australia's Hyundai A-League and Westfield W-League, among others.

Additionally, GFA entered into a multi-year partnership with NewGen Physical Therapy to assist national teams in training and recovery.

GFA also continued partnerships with long-time corporate sponsors Ambros, United Airlines, Triple J Auto Group, Docomo Pacific, and Foremost / Coca-Cola.



# COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



A couple dozen local schools benefitted from football equipment donations from Guam FA ahead of interscholastic leagues. Among equipment donated were balls, cones, markers, and bibs.

Outside of Guam, Guam FA also donated football equipment to community groups and schools in outer islands of Micronesia, including the Northern Mariana Islands. Guam FA recently received a letter of appreciation from Sinapalo Elementary School in Rota for football equipment donations mailed from Guam. The elementary school is looking to develop physical education opportunities for its students.

Guam's national teams also participated in community projects and events, including the recently concluded Fade Away from Violence event, an anti-bullying youth event. The Guam U19 Boys National Team was on hand at the event to assist with its activities, including a recreational kick ball tournament, which was organized by the Guam Police Department.



# COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Following the devastation of Super typhoon Yutu in the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam Football Association presented its NMI counterpart a donation of \$5,000 to assist in recovery efforts.

As the super typhoon severely damaged the newly built National Training Center in Saipan, the Fall Season of the NMI youth soccer league abruptly ended. To aid in continuing football competition, GFA collaborated with NMI FA for year-ending friendly matches at GFA. Kanoa FC U15 Boys team played against the Wings, the GPSI Southern Cobras, and the ASC Trust Islanders. Tan Holdings FC U15 Girls team played against the ASC Trust Islanders, GPSI Southern Cobras, Bank of Guam Strykers, and the Guam Shipyard Wolverines. Gifts from the GPSI Southern Cobras and Guam Shipyard Wolverines were presented to the visiting teams from Saipan.

In 2018, GFA also continued to work with other local sports organizations, including signing an MOU with the Guam Beach Volleyball Federation, to assist in providing a training venue.

The GFA Women's Committee partnered up with the Guam High School to conduct a two-day futsal tournament Dec. 28-29. The entrance fee was one toy upon entry per person. Toys collected were given to the less privileged and homeless.



# OTHER GUAM FA ACHIEVEMENTS



Guam Football Association focused efforts on staff development, with the appointment of GFA Media & Marketing Officer Jill Espiritu and GFA Goalkeeper Coaching Development Officer Ross Awa to the AFC Football Administration Course Edition 2 and 3.

Jill Espiritu graduated from the course with a Certificate of Distinction, the highest honor attainable, following Edition 2. Espiritu is one of only four in Asia to be recognized with the AFC FAC Certificate of Distinction. Ross Awa graduated from the course with a Certificate of Merit, the second-highest honor attainable, following Edition 3.

In March 2018, Guam FA Coach Education Development Officer Dominic Gadia became Guam's first coach to attain full AFC Instructor status. Gadia is certified to conduct AFC "C" Courses independently.

Mark Chargualaf joined Guam's growing list of AFC "B" License coaches earning his certificate in 2018.

After almost 10 years, Guam added another Match Commissioner to AFC's pool. Jill Espiritu, GFA Media & Marketing Officer passed the exam in 2017 and received four appointments in 2018.

National referees Shawn Spindel and Kyle Legozzie were appointed again in 2018 as FIFA Assistant Referees, making FIFA's International List.

