



Va'a Sports Technical Manual Version 2.0



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1.

**WELCOME AND
INTRODUCTION**

Talofa lava and welcome to Beautiful Samoa – home of the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games.

We are excited to host the Pacific Region's largest quadrennial games here in our country, with more than 4000 Athletes and Team Officials from 24 countries competing in 27 sports.

Samoa is honoured to host you for the Games. We are proud of the work that has been accomplished to produce a world-class event for everyone in such a short period of time. Our motto from the beginning has been to "put our best foot forward" and we hope you will agree that we have done just that.

We put athletes and sport at the heart of our work and want to create a stage where you can excel. We are excited to provide an opportunity and platform for athletes to show their potential and create sporting memories at the Games here in Samoa. We admire your dedication to your sport and acknowledge and appreciate all your efforts in preparing your team to compete at the XVI Pacific Games from 7–20 July 2019. We are also eager to give you the best facilities, organisation and support that the people of Samoa can provide so your athletes can compete at their best.

As a nation, we know that to deliver a successful Games for our Pacific athletes, we will all need to be One in Spirit. Faafetai tele lava to each of the teams for the invaluable assistance provided to the Games Organising Committee. We could not have done this without your support.

We are delighted to present the Sport Technical Handbook for the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games.

This publication contains details of the technical arrangements for your Sports and the various aspects of the Games that affect you. Please treat this as your source of reference during the Games.

Our dedicated Games staff and volunteers are here to assist you if you have any questions or issues. You can also seek further guidance from our Sport Information Centre located at the Games Village and Sport Information Desks at every venue.

We believe that the Pacific Games is not only about sports but also about building bonds between our Pacific nations. Therefore, we wish you a fantastic time at the Games. We hope you enjoy our warm Samoan hospitality as well as the camaraderie of the 24 nations from the Pacific that are participating in this year's Games.

One in Spirit!

Hon. Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio
Chairperson
Samoa 2019 Pacific Games

Falefata Hele-Ei Matatia
Chief Executive Officer
Samoa 2019 Pacific Games

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2.

ORGANISATION

2.1 International Federation (IF) – International Va'a Federation (IVF)

President: Lara Collins

General Secretary: Linda Dresbach

2.2 National Va'a Association – Samoa Outrigger Canoe Association

President: Billy Peters

Secretary: Moana Schreckenber

Treasurer: Moana Schreckenber

2.3 Va'a Technical Committee – Pre-Games

Sports Competition Manager: Andrew Wheatley

IF Technical Delegate: Lara Collins

Tournament Director: Andrew Wheatley

Venue Co-ordinator: Tony Kimmins

2.4 Va'a Technical Committee – Games Time

International Federation (IF)

- International Va'a Federation (IVF) and Pacific Games Council (PGC)
- IVF Technical Delegate (TD): Lara Collins (Email: lara@ivfiv.org)

Organising Committee (OC)

- Sports Competition Manager (SCM): Andrew Wheatley
- Samoan Outrigger Canoe Association President (SOCA): Billy Peters
- Sports Management Va'a Chairman: Josh Lutu
- Sports Management Va'a Committee: Jonathan Porter
- Sports Management Va'a Technical Advisor: Konrad Lober

2.5 Key Competition Management

Sports Competition Manager: Andrew Wheatley (Email: wheatleypacific@hotmail.com)

Assistant Competition Manager: Lani Heather (Email: lani_heather@live.com)

2.6 International Technical Officials (ITO)

Name	Position	Country
Lara Collins President IVF	Technical Delegate	New Zealand
Tony Kimmins	Event Venue Manager	Australia
Dave Duckworth	Head Technical Timing Systems	New Zealand
Michelle Mclean	Technical Official	New Zealand
Amiria Mita	Technical Official	New Zealand
Sam Williams	Technical Official	Australia
Christine Fox	Technical Official	New Zealand
Amanda Wheatley	Technical Official	Australia
Henrietta Sakey	Technical Official	New Zealand

2.7 National Technical Officials (NTO)

Name	Position	Country
Andrew Wheatley	Sport Competition Manager	Samoa
Lani Heather	Assistant Competition Manager	Samoa
Lilly Lober	Race Secretary	Samoa

2.8 Technical Meeting Date

The Technical Committee meeting will be held no more than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the competition. This meeting will provide the most current sport specific information.

The Technical Committee shall ensure that the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Va'a competition is conducted in accordance with the technical rules and regulations of International Va'a Federation (IVF). Updated information will be distributed at this time.

The Va'a Technical Committee meeting has been scheduled as follows:

Date: 8 July, 2019

Time: 1600hrs

Venue: Sheraton Samoa Beach Resort, Mulifanua

3.

**COMPETITION
MANAGEMENT**

3.1 List of Events

The Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Va'a Competition shall consist of the following events:

Men's:

V6 – Marathon 24km

V1 – Marathon 16km

V1 – 500m

V6 – 500m

V6 – 1,500m

V12 – 500m

Women's:

