



**OCEANIA WUSHU FEDERATION** 大洋洲武术联合会  
Official Representative to the International Wushu Federation  
[www.oceaniawushu.org](http://www.oceaniawushu.org)

## History and Development of the Oceania Wushu Federation

By Glen Keith, OWUF President

### History

#### Inaugural Meeting

The Oceania Wushu Federation (OWUF) was jointly founded between the New Zealand and Australian Kung-Fu Wushu Federations. The Inaugural Meeting and celebration dinner took place at the Yangtze Restaurant 160 Willis Street, Wellington New Zealand on 5 June 1998. Guest of Honour at the meeting was Mr Wu Shaozu, President of the International Wushu Federation, Minister of State Sports Administration of China and President of the Chinese Olympic Committee. Representing New Zealand at the meeting was Mr Glen Keith, OWUF President and representing Australia was Mr Barry Page on behalf of Mr Walt Missingham, OWUF Senior Vice President. Also present at the meeting was Mr Peter Yu, past OWUF Secretary General and special guests Mr Kenneth Liu, Madam Shi Mei Lin and Jennifer King of Asia:NZ Foundation.

#### Historical Event

OWUF became the 4th International Wushu Federation (IWUF) continental wushu federation to be established, which enabled the IWUF to apply for recognition to the International Olympic Committee. Because of this, the Inauguration of OWUF was deemed by China and wushu enthusiasts around the world as a "Historical Event". The other three continental federations already established were Asia, Europe and Pan-America. The last continental body to form was Africa. Fiji Islands, Guam and Vanuatu have also become members of the International Wushu Federation bringing the number of Oceania countries to five. Vanuatu is still a provisional member of IWUF.

#### First Steps

During the 3<sup>rd</sup> IWUF Congress at the World Wushu Championships in Baltimore USA on Friday 18 August 1995, Glen Keith, President of the 'New Zealand Chinese Martial Arts-International Wushu Council (later renamed to the New Zealand Kung-Fu Wushu Federation) and Mr Han Jin Song, Wushu Development Officer of the Australian Kung-Fu Wushu Federation, jointly drafted and presented in front of the Congress, a "Document of Intent", proposing the formation of the Oceania Wushu Federation. The presentation was warmly received with great applause from all present due to the strong cooperation and good will demonstrated between New Zealand and Australia.

During the 4<sup>th</sup> IWUF Congress at the World Wushu Championships in Rome Italy in November 1997, all the IWUF member associations reached agreement that the IWUF should apply for the recognition of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) so that Wushu will achieve further development in the world. It was noted that only if the IWUF has four continental member federations, would it be eligible to submit its application to the IOC. The IWUF Executive decided at that time to make the founding of the Oceania Wushu Federation (OWF) a key priority, and entrusted its member associations of Australia and New Zealand to take the lead to establish the OWF.

### **Name - OWF vs OWUF**

The reason for adopting the acronym OWUF instead of OWF is in line with the same reason that the International Wushu Federation adopted IWUF instead of IWF. The acronym IWF belongs to the International Wrestling Federation and International Weightlifting Federation. Likewise, the acronym OWF belongs to the Oceania Wrestling Federation and Oceania Weightlifting Federation. To avoid confusion and potential copy write issues, the letter 'U' has been added. The term 'WU' is also significant in that it is a fundamental Daoist philosophical concept. The European Wushu Federation also has the acronym EWuF.

## **Wushu Development**

The OWUF was jointly founded between the New Zealand and Australian Kung-Fu Wushu Federations, with the Inaugural Meeting in Wellington New Zealand on 5 June 1998. Other events significant to OWUF development are detailed below.

### **Oceania Wushu Championships - 2005, 2007, 2009**

OWUF has held three Oceania Wushu Championships in 2005, 2007 and 2009. The 2005 and 2007 events were jointly hosted between the Australian Kung-Fu Wushu Federation (AKWF) and the New Zealand Kung-Fu Wushu Federation (NZKWF). The AKWF hosted the Taolu and NZKWF the Sanda. At the 2009 Oceania championships, both the Taolu and Sanda were hosted by the NZKWF. The cycle of the Oceania Wushu Championships has been changed to every two years commencing 2010.

