

The Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee

Annual Report 2007 - 2008



OVERVIEW

The Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee during the reporting period would have continued its strategic policy initiatives aligned with the objective of enhancing its development and athlete centered mandate.

As you may recall, in 1997, the TTOC changed its games oriented focus to the broader and more holistic mandate of development. I am pleased to report that in this regard the emphasis on capacity building remains a priority. In accord with the Olympic values of striving for excellence, the TTOC created the requisite infrastructure to ensure that T&T's participation at the 2003 Pan American Games would meet administrative and performance benchmarks. TTOC Vice President, Mrs. Annette Knott led the T&T delegation at the Pan Am Games. Beijing Olympic preparations are ongoing. Mr. Michael Valentine is the Chef de Mission. The TTOC is also well advanced with preparations for the 2008 Commonwealth Youth Games. Ms. Tanya Western has been selected Chef de Mission.

As part of the overall strategic imperative the administrative support was reviewed. In this regard I am pleased to report that the administrative capacity at the TTOC office has been enhanced so as to improve service and client delivery objectives and best practice to TTOC stakeholders.

Where additional support is deemed necessary a project management approach is adopted and the appropriate expertise is sourced.

During the period the TTOC engaged in ongoing discussions with Government, Corporate T&T and International stakeholders in an effort to create opportunities and address challenges, in the areas of funding and capacity building. In this regard, the visit of the IOC President and meetings with the new Minister of Sport were important in the context of 2008 and beyond. I am pleased to report that there is reasonable cause for optimism.

2008 is an Olympic year. The TTOC anticipates strong performances by the T&T team, but is concerned that there has been no increase in the number of Sports qualifying for the Olympic Games. This is an area that is of strong concern. It is proposed that a series of meetings will be held with TTOC Affiliates so as to put in place prudent strategies to foster increased qualification for the 2012 London Olympic Games.

The TTOC's continues to be viewed as a key conflict resolution resource within the local Sport Sector and accordingly would have been asked to mediate in matters. I am pleased to report that whenever called upon to do so in the period under review the TTOC has succeeded in the conduct of its mandate and terms of reference. It is therefore ironic that the TTOC would have found itself before the

High Court to defend its Pan Am Games selection process in the face of an injunction filed by an athlete who was selected for the Pan Am Games. The TTOC won the matter but found no pleasure in the legal victory. In this regard, I am pleased to report that every effort was made to ensure that the dignity of the athlete was not compromised, and amicable post hearing discussions was held with the athlete and his support team to restore positive relations.

On a cautionary note, it is important to be mindful that the external economic environment is likely to provide challenges given negative predictions for the broader global economy. The TTOC anticipates that the sport sector will be impacted.

In anticipation of these challenges the TTOC has put in place a prudent cash management and marketing and sponsorship strategy that incorporates risk management considerations, which are aimed at militating against potential fundraising and revenue short falls.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind that in 2009, the TTOC and Trinidad and Tobago have been entrusted with the responsibility of hosting the inaugural Caribbean Games. The Games will be held in July. The hosting of the historic Caribbean Games is an honour and a privilege that the TTOC does not take lightly.

The TTOC is deeply committed to staging games that will enhance the reputation of T&T, and leave a legacy for Olympic sport in T&T and by extension the Caribbean. Let me however say that this is not an undertaking for the faint hearted, and most certainly none of the laudable objectives can be achieved without the full support of not only the five (5) sports on the 2009 Caribbean Games programme, but every National Sport Organisation affiliated to the TTOC.

It should be mentioned that the TTOC is exploring the feasibility of a 2018 Commonwealth Games Bid. In many ways the Caribbean Games may very well provide a cautionary gauge as to how realistic such an ambitious bid maybe.

In accord with the Olympic Charter, and the Fundamental principles of Olympism, the TTOC is undertaking an even broader remit than before.

In particular, the areas of social responsibility and community sport. In this regard you may recall the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee (TTOC) President Larry Romany, at a reception for Dr. Jacques Rogge, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) President, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel launching a new TTOC initiative which comes under the umbrella of ***TTOC Legacy***.

One of the projects to be undertaken will be a research project on exactly how an athlete learns. The central thesis of the subject project is: In third world

countries, the grassroots are really the athletes that come forward, and these athletes that come from grassroots areas don't have the resources to be able to go forward. In addition, they don't necessarily learn the same way everybody else learns.