V6 – Marathon 24km

V1 – Marathon 16km

V1 – 500m

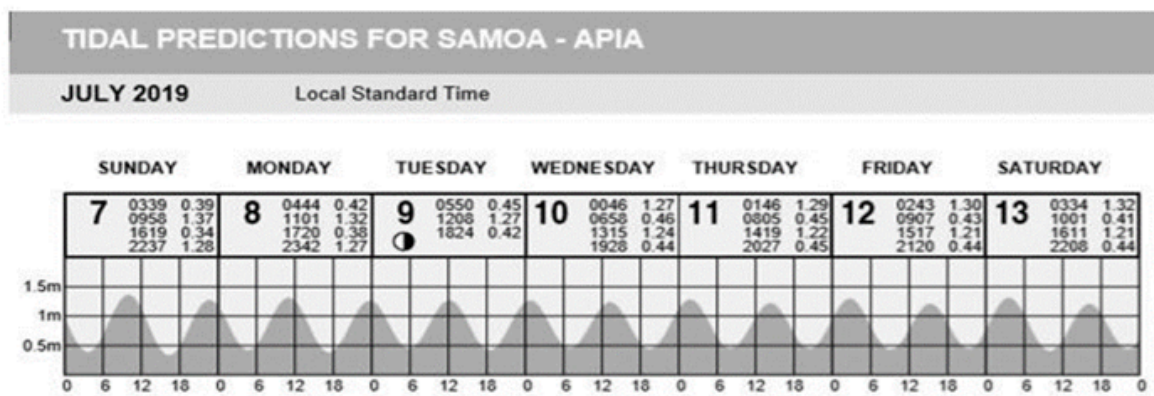
V6 – 500m

V6 – 1,500m

V12 – 500m

3.2 Competition Schedule

The competition schedule below is version 1 as at March 2019 and is subject to change depending on final entries



Date	Time	Event	Comments
Sunday 7 July	0700hrs	Training Day	Va'a Familiarisation Nations American Samoa, Cook Islands, FSM
	0830hrs		Va'a Familiarisation Nations Fiji, Guam, New Caledonai
	1000hrs		Va'a Familiarisation Nations Northern Marianas, Palua Tokelau
	1130hrs		Va'a Familiarisation Nations PNG, Samoa, Soloman Islands
	1300hrs		Va'a Familiarisation Nations Tahiti, Tonga, Wallis and Fatuna
	1430hrs		Course Closed

Date	Time	Event	Comments
Monday 8 July	0700hrs	Training Day	Va'a Familiarisation Nations Tahiti, Tonga, Wallis and Fatuna
	0800hrs		Va'a Familiarisation Nations PNG, Samoa, Soloman Islands
	0900 – 1300hrs	Sprint Course Closed	Sprint Course Closed due to Marathon Swim
	1300hrs		Va'a Familiarisation Nations Northern Marianas, Palua, Tokelau
	1400hrs		Va'a Familiarisation Nations Fiji, Guam, New Caledonai
	1500hrs		Va'a Familiarisation Nations American Samoa, Cook Islands, FSM
	1600hrs		Sprint Event Briefing Country Managers
			Location Sheraton Samoa Beach Resort, Mulifanua

Date	Time	Event	Comments
Tuesday 9 July	0800hrs		Welcome Opening of Va'a Competition
	0815hrs		Event Blessing Ceremony
	0830hrs		Race Briefing Course Opening
	0900hrs	Event 1	Women V1 500 Heat
	0912hrs	Event 2	Men V12 Heat
	0924hrs	Event 3	Women V1 500 Heat
	0936hrs	Event 4	Men V12 Heat
	0948hrs	Event 5	Women V1 500 Heat
	1000hrs	Event 6	Mens V1 500 Heat
	1012hrs	Event 7	Women V12 Heat
	1024hrs	Event 8	Mens V1 500 Heat
	1036hrs	Event 9	Women V12 Heat
	1048hrs	Event 10	Men V1 500 Heat
	1100hrs	Event 11	Women V12 Rep
	1112hrs	Event 12	Men V12 Semi
	1124hrs	Event 13	Women V1 500 Semi
	1136hrs	Event 14	Men V12 Semi
	1148hrs	Event 15	Women V1 500 Semi
	1200hrs	Event 16	Men V1 500 Semi
	1212hrs	Event 17	Men V1 500 Semi
	1224hrs	Event 18	Women V12 Final
	1236hrs	Event 19	Men V12 Final
		Lunch Break	Canoes to be re rigged from V12 to V6 lay-up
	1328hrs	Event 20	Women V6 500 Heat
	1340hrs	Event 21	Women V6 500 Heat
	1352hrs	Event 22	Men V6 500 Heat
	1404hrs	Event 23	Men V6 500 Heat
	1416hrs	Event 24	Women V6 500 Semi
	1428hrs	Event 25	Women V6 500 Semi
	1440hrs	Event 26	Men V6 500 Semi
	1452hrs	Event 27	Men V6 500 Semi

Date	Time	Event	Comments
Wednesday 10 July	0830hrs		Race Briefing Course Opening
	0900hrs	Event 28	Women V6 500 Final
	0912hrs	Event 29	Men V6 500 Final
	0924hrs	Event 30	Women V1 500 Final
	0936hrs	Event 31	Men V1 500 Final
	0948hrs	Event 32	Women V6 1500 Heat
	1008hrs	Event 33	Women V6 1500 Heat
	1028hrs	Event 34	Men V6 1500 Heat
	1048hrs	Event 35	Men V6 1500 Heat
	1108hrs	Event 36	Women V6 1500 Semi
	1128hrs	Event 37	Women V6 1500 Semi
	1148hrs	Event 38	Men V6 1500 Semi
	1208hrs	Event 39	Men V6 1500 Semi
	1228hrs	Event 40	Women V6 1500 Final
	1248hrs	Event 41	Men V6 1500 Final

Date	Time	Event	Comments
Thursday 11 July Rest Day	1500hrs	Briefing Marathons	Marathon Event Briefing Country Managers
			Location: Sheraton Samoa Beach Resort, Mulifanua

Date	Time	Event	Comments
Friday 12 July	0730hrs		Race Competitor Briefing Course Opens
	0800hrs	Event 28	V1 Marathon 16km Elite Women
	1030hrs	Event 29	V1 Marathon 16km Elite Men
	1230hrs	Lunch	Course Closed
	1330hrs	Medal Ceremony	Medal Presentation Ceremony V1 Marathon

Date	Time	Event	Comments
Saturday 13 July	0730hrs		V6 Marathon Race Briefing Course Opens
	0800hrs	Event 30	V6 Marathon 24km Elite Men
	1030hrs	Event 31	V6 Marathon 24km Elite Women
	1230hrs	Lunch	Course Closed
	1300hrs	Medal Ceremony	Medal Presentation Ceremony V6 Marathon

3.3 Entries, Seeds and Draws

All athletes must comply with entry requirements as specified in the PGC Charter; Protocol 7.