### **Australasian Wushu Championships 2010**

The AKWF, on behalf of OWUF hosted the 1st Australasian Wushu Championships on 24 October 2010 at the Hall of Legends, State Sports Centre, Olympic Boulevard, Homebush Sydney. The event, which included traditional and modern wushu was a huge success involving Australia and New Zealand.

### **Oceania Wushu Invitational Championships 2011, 2012**

The AKWF is planning to host the 1st Oceania Invitational Wushu Championships in August 2011 in Melbourne. This will only involve a small number of countries. A slightly larger Oceania Invitational Wushu Championships is planned for 28 October 2012 at the Hall of Legends, State Sports Centre, Olympic Boulevard, Homebush Sydney.

The reason for the AKWF hosting these events is to give the AKWF large scale event management experience in anticipation of submitting a proposal to IWUF to host the 12th World Wushu Championships between 21-27 October 2013, also at the State Sports Centre in Sydney.

### **12th World Wushu Championships - 21-27 October 2013**

The AKWF was selected to host the above two events to provide them with large scale event management experience in anticipation of submitting a proposal to IWUF to host the 12th World Wushu Championships between 21-27 October 2013, also at the State Sports Centre in Sydney.

### **Pacific Games 2011 - Pacific Mini Games 2013**

In February 2010 Glen Keith approached Mr Vidhya Lakhan, President of the Pacific Games Council in Suva, Fiji to explore the possibility of Wushu as a demonstration sport at the next Pacific Games in Nouméa New Caledonia 2011 and/or the Pacific Mini Games in Wallis and Futuna 2013. Mr Lakhan advised that “demonstration” sports are not permitted in the Pacific Games.

The OWUF Executive is currently exploring whether a special Kung-Fu Wushu “presentation” to the Pacific Games Council Executive during the next Pacific Games or Pacific Mini Games might be possible. The presentation could be part of a friendship dinner hosted by the International Wushu Federation.

Mr Lakhan commented that the Pacific Games Council was pleased to read of the work OWUF is undertaking to develop Wushu in the Pacific Islands. He further advised that whilst the program of a maximum 28 sports has already been set for the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia, there was a process to follow for a new sport to be added to the Pacific Games Council Constitution, for consideration for inclusion in future editions of the Pacific Games, refer:

Article 22.3 of the Pacific Games Council Constitution states: “For any sport to be added, at least six (6) PGAs must sign the letter of application, all of whom must be engaged in regular annual competition in that sport”.

PGAs are member Pacific Games Associations, of which there are 22: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Norfolk Island, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna. New Zealand and Australia are not currently eligible to be member Pacific Games Associations. Contact details for each member PGA can be found at [www.pacificgamescouncil.com](http://www.pacificgamescouncil.com)

The six PGAs that could potentially form this group are Fiji Islands, Guam, Vanuatu, Tonga, Papua New Guinea and one other. Fiji islands, Guam and Vanuatu are IWUF members with Vanuatu being a provisional member at this stage.

## **Chinese Wushu Association Tour of Oceania (May-June 2010)**

In May 2010 the Chinese Wushu Association (on behalf of IWUF) conducted a tour of several Oceania countries giving demonstrations to promote Wushu and Chinese Culture in Wellington, New Zealand; Tonga and Vanuatu.

### **New Zealand Visit 2010**

The 26 strong Chinese wushu delegation, comprising 6 officials and 20 elite wushu athletes, were hosted by the New Zealand Kung-Fu Wushu Federation for their Wellington New Zealand visit. The wushu troupe gave two performances. One was on Saturday 22 May at 'Te Whanaga o Aotearoa ki Porirua' as part of an official Maori welcome.