The TTOC will collaborate on the project with specialized educators, to do a pilot in determining how athletes in our school system learn. Another project currently being developed is rather unique in its methodology to developing community sport. You will be hearing more of this in due course.

With the emphasis on Sport Science, Sport Performance and Nutrition, Planning and Periodization as the underlying basis for all TTOC coaching courses.

Coupled with ambitions to host major games, increasing demands from athletes and coaches for support, greater media and public expectations it is anticipated that the TTOC, its executive and affiliates will be challenged to think and act differently.

The Sporting landscape globally, regionally and locally has changed. The route of business as usual will lead to irrelevance. The wider society and its collective values have changed. Reinventing and re-engineering organizationally and systemically is an imperative. The Business community's attitude and expectations in dealing with sport organizations has gotten even more demanding results and performance oriented. Increasingly the autonomy of sporting organizations is coming under question.

It is against this background that the TTOC is expected and required by the IOC to address the complexities and challenges of propagating the Olympic mandate in the coming years, 2008 and beyond.

Shape Your Life

The Shape your life Programme has now been re branded and re launched as TTOC Legacy.

TTOC Legacy is the umbrella brand for:

I. Inter-Generational Heritage Games

Interfaced with six (6) Communities, namely Valencia, Nariva, Guaico Tamana, Caijual and Manzanilla. Approximately twenty-two (22) Primary Schools and well over thirty five hundred students and teachers, village and community groups participated.

II. Aqua-aerobics- Elderly Programmes

Two Projects for the Elderly - 3 month Periods.

Venue: Diamond Vale Pool.

Target: Members of the Community Homes. St. Vincent de Paul, St. Finbar's, Soroptomist, Port of Spain.

Pan American Games

A number of Sport Disciplines were represented:

- Athletics
- Shooting
- Hockey
- Cycling
- Badminton
- Table Tennis
- Canoe / Kayak

Seventy-Five (75) athletes

Thirty-Five (35) Team officials

Nine (9) Medical Staff

Results:

- 1 silver medal
- 3 bronze medals

Education and Training

a) Planning and Periodization II

There were thirty-two (32) participants who attended this Course from the 25th - 29th February, 2008. it was facilitated by Mr. Charles Cardinal at the Cascadia Hotel and Conference.

b) Human Resource Management in Sport

These two projects was a collaborative effort between Sportt Company and TTOC.

Part I, which was a one (1) day Workshop, was held on 27th December, 2007 at the Courtyard Marriott. This was facilitated by Professor Packianathan Chelladurai.

Part II, which was a four (4) day Workshop, was held on from 14th – 15th and the 17th – 18th March, 2008. This also took place at the Courtyard Marriott and was also facilitated by Professor Packianathan Chelladurai. This effort was under the auspices of the Sportt Company.

c) Strength and Conditioning

The TTOC hosted a seven (7) day Course on the Strength and Conditioning Workshop from the 25th March – 1st April 2008. The Course Facilitators were Mr. Alain Delorme and Dr. Lymperis Perry Koziris. The Course was attended by forty-six (46) participants. The participants included representatives from various Associations as well as the Training Sectors.

d) Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD)

The Long Term Athlete Development Workshop took place from the 18th – 19th April, 2008. The Course was facilitated by Mr. Frank Dick. The Course was attended by thirty (30) participants.

Unfortunately the point must be made that there are a number of affiliates who show a lack of interest in the TTOC Courses and Workshops. Affiliate participation in the Coaching Courses peaked at 55 % of TTOC membership.

There were no PASO Technical Courses during the period under review as the IOC is currently undertaking a review of the Technical Courses Programme.

Administration

1. Sport Administration

National Training Course for Sport Administrators

This was held from the 22nd – 24th September, 2007. This took place at the VIP Lounge, National Stadium. The Course was attended by fifty –four (54) participants.

Target: New Administrators, National and Club Executives

2. Women in Sport Management:

Women in Sport Management Training course in Lausanne, June 2007 - Mrs. Maureen Craig Rousseau (Hockey) selected to attend.

3. Project Management

Project Management - course held in *Miami*, September 2007 - Marlene Hoyte-a TTOC Volunteer was selected to attend.

4. Advanced Sport Management

The TTOC General Manager, Mrs. Catherine Forde was selected to attend attended a Programme Directors training course which was held in Lausanne, Switzerland in November 07. In accord with its IOC mandate the TTOC's intends to hold two Advanced Sport Management Courses annually. Preparations for the first advanced course are underway and a date will soon be announced.