3.4 Entry by Name (Protocol 7.10 – 7.15)

Entries by name containing the names of competitors and the events in which they wish to compete, shall be forwarded electronically, to reach the Organising Committee at least forty-five (45) days before the date of the opening of the Games. Thirty percent of the Pacific Games Authority's estimated per diem obligation shall be payable at this time. A further confirmation of entries by name shall be required from PGAs no later than 30 days before the opening of the Games, from which the official and final per diem obligation will be calculated. A further 30% of this official per diem obligation shall be payable at this time. PGAs shall pay the remaining per diem obligation no later than the Delegation Registration Meeting (DRM) upon arrival and no Games Accreditations shall be issued to PGAs until the full per diem obligation is discharged. (Protocol 7.10)

A pre-DRM in person, or through the use of technology, shall occur within five days after the further confirmation of entries 30 days before the Games. (Protocol 7.11)

Each PGA shall pay at the DRM such sum as the Executive Board may prescribe for each competitor and official entered, which shall be paid into a separate account in the name of the Council. (Protocol 7.12)

Entries shall be completed electronically, and shall be forwarded to the OC via the Sporting Pulse provided Games Management System website. A PGA may also, simultaneously, submit a signed spreadsheet of athlete entries as an additional step to confirm its entries. The OC shall forward the entries to the Council and the relevant International Federations. (Protocol 7.13)

The OC shall send to PGAs copies of "Entry and Eligibility Conditions form" in English and French to be signed by each competitor and to be countersigned by the appropriate PGA and duly affiliated National Federation (NF). Completed forms for each athlete must be

returned to the OC no later than the DRM. The Council shall approve the text to this form based upon the guidelines contained in Regulation 20. (Protocol 7.14)

As per Article 26 (5), late entries by name will not be accepted. (Protocol 7.15)

3.5 Final Entries (Protocol 7.16 – 7.21)

The names of those competitors finally entered for each event shall be confirmed to the OC at the Delegate Registration Meeting (DRM) at least 48 hours prior to the official opening of the Games. With the exception of the provisions of Protocol 7.18, no amendments to a PGA's delegation of athletes may be made after the DRM. (Protocol 7.16)

Only those competitors whose names appear on the individual entry Forms shall be eligible for final confirmation for participation. (Protocol 7.17)

When a competitor is injured after being included in the final entries forms, a substitute may be nominated on production of a medical certificate from the doctor designated by the OC provided this nomination is made before midnight preceding the opening event of the tournament in which the injured competitor would have taken part. The substitute's name must have been entered in the Individual Entries forms of that sport. (Protocol 7.18)

Each PGA shall be required to ensure that Article 8 is observed with regard to the selection and management of its team. (Protocol 7.19)

The Executive Board may require the OC to reject an entry, which does not comply with the requirements of the Charter, or for any other good or sufficient reason. (Protocol 7.20)

Penalties shall be imposed on the PGA for entries submitted that do not comply with the Council Charter. These penalties shall be payable to the PGC and shall include a minimum monetary fine of US\$1,000 or removal of the PGA's voting rights at the next Council annual meeting, or both. (Protocol 7.21)

3.6 Conditions of Entry

For the Pacific Games, Pacific Mini Games and in respect of all activities of the Council and events under its control, there shall be no discrimination against any member country or person on any grounds whatsoever, including race, gender, religion or politics. (Article 8)

The Executive Board may require the OC to reject an entry, which does not comply with the requirements of the Charter, or for any other good or sufficient reason. (Protocol 7.20)

3.7 Maximum Entries

The maximum number of players per Country who may compete in the Pacific Games Va'a competition is as follows:

Each PGA can only enter one entry per event, with no more than 14 Men and 14 Women in total athletes per Country.

3.8 Draws

The draw will be conducted in accordance with IF Rules. Further details will be provided below and at the Technical Committee meeting.

3.9 Competition Rules and Regulations

Sprint Events

Definitions

Whenever a masculine pronoun is used, it is intended to indicate either male or female persons.

Ama: The piece used to balance the va'a, also known as the outrigger.

Area or Membership Area: The area which an IVF member represents.

Board: The Board of Directors of IVF.

Competition: Same as regatta.

Competitor: An individual paddler taking part in the competition.

Contestant: A V1 paddler or a crew taking part in the competition.

Controlling Authority: The National Sport Organisation representing va'a in an IVF member region.

Crew: A V6 or V12 entrant.

Event: As listed above in Section 3.1.

Host: The organising group in the membership area where the Sprints take place.

Iako: The two pieces used to attach the ama to the va'a.

Regatta: A series of coordinated races – used here to mean the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Va'a Competition

Team: The affiliation or name under which a contestant enters.

Va'a: Canoe also known as an outrigger.

Anti-Doping Regulation

The IVF prohibits the use of performance enhancing or illegal drugs by athletes competing in and during preparation for IVF events. Refer to the current official IVF Anti-Doping Regulations for further reference.

Drawing of Lanes

Lanes shall be assigned randomly for the first round of each race and the process shall be carried out under the control of an IVF official and the supervision of the competition director. Should initial heats become unbalanced due to scratches, assignments may be adjusted, or a full re-draw may be needed. Competitors will be notified if event time is moved more than 15 minutes and may be held at check-in for their new heat assignment.

All manual processes of creating the lane draw and subsequent progressions may be replaced or enhanced by use of automated (electronic) solutions.