The main demonstration was on Sunday 23 May at the Wellington Town Hall, which was a sell-out show with eleven hundred (1,100) people attending. The show was opened by Glen Keith, the President of the New Zealand Kung-Fu Wushu Federation, followed by speeches from His Excellency Ambassador Zhang Limin of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China; Honourable Pansy Wong, the Minister of Ethnic Affairs; and Mr Gao Xiaojun, President of the Chinese Wushu Association. A photo gallery and You-Tube montage of the show has been uploaded to the NZKWF website at [www.wushu.org.nz](http://www.wushu.org.nz).

### **Tonga Visit 2010**

The Tonga-China Friendship Association (TCFA) proudly hosted the first ever visit of the Chinese Wushu Delegation to the Kingdom from 25 to 29 May 2010. Two free performances were given at the Queen Salote Memorial Hall - the first on Wednesday 26 May evening, and the second on Thursday 27 May. All schools and the general public were invited.

The visit of the Wushu Delegation was aligned to the TCFA's mandate of showcasing and exchanging the cultural uniqueness of both Tonga and China for the benefit of increasing friendship and understanding between the people of Tonga and China. The TCFA was established in April 2009 under the visionary leadership of The Princess Royal, HRH, Princess Salote Mafile'o Pilolevu Tuita, President of TCFA and supported by the Chinese Ambassador to Tonga, His Excellency, Mr FAN Guijin.

It is hoped the Chinese Wushu Delegation's visit, and with ongoing support from TCFA and the Chinese Embassy in Tonga, will encourage Tonga to form a National Wushu Federation and begin competing in OWUF events.

### **Vanuatu Visit 2010**

For Kung-Fu followers, it was the next best thing to having Jackie Chan or Jet Li putting on a show in Vanuatu. There was no better way to put it than when Chinese Ambassador to Vanuatu H.E Cheng Shuping quoted President of the Chinese Wushu Association Gao Xiaojun. "Kung Fu originated from China but it belongs to the world," he said in his introductory remarks, before the one-and-a-half hour show commenced Tuesday night at the Club Vanuatu Auditorium.

Head of State President Lolu Abbil expressed Vanuatu's gratitude for continuous and growing relationship, particularly in terms of cultural exchange and also because the show was a show of goodwill from China who is congratulating Vanuatu on its 30th Anniversary celebrations. President Abbil and PM Edward Natapei were handed gifts by Mr. Xiaojun and fellow government, while opposition heads in the VIP section also received gifts. The performance was facilitated by the Vanuatu-China Friendship Association with a range of sponsors from operating Chinese enterprises and other sponsors including Digicel.

It is hoped the Chinese Wushu Delegation's visit will support the recently formed Vanuatu National Federation of Kung Fu Wushu, and with ongoing support from VASANOC [Vanuatu Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee] will soon see Vanuatu competing in OWUF events.

### **Fiji Wushu Development 2010**

In 2010 the Chinese Wushu Association sent a professional Chinese Tai Chi Coach to Fiji to assist with Wushu development. The presence of the Coach has done a lot to build awareness about the benefits of Wushu Tai Chi in Fiji.

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[The following article Story by Ronal Deo appeared on a Fiji News website \[Fiji Time: 21:51, Thursday 16th of September 2010\].](#)

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Prime Minister, Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama today focused on the importance of physical exercise while launching the "TAI CHI" programme at Sukuna Park in Suva this afternoon. TAI CHI is a Chinese martial art practiced for both its defense training and its health benefits.

Bainimarama said to ensure a strong and healthy nation government looks after the welfare of its citizens and has called on people to take a pro-active approach in becoming a healthy society so there is less burden on medical facilities. According to Bainimarama while some are engaged in physical activities many of us shy away from exercise thinking that it's for only few people or those who are young.

Bainimarama said TAI CHI breaks down that barrier which is similar to Yoga and it is suitable to all irrespective of age, gender or physique. Meanwhile, Education Minister, Filipe Bole said TAI CHI is world's largest fitness activity for health benefits. He said TAI CHI could be a solution to non-communicable diseases in the country as many people between the ages of 45 to 49 die due to this. He said heart attack is the major cause as 86 percent of the people die as young people are also not spared. Cabinet Ministers and members of the public will undergo training in Tai Chi over the next few weeks.