Conferences

1. Peace and Sport
2. Education and Culture
3. Chef de Mission Meetings (Beijing Olympics and Pan Am Games)
4. Sport and the Environment
5. Sports Medicine- Injury Management – Norway
6. WADA Training- Rio de Janeiro- Dr. Faoud Mohammed

WADA – World Anti- Doping Congress- Madrid, Spain

RADO - Executive Board Meeting and General Assembly – (Hosted by TTOC and the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs)

NADO - The TTOC collaborated with the Ministry of Sport in the submission of the Legal Code.

Commonwealth Games Federation – General Assembly –

Sri Lanka - November 2007

There were two BID cities. Abuja, Nigeria and Glasgow, Scotland.

Glasgow was awarded the Games.

Commonwealth Youth Games

Pune, India

October 12th – 18th 2008

Eight (8) Sport Disciplines

Eighteen (18) Athletes

The 2010 Commonwealth Games will be held in Delhi- India.

Executive Meetings

The TTOC Executive met eight (8) times during the period under review. Sub Committees would have met as necessary and more frequently.

The TTOC Executive Committee Sub Committees are;

Marketing and Finance: (Chairman) Mr. Michael Romany

Development : (Chairman) Dr. Ian Hypolite.

Affiliate Relations: (Chairman) Mr. Mushtaque Mohammed.

Tobago Relations: (Chairperson) Mrs. Annette Knott

Olympic Academy, Education and Culture Committee: (Chairman) Mr. Brian Lewis

Olympic Day Relay: (Chairman) Mr. Wendell Labastide.

Awards: (Chairman) Mr. Elton Prescott-SC

Elite Athletes Assistance: (Chairman) Mr. Douglas Camacho.

Sport and Environment: (Chairman) Mr. Michael Valentine

Anti Doping: (Chairman) Dr. Ian Hypolite

Council Meetings

The TTOC General Council met four times during the period under review.

Stakeholders' Meetings

Ministry of Sport , Sportt Company , Guardian Life , Media

Event Management

The TTOC provided T&T Amateur Boxing association with infrastructure and human resource support with the Americas Olympic Qualifier.

Olympic Day Run

Held in Trinidad on the 23rd of June 2007, this important event on the global Olympic movement calendar continues to receive disappointing support from TTOC affiliates with a participation level that trends to below 50 % of the TTOC affiliates. 340 runners participated in the six (6) categories including the Cyclists and Paralympics wheel chair race. Regrettably there was no Olympic Day activity in Tobago in 2007. Every effort will be made to ensure that there is a relay run in Tobago in 2008.

Olympic Youth Camp

In 2007 the TTOC Olympic Youth Camp ran for 10 days. Indoor sessions were held at the Hasely Crawford Stadium. There were field trips and other visits. The theme was Peace and Sport. There were thirty-one (31) participants. As an extension of the camp activities the TTOC hosted a TTFF D'License Course. The Football Federation's Technical Director, Lincoln Phillip assisted by Muhammad ISA and Rajesh Lachoo facilitated the coaching course which targeted the age group 16-19 years. Twenty-seven (27) young persons registered for the D'License Course. Nineteen (19) completed, eight (8) were fully certified. This number included two (2) females.

Beijing Youth Camp

Seven (7) TTOC Olympic Youth Campers were shortlisted. Candidates were required to submit an essay and present themselves for an interview. Following the selection process two (2) campers have been selected to attend the Beijing Olympic Youth Camp to be held in Beijing from the 5th-18th August 2008. They are Safiya Beckford (Swimming) and Dario Clement (Tobago).

TTOC Annual awards

The Annual Awards Function held traditionally on the 29th December every year is one TTOC activity that receives 100 % affiliate support. The 2007 edition was

no exception. The feature Speaker was Professor Chelladurai, who gave a well received, insightful, thought provoking and entertaining address on the topic 'Factors behind Excellence in Sport'.

The 2007 TTOC Awardees were:

Junior Sportswoman - Olivia Bennett

Junior Sportsman - Gavin Nero

Sportswoman of the Year – Cleopatra Borel – Brown

Sportsman of the Year – Emile Abraham

Sports Personality of the Year – Kwandwane Browne

The Alexander B. Chapman Award - Shaka Hislop

The Sport and Education Award is being revised.

FINANCE

The Finance report and audited accounts is a separate agenda item.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Lewis

Hon. Secretary General