Lanes for rounds subsequent to the first round shall be designated in the progression schedule with a predetermined formula.

The race schedule for the entire regatta and the first day's lane assignments shall be posted the day prior to the start of the regatta. Subsequent lane assignment postings shall be done as early as possible. Copies shall be available for each area coordinator.

Finals for some events should be scheduled to occur each day to allow for medal presentation to happen each day for shorter ceremony time overall.

Va'a Accessories

All va'a accessories, including floatation tanks, seats, ama, iako, bailers and rigging shall be properly constructed and standardised. Prior to the competition, the technical committee shall oversee the rigging, which shall be standardised with ama on left, and may not be altered except by an official.

No seat accessories may be brought into the canoe by the paddler except for para va'a equipment as noted in 14.b of the IVF Sprint Rules, June 2017.

Altering the va'a without permission from an official, this includes bringing in seat and footboard accessories (para va'a excluded) is not allowed and may be cause for disqualification.

Paddles

A paddle shall have one blade and may be of any shape or size. It may be constructed from any material. Para va'a paddlers may utilise an adaptive paddle device approved during para athlete evaluation prior to the event. It is possible for such a device to include two blades.

Call in and Holding Areas

A check-in location, termed the call-in area, will be designated where the contestants will report to the paddler inspectors when called. No one other than the contestants may pass beyond the check-in desk, except for Para athletes, who may have appropriate assistance.

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.

Position in Va'a

Paddling, including any stationary use of the paddle in the water, is only allowed while the paddler is in a sitting position on a seat in the va'a. Paddlers must remain in a seated contact position in the canoe (no standing or kneeling)

Support seats and footrests may be used by Para athletes but must be quickly and easily attach/detachable.

Starts

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.

The position at the start should be such that the bow of each competing va'a is lined up in its assigned lane without movement on the starting line.

Holders may be used and may be either:

1. by mechanical means, or
2. by people to hold the stern of the canoe by way of a platform or from the water.

The start will be controlled by the aligner, located at the side of the course, and the starter, located in a boat in the middle of the course approximately sixty meters in front of the starting line. Use of a Starter to the side of the course must be reviewed and approved by the Race Committee.

Starting procedures must be as follows:

1. Immediately prior to race start time, the starter will raise a white flag signalling va'a to come to the pre-start line.
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 signalling the va'a to line up evenly on the start line.
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.
4. Instantaneously upon radio communication, the starter will simultaneously lower the red flag and raise a green flag signalling the start of the race. An air horn or other sound device may simultaneously be set off, but the green flag is the official start.
5. If the aligner is unable to line up the va'a evenly and their positioning makes it difficult to do so, he may order the white flag to be raised and begin the process again.

6. At the start of a race, no va'a shall have an illegal advantage. All va'a that are lined up illegally will be provided a warning by the raising of the black flag indicating an infraction exists and will be given the opportunity to line up correctly. If, after reasonable time, a va'a persists in lining up so that an illegal advantage is gained, the aligner may start the race. The black flag remaining raised at the start indicates an infraction will be called.
7. If the aligner, after communicating to the flag person to start the race, sees an unfair situation not previously noticed, a rerun must be immediately called.
8. If the aligner sees any reason to immediately halt the race for a rerun, he will communicate such to the course boats by radio and the waving of a red flag.

Interruption

The competition director, the head course judge or the aligner may authorize the interruption of a race if an unforeseen problem occurs. A red flag and/or a sound signal will be used to halt the race.

In case of an overturn, any outside help will result in a disqualification of the Competitor. The course officials may, at their discretion, authorize or provide outside help.

Turns

Turns are to be made counter-clockwise, with the ama nearest to and rounding the flag.

During a turn, the canoe shall not run over the flag in such a way that the flag is between the ama and the hull. If this occurs, the contestant shall be disqualified.



Finish

- a. The finish line is crossed when the bow of the va'a passes the finish line.
- b. The finish line must be made clear at the Race Briefing with course markers set.

c. A va'a that has finished the race must move away from the finish line.

When finish line systems are used whereby the camera may be blocked by the finish line flags, an imaginary line one meter in front of the finish flags will be the official finish line.

Any va'a finishing without its entire crew will result in the crew being disqualified.

Any va'a outside its assigned lane during the course of the race, including the finish will result in a crew disqualification.

Electronic photo finish system for the recording of finish times and place is the preferred system for a sprint regatta. Va'a and lane markings should be identifiable via the pictures captured. A manual backup system for verification of the order of finish must be provided. A secondary video should be provided in the event the main system is not operating properly at any time.

For timing of events, the photo finish system may be equipped with timing options. A secondary manual timing system shall be required. An acceptable timing unit such as a Seiko Printing Timer shall be used. A single recording timer ensures the start time is fixed for all competitors and the finish time is recorded in chronological order on the tape.

Va'a should continue through the prestart area before turning off the course.

Seeding

All entrants must be ranked by each Area as requested through the entry procedure.

Entrants will be seeded into first rounds with the following goals in mind:

1. The best entrants are not all placed together.
2. Entrants from one Area are not all placed together.

The Competition Director & Race Secretary co-chair the seeding process.

In determining the seeding, other information besides the Area ranking will be taken into account such as past records, reports on current abilities, and reports on injuries.

Replacements and Withdrawals

V6 and V12 teams shall be entered with 6 and 12 paddlers respectively. No substitutes from the start list may be made without the approval of the Competition Director after the heats. Where a paddler is deemed unable to paddle for any verified medical reason, any eligible paddler from within that country roster list may replace him.

If a contestant does not start, and has no valid reason approved by the competition committee, a US \$100 fine (or equivalent in the currency of the country where the competition is taking place – this applies to all dollar amounts in these rules) 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.