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The following item appeared in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Website on 29 Nov 2010.

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### **Chinese Taiji Coaching Programme Successful and Fruitful**

The Closing Ceremony of Chinese Taiji Coaching Programme was held in Suva Civic Auditorium on 29 November 2010. The Ceremony was attended by H.E. Dr. Han Zhiqiang, Chinese Ambassador to Fiji and Mr. Pio Tikoduadua, Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office, as well as Fiji Eastern Education Officer Mr. Patilial Waqabaca and over 80 learners of the Programme. 18 learners were awarded "Excellent Learners" with a "Certificate of Excellence". Around 50 learners performed Taiji during the ceremony. Dr. Han thanked the Ministry of Youths and Sports of Fiji for their coordinating efforts in the Coaching Programme, and the dedicated and devoted work of Mr. Xu Xiangdong, Senior Coach from China Wushu Association.

Dr. Han congratulated all the award-winners and excellent learners for their progress in learning Taiji, as well as the recent launching of the Taiji Lovers' Club, which will surely relay on the Taiji torch lit by the Chinese Taiji Coaching Programme. Dr. Han said that since the establishment of the diplomatic ties between China and Fiji 35 years ago, China-Fiji relations have been ever-strengthening. As the Chinese Ambassador to Fiji, Dr. Han is very pleased to see that the development of the bilateral relations are not limited to political, trade and economic cooperation, but extend to cultural and sports exchanges. He is confident that these exchanges will continue to thrive in the coming years. Mr. Patilial Waqabaca, on behalf of the Fiji government, thanked the Chinese side for sending such a good Taiji coach to Fiji.

He said that through learning Taiji, locals not only achieved health benefits, but also came to understand better about Chinese culture which advocates "harmony". He said in conclusion that the Fiji government is committed to introduce Taiji to the rest of Fiji and to further the good relations between both countries in the future. The Chinese Taiji Coaching Programme was started at the request of the Fiji Government and fully sponsored by the Chinese government. During the 3-month coaching programme, over 500 local learners have participated in different tailored classes including the Public Class on every Saturday and the Public Servant Class on every Wednesday, with a total coaching time of more than 120 hours.

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The Executive of the OWUF looks forward to hearing about more Wushu development in Fiji and their participation in upcoming OWUF events.

Closing Ceremony of Chinese Taiji Coaching Programme was held in Suva Civic Auditorium on 29 November 2010

		
<p>H.E. Dr. Han Zhiqiang Delivers a Speech</p>	<p>Dr. Han Presents "Certificate of Excellence" to a Taiji Learner</p>	<p>Taiji Coach Mr. Xu Xiangdong Presents "Certificate of Excellence" to a Taiji Learner</p>
		
<p>Mr. Xu Xiangdong Presents a gift to the Permanent Secretary of the Fiji Prime Minister's Office</p>	<p>Learners Play Taiji During the Closing Ceremony</p>	<p>Group photo</p>

INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE OCEANIA WUSHU FEDERATION  
WELLINGTON NEW ZEALAND - 5 JUNE 1998

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特刊 SPECIAL ISSUE 2

首都華文報

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日期	時間	節目
六月十四日	5:00PM	請各人準備一道菜肴與大家分享, 有毛利演出。
六月二十一日	3:30PM	以聖經為題材的英語教學, 題目另行通知。
六月二十八日	5:00PM	備有晚餐, 之后分享 Jean Kitchingman 她自己的故事。
7月11日 星期六	6:30PM	中國餐晚宴, 餐后是中華文化藝術演出。五歲以下小童免費, 其他每人\$20。共130張票, 售完為止。

歡迎大家來參加



新西蘭政府本財政年1998.7到1999.6預算的重要數據是: 本財政年教育經費為一億八千萬紐元用于興建新校舍。三年教育經費5.90億。醫療三年2.53億, 戒掉人們吸煙的費用6.7百萬。警察三年用1.94億。監獄三年是7.95百萬。