Progression

The progression schedule of races from heats to finals shall be posted the day prior to the start of the regatta.

The competition director may alter the progression schedule should unforeseen circumstances change the expected ability to finish all the races on time.

Competition Rules and Regulations Distance Events

Anti-Doping Regulation

The IVF prohibits the use of performance enhancing or illegal drugs by athletes competing in and during preparation for IVF events. Refer to the current official IVF Anti-Doping Regulations for further reference.

Distance Events

Race Briefing

The course shall be published on the official website for the race at least 4 weeks prior to the race with a provision for an alternate course in case of bad weather. Course markings shall be placed prior to the race briefing and approximate distance verified.

The Race Director shall call a meeting of all inspectors, coaches, and/or captains prior to the start of the race for the purpose of final instructions on the race and other pertinent matters.

Specific course diagrams will be displayed, and instructions communicated at the Race Briefing.

Starts

The white flag shall signal the va'a to assemble behind the starting line or the pre-start line, if provided.

The red flag will be displayed indicating all va'a should be present for the start and the va'a should align behind the start line markers or if a pre-start line is used, move forward to the start line.

An air horn or other sound device and the raising of the green flag will signal the start of the race, or other method as described at the coaches meeting. The green flag is the primary start indicator. The green flag will be raised at the race starter's discretion.

Any va'a over the starting line, at the start, will be penalised by ten (10) minutes.

All V6 must start with 6 paddlers.

Turns

Passing: A va'a that is attempting to pass another va'a shall keep clear at all times and in no

way interfere with the va'a it is attempting to pass, nor shall the va'a in the lead attempt to prevent another from passing.

Rounding Marks: Right of way at turning buoys will be given to:

1. the leading va'a
2. In the case of the va'a being level or overlapping, right of way will be given to the inside va'a, immediately prior to the turn buoy
3. If the outside or overtaking va'a causes interference, such said va'a will be penalised – The penalty shall be determined and notified to all participating crews prior to racing.

Swamping or Overturning

If a va'a swamps or overturns after the start of the race, the va'a may be righted or bailed out and will be allowed to continue the race.

Relief paddlers on an escort boat may assist in righting or bailing out their va'a only in Marathon change over races.

A va'a passing a swamped or overturned va'a who does not have an escort or safety boat assistance shall STOP and verify safety of the crew prior to proceeding. If help is needed, it shall be rendered by the passing va'a until an escort boat is available. The escort boat will stand by to render any assistance to the swamped va'a as long as assistance does not advance the va'a toward the next mark, buoy and or finish line.

Escort and Official Boats

Please note that there is no individual team Escort Boat allocation for the Distance Events at the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games.

There shall be an Official Lead, a Trail and a Safety boat/s. Official boats will have one driver and one official aboard. The Race Director must approve any additional passengers. The local marine regulations will always take precedent on determining the numbers on board an Official Boat.

The Lead Boat is responsible for showing the race course route to the va'a but may be required to lend assistance in case of emergency in which case, the va'a must find their own way. The lead boat shall maintain sufficient lead distance to prevent interference with racing va'a while remaining in sight of the lead va'a(s).

An Official (on lead boat) will be given authority to change the course dependent on conditions. A red flag will be raised to signify a change in course and radio contact will be made to other officials, escorts, and shore.

Trail boat is responsible for the safety of va'a in the rear of the race. To offer encouragement and support, to assist (as needed) with swamped, over turned, structurally disabled, broken or loose equipment on a va'a.

Safety boat/s are responsible for monitoring the race pack to ensure the safety of the crews, escort boats do not impede progress of crews, and offer encouragement and support. To assist (as needed) with swamped, over turned, structurally disabled, broken or loose equipment on va'a. For an event without an escort boat per va'a, there shall be a ratio of additional safety boats provided by the host. (One added per 7 va'a)

Escort boats should be capable of carrying six (6) persons in addition to the boat crew and in a change race, the relief paddlers.

Each escort/auxiliary boat must follow no less than 15 meters behind its assigned va'a throughout the race, except for swamped and overturned va'a. It can at no time come along side or ahead of the va'a except for during the transfer of relief paddlers, supplies, or in the case of an emergency, and it must make way without deliberately blocking, or causing interference, or wake to any approaching va'a.

A person may pass refreshments or paddles to a va'a from the water. This person need not be one of the team members but must wear an approved Personal Flotation Device.

At no time will an escort boat deliberately cause a wake to assist their own va'a or interfere with another va'a.

At all times, escort boats must maintain a safe distance from va'a and other boats.

Va'a will always have the right-of way over escort or Official boats.

Coaching and directing from the escort boat is permitted.

Safety Equipment: Blankets, drinking water, first aid kit, and flare kit as well as life jackets are required on each escort boat. Ship to shore communication is required.

Escort Boat Violations

The penalty for and infringements of IVF Distance rules 18.g, 18.h, 18.j., 18.k, 18.l, and 18.n shall be predetermined by the Head Race Official at the Race Briefing.

After two warnings by a Race Official to an escort boat in relation to IVF Distance rules 18.g, 18.h, 18.j., 18.k, 18.l, and 18.n shall mean the disqualification of the crew the boat is escorting.

3.10 Protests, Appeals and Arbitration Procedures

Sprint Events

Disqualification

The following provisions as stated in the IVF Sprint rules 2017 and are cause for automatic disqualification:

1. Competing while not a member, affiliated or otherwise, of the IVF. (Section 3a)

2. Competing for more than one crew in an event will disqualify both crews from the competition. (Section 3b)
3. A competitor who is a citizen of or resides in an IVF member area competing in a team from another area. (Section 3c)
4. Not meeting the age requirements. (Section 5)
5. Using prohibited drugs. (Section 6)
6. Paddling in a non-seated position. (Section 14a)
7. Starting incorrectly. (Section 15)
8. Not rounding the flags in a counter-clockwise direction. (Section 17a)
9. When making a turn around a flag resulting in the flag passing between the ama and hull. (Section 17b)
10. Finishing without the entire crew in the va'a. (Section 18c)
11. Going outside of one's lane. (Section 18d, 12. a.2.)
12. Unsportsmanlike conduct. (Section 25b)
13. Altering the va'a without permission of an official, this includes bringing in seat and footboard accessories (Section 9.) (para va'a excluded) (17) Paddler being assisted by outside help in the event of the va'a overturning. (Section 16)

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 championships.

All disqualifications are to be pronounced by the competition director and shall be immediately confirmed in writing with reasons given. The area coordinator or assistant area coordinator of any disqualified contestant 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. The disqualification will be posted without area coordinator acknowledgement and receipt after 10 minutes has passed since being called.

Protests

Protests must be filed by an area coordinator or his designee. Prior to filing a protest, area coordinators may seek information through the infractions' director. Any area coordinator who is considering a protest dependent on information from the infractions' director must inform the infractions' director, who shall then have the area coordinator sign a disqualification inquiry form showing both the start and finish time of the inquiry with the infractions' director.

A protest to any result or disqualification may be lodged by filling out the protest form and handing it in at the information and protest booth not later than 30 minutes after:

1. the announcement and publication of the results of the race in question when there is no disqualification,
2. the area or assistant area coordinator signs a receipt of the disqualification form, or
3. Discussion with infractions officer to occur within 30min protest lodgement timeframe of 1 or 2 above.

Once a protest has been received, the protest committee must notify immediately all parties involved in the race, allowing time for other or counter protests to be received. After 20 minutes, the protest committee closes the case and starts deliberating.

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 area coordinators, who must acknowledge receipt of it by signing the protest committee's copy and recording the time in case of any further appeal. Counter protest by others affected by this result have 15 minutes to submit their protest after time recorded.

All protests shall be made in writing and be accompanied by a fee of US\$100.00. The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

If a protest or an official decision results in a rerun, no change in the competitors is allowed.

Appeals

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\$150.00. The appeal must be handed in at the information and protest booth not later than 20 minutes after the area coordinator has been informed with a written communication of the decision against the competitor or team and has signed the receipt given. The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

The decision of the jury may not be appealed.

IVF Board

The IVF Board, by a majority of all votes, may disqualify or reinstate contestants if subsequent information, such as drug tests, warrants such change. If such change involves different medal winners, the contestant who loses a medal must return it to the IVF.

Distance Events

Disqualification

The following provisions as stated in the IVF Distance Rules are cause for automatic disqualification:

1. Competing while not a member, affiliated or otherwise, of the IVF. (Section 4a)
2. Competing for more than one crew in an event will disqualify both crews from the competition. (Section 4b)
3. A competitor who is a citizen of or resides in an IVF member area competing in a team from another area. (Section 4c)
4. Not meeting the age requirements. (Section 6)
5. Violating anti-doping rules. (Section 7)
6. Not following the course set by the Race Committee and communicated at the Race Briefing. (Section 12)
7. Unsportsmanlike conduct. (23b)

Besides the reasons set out for disqualification in other parts of the IVF Distance rules, any individual who attempts to win an event by means other than those which are honest, does not respect the race rules and/or officials, shall be disqualified.

All disqualifications are to be confirmed with the Race Director and shall be immediately confirmed in writing with reasons given. The Area Coordinator of any disqualified competitor shall then be notified, given a copy of the disqualification form and acknowledge receipt thereof on a copy indicating the precise time, which becomes the start of the protest time. The disqualification shall then be publicly announced and posted.

Protests

Protests must be filed by the Area Coordinator or his designee.

A protest to any result or disqualification may be lodged by filling out the protest form and handing in not later than 20 minutes after:

1. the announcement and publication of the results of the race in question when there is no disqualification or
2. Area Coordinator is notified,

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.

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 Area Coordinator, who must acknowledge receipt of it by signing the protest committee's copy.

All protests shall be made in writing and be accompanied by a fee of US\$100.00. The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld. f. The decision of the Protest Committee may not be appealed.

IVF Board

The IVF Board, by a majority of all votes, may disqualify or reinstate competitors if subsequent information, such as drug tests, warrants such change. If such change involves different medal winners, the contestant who loses a medal must return it to the IVF.

4.

**COMPETITION
VENUE**

4.1 Mulifanua

The Va'a competition of the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games will be held at the Sheraton Samoa Beach Resort, Mulifanua.

4.2 Travel time

The Sheraton Samoa Beach Resort, Mulifanua is approximately 30 minutes journey time from the Games Village.

4.3 Facilities

The venue will provide the following facilities:

- Athletes break Area
- Medical Room
- Anti-doping Room
- Sport Competition Management Area
- Changing rooms and showers
- Sport Information Desk

4.4 Technical Details

All Va'a competition sprint and marathon events will be held in Mulifanua Bay and outer reefs.

4.5 Sport Information Desk

Each competition venue will have a Sport Information Desk (SID). This will be your main point of contact during your stay to provide you with additional information you may require, as well as being the main collection point of relevant competition information.

The main Sport Information Centre (SIC) will be located in the international zone at the Games Village, Faleula, Apia.

5.

TRAINING VENUE

Training for Va'a will take place at the Sheraton Samoa Beach Resort, Mulifanua.

5.1 Travel time

This venue is located approximately 30 minutes journey time from the Games Village.

5.2 Facilities

The venue will provide the following facilities:

- Athletes break Area
- Medical Area
- Competition Management Area
- Changing rooms and showers
- Sport Information Desk

5.3 Availability

The training venue will be available on Sunday 7 July, 2019. A detailed training schedule will be drawn up for all teams.