上幅照片是惠靈頓維多利亞大學學生1998年6月3日抗議今年財政預算沒有改善對學生假期補助計劃的游行隊伍。下幅照片是今年5月14日各路記者雲集政府宴會廳聽取副總理彼德斯的財政預算報告和提問題。這是彼德斯副總理正回答本報記者提出的有關對移民方面投資的問題。



【本報訊】中國國家體育運動總局局長兼中國奧運委員會主席伍紹祖先生于1998年6月2日到8日對新西蘭進行了訪問。這是中國的第一位體育部長訪問新西蘭。新西蘭方面非常感興趣希望中國運動員在參加2000年悉尼奧運會之前到新西蘭訓練。6月5日晚在惠靈頓長江酒家兼任國際武術聯合會主席的伍紹祖先生宣布大洋洲武術聯合會的成立。下幅照片是伍主席(中座)在儀式后與新西蘭武協主席(右二座)澳洲武協主席(左二座), 中國使館古今二秘(左站一)及新西蘭亞洲2000基金會 KING 女士等合影。由于版面所限, 本報將在以後登出對伍局長的專訪。



1998年5月11日維多利亞大學亞洲學院正式宣布成立。下兩幅照片一個是亞洲學院院長 Peter Harris 在維多利亞舉行的成立酒會上演說。之下是酒會后在政府宴會廳舉行的學院成立宴會上。



新西蘭中國友好協會惠靈頓分會消息

新中友好協會惠靈頓分會的中文學會每個月在 Wakefield Street 惠靈頓市政府的一號會議室舉行華語電影晚會。電影大都有普通話對白和上英文字幕。時間是每個月的第二個星期四晚上 5:30。免費但設有捐款箱, 一兩塊錢也都是對我們很大的幫助。有茶點招待, 歡迎大家前來。

由惠靈頓新中友好協會組織的惠靈頓華語角已開辦很長時間了。每個月的第一個星期四從 7:00pm 開始。地點在惠靈頓市政府的一號會議室。希望學習華語或對於華語是母語而欲提高英語的朋友都是一個很好的機會。歡迎參加。

新中友好協會惠靈頓分會前不久舉行了午餐會, 歡迎中國駐新西蘭新任大使陳文照先生。

【本報訊】據中國大使館二等秘書古今先生透露, 今年將在新西蘭舉行中國電影周和北京電視周的活動。到時本報將做進一步的報導。

【本報訊】惠靈頓京華酒家將在6月28日晚上 6:30 舉行盛大中國及西洋文化藝術演出。同時可品嚐精美晚宴, 票價僅 \$23, 電話 04 801 5657

**蘇氏菜園**

天天由農場運到  
各種新鮮唐人菜  
批發零售全都歡迎

Back Row [from left] - TBA, Shi Mei Lin, TBA, TBA, Jennifer King, TBA, TBA, Peter Yu  
Front Row [from left] - Kenneth Lieu, Barry Page, Wu Shaozu, Glen Keith, Ester Fong

## English Translation of Newspaper Article

Mr Wu Shaozu - The Director of Physical Culture and Sports Commission of the People's Republic of China, also Olympic Committee - China President visit New Zealand on 2<sup>nd</sup>, June, 1998. He is the first Chinese Director of Physical Culture and Sports who came to visit New Zealand. New Zealand really hopes Chinese athletes can be trained in New Zealand for a while before 2000 Sydney Olympic Game.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> June 1998 night, Mr Wu Shaozu announced that Oceania Wu-Shu Federation has been established at Yangtze Restaurant. The bottom photo shows President Wu (sit in middle), President of New Zealand Wu-Shu Federation (sit second right), President of Australian Wu-Shu Federation (sit second left), Chinese Ambassador (stand first left), and Miss King from Asia New Zealand Foundation. Because of the limitation of newspaper space, we will publish more information about the interview with Mr Wu later.