For training arrangements before 7 July 2019 please contact the Pacific Games Va'a committee at wheatleypacific@gmail.com. The committee will ensure early teams are connected to local clubs to arrange training times and dates. The Samoa Outrigger Canoe Association is excited about the opportunity of sharing the spirit of the Samoan Pacific Games with the international teams. A small donation is most welcome but not essential.

5.4 Amendment and Booking of Training Venues

Upon arrival in Apia, each team will receive a detailed schedule of the slots they have been allocated before and during the event.

Amendments to and the booking for additional training times should be done at the SIC in the Games Village.

5.5 Media Access to Training Venues

Media will not be permitted at any Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Non-Competition Training Venues.

However, nominated PGA team photographers will be permitted.

Media access at all Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Competition Training Venues will be at the discretion of the Sports Competition Manager.



INFORMATION

6.1 Information before 4 July, 2019

PGAs requiring any information or clarification should contact the relevant Sports Competition Manager.

6.2 Information from 4 July, 2019

The main Sport Information Centre (SIC) is located in the Games Village at Faleula. There will also be a Sports Information Desk (SID) at each of the Competition Venues.

6.3 Sport Information Centre at the Games Village

The SIC at the Games Village will be open from 4 July, 2019. It will open from 0700hrs until 2200hrs and will provide Chefs de Mission, Team Managers and Team Officials with critical information relating to specifically to training and competition for each of the 27 Sports.

Athletes will not have access to the Sport Information Centre.

The SIC will be staffed by personnel who can liaise directly with relevant Sports Competition Managers, to provide a one-stop sport, transport information and troubleshooting service to Team Officials and their technical staff.

The SIC will provide all sports information and results. Other general services offered by the information centre are:

- Distribution of technical information, such as results, start lists, competition schedules etc.
- Distribution of information regarding Technical meetings, seedings and draws, Technical Officials appointments, training sessions, transport arrangements, etc.
- Procedures for PGAs to book/amend training sessions.
- Procedure for PGAs to declare training sessions open to the media and for advising media on a daily basis of any "open" training sessions.
- Providing communication links between competition venue, Competition Management and Teams.
- Receipt and authorisation of requests for Athlete Venue Meals.
- Co-ordination of sports and other information for PGAs.

6.4 Results

Results will be available for publication and online between 30 and 60 minutes after the conclusion of competition.

7.
MEDICAL

7.1 Games Polyclinic

The Village Medical Centre at the Games Village will provide primary medical care services from 4 July – 22 July, 2019 to all Athletes, Team Members and Officials.

The clinic will operate 24 hours and be staffed mainly by a qualified doctor and registered nurses on 8-hour shifts.

Dental officer, physiotherapy and pharmaceutical services are available onsite daily from 0700hrs to 2200hrs.

7.2 Technical Officials

Technical Officials will be able to use the facilities at the Games Polyclinic, during the stated times of operation. Technical officials can access all of the services provided, including the stated 24-hour emergency services.

7.3 Competition Venues

Medical services will be provided for athletes at each of the Competition Venues. The service will be available from one (1) hour prior to start of competition until all athletes have been treated. Where required by the sport, paramedic ambulances will also be on standby at the venue.

7.4 Training Venues

Medical services provided to the Training Venues shall be on an on-call basis. Referrals from team doctors requiring further attention can be attended to at the Polyclinic.

Where required by the sport, paramedic ambulances will also be on standby on an on-call basis.

7.5 Prosthesis Repair

Prosthesis repairs will be provided at the TTM General Hospital Medical Device Services. All requests for repairs should be through the Polyclinic.

7.6 Doping Control

The Athletes are informed that drug testing will be organised for the duration of the Games, in close collaboration with the World Anti-Doping Agency – WADA.

It is the responsibility of supervisors and Athletes to refer to the list of prohibited substances and to abstain from consuming them.

The list can be downloaded from the World Anti-Doping Agency website (www.wada-ama.org).

Any Athlete that tests positive to a prohibited substance will be disqualified from the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games.

8.

TRANSPORT

8.1 Athletes and Team Officials

Athletes and Team Officials from each country will use dedicated private vehicles for their movement through Games locations including the Games Village, the competition venue, the training venue and the dining halls. This/these vehicles will come with a dedicated driver who will be the responsibility of the sport to which it is allocated. These vehicles will come with a dedicated driver. Each team is responsible for the driver. The vehicles will be available from the date of arrival of the team to the end of competition.

8.2 Technical Officials

Technical Officials will use a Technical Official Shuttle Service for their movement to and from their accommodation to the Competition Venues. This service will run from date of arrival through the day after competition. As different sports are accommodated at different hotels, the service will be dedicated to each group of Technical Officials. Technical Officials will use a pool vehicle service to access the dining halls on an individual technical official basis.

8.3 Competition Venues

Shuttle Bus Services to Competition Venues will cease upon completion of that venue's competition. Note the shuttle bus service does not stop at every competition venue.

Bus services to all Sporting Venues cease by 1900hrs, on 20 July, 2019.

9.

GENERAL REFERENCE INFORMATION

9.1 Technical Committee

The Va'a Technical Committee will meet at 1400hrs, 8 July, 2019 at the Sheraton Samoa Beach Resort Mulifanua.

Please note that the date, time and place of the meeting will be confirmed on 25 June 2019 at the latest.

Role of the Technical Committee.

The Technical Committee will abide by the following rules enacted by the Pacific Games Council Charter amended on 17 June, 2018.

Protocol 15 of the Pacific Games Charter: Organisation of the Different Sports Competition Committees.

15.1 The Council has complete control of the policy of the Games.

15.2 The OC shall set up its own sports division and also one such sports competition committee for each sport. Each National Federation of the Host PGA affiliated to the relevant International Federation whose sport is included in the programme of the Games shall appoint one of its representatives to serve on the sports competition committee. Each representative shall keep his /her governing body informed on progress made. The governing body shall maintain close liaison with the sports competition committee of its sport and be initially responsible, within the overall policy of the OC, for the arrangements of its sport.

15.3 Under the direction of the Council, the Organising Committee shall convene meetings of a PGC Technical Committee for each sport. The PGC Technical Committee will supervise and assume complete control of the technical arrangements for the sport, and ensure that the sport is conducted in accordance with the relevant International Federation's regulations unless as varied by the PGC Executive Board.

15.4 Membership of each PGC Technical Committee shall consist of two representatives from the Host country/territory, one representative from each of the other competing countries/territories and the International Federation representative (or their nominee), all with voting rights. Other members maybe co-opted, but without voting rights.

15.5 The date, time and place of the meeting of a PGC Technical Committee for each sport will be communicated to all PGAs at least one month prior to the opening of the Games. The meeting itself will be held not more than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the sport.

15.6 Each PGC Technical Committee shall elect its own Chairman and have an officer of the Council as an ex-officio member.

15.7 No PGC Technical Committee can validly meet without at least 50% of participating PGAs (excluding the Host) in that sport being present.

15.8 The PGC Technical Committee may alter the order and timing of events during and between each day of competition on the programme, but it may not alter the detailed programme and/or dates of sport competition without the approval of the PGC Executive Board.

9.2 International Rules

The events will be organised in conformity with the regulations of the international rules of Va'a.

9.3 Medals

Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded in the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Va'a events in accordance with the PGC Charter; Protocol 26.

- Four (4) or more contestants: Gold Silver and Bronze
- Three (3) contestants: Gold and Silver only
- Two (2) contestants: Gold only
- One (1) contestant: No Event, No Medal

9.4 Medal Ceremonies

In conformity with Protocol 23 of the Charter, the Medal Ceremonies will be held after the finals.

Each Athlete is requested to wear the official sports uniform of her/his delegation to attend the Medal Ceremony.

Athletes should attend all Medal Ceremonies in their official PGA team tracksuit and appropriate footwear, even where the Medal Ceremony is scheduled for a different day to the day of competition.

9.5 Personal Clothing and Personal Equipment

As per the Pacific Game Charter:

Regulation 17 Part II Rules Relating to Identification of Personal Clothing and Personal Equipment.

There shall be no advertising or publicity on personal equipment and competition clothing used or worn at the Games. Subject to the International Federations rules identification of the manufacturer (Name and/ or Logo) of the equipment and clothing may appear, if not marked conspicuously for advertising purpose as follows;

1. **Manufacturer's Identification:** The identification of the manufacturer shall not appear more than once per item of Clothing and equipment.
2. **Equipment:** Manufacturer's identification shall not exceed 10 percent of the surface area of the equipment that is exposed during competition and shall not be more than 60 square centimetres.
3. **Head gear (hats, helmets, sunglasses, goggles etc.) and gloves:** Any identification of the manufacturer shall not exceed 6 square centimetres.
4. **Clothing:** One identification of the manufacturer (Logo, Name or combination) may appear on each article of clothing worn by athletes, officials or judges (vest, shorts, track-suits, etc.) the maximum height of 4 centimetres. No other form advertising or sponsorship on clothing shall be permitted.
5. **Shoes:** The normal distinctive design pattern of the manufacturer is permitted. The manufacturer's name and/ or logo may also appear, up to a maximum of 6 square centimetres, either as part of the normal distinctive design pattern or independent of the normal distinctive design pattern.
6. Variation of the above rules shall be subject to approval of the Executive Board.

9.6 Eligibility

All athletes wishing to compete in the Pacific Games must comply with current requirements for representing a Country and participating in the Games according to the PGC charter: Article 26.1.

In the event of a challenge to a competitor's eligibility, the Executive Board shall immediately refer the challenge to the Disputes Tribunal in accordance with PGC Charter; Article 26.7

The Tribunal's decision shall be final. No further challenges shall be considered thereafter.

Pacific Games Association delegation entries are required to be finalised, confirmed and posted on the Pacific Games Council and Organising Committee websites 20 days prior to the commencement of the Games. PGC Charter; Article 26.10.

9.7 Mixed Zone

On each competition site a zone dedicated to exchanges between the Athletes and accredited journalists will be reserved near the exit from the competition area (mixed zone). It will be a brief exchange and Athletes and team supervisors are requested to cooperate with the media.

9.8 Charter of the Games

The events will be organised in conformity with the Pacific Games Council Charter which should be referred to whenever technical information which does not appear in the international regulations.

The Pacific Games Council Charter can be downloaded from the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games website (www.samoa2019.ws) in the "About Us" section.

10.

MAPS AND PLANS

SHERATON BEACH RESORT MULIFANUA

The map shows the resort's layout with the ocean to the left. Key features include:

- Va'a & Sailing Course:** Located near the Va'a Ramp and Sailing Ramp.
- Open Water Swim Course:** Located near the Va'a Ramp.
- Team tent:** Located near the Sailing Ramp, containing icons for SCM, TO, a flag, and a medical cross.
- Va'a Tent:** Located near the Va'a Ramp.
- Boat Parking:** Located near the Sailing Ramp.
- Tower:** Located near the Boat Parking.
- Restrooms:** Indicated by a blue icon with a person and a cross.
- Team tent:** A large purple tent structure.
- Medical tent:** A purple tent with a white cross icon.
- Other facilities:** Various buildings and green spaces are shown, including a large building labeled "Sharaton Resort".
- Access:** "Venue Access Road" is shown at the bottom.
- Viewpoint:** "Spectator Viewpoint" is marked on the beach.
- Navigation:** A compass rose indicates North (N).

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