



# Football Federation of Belize

## Activity Report 2016-2017



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## Message from FFB Acting President

Despite the many external and internal challenges plaguing our federation and this new executive since elections last year, we had an active period between May 2016 and June 2017. Whilst it may not seem like much was done, administrative changes were made since these were key in the process of professionalizing our operations. With access to double the funds for Operational Costs from FIFA, US\$125K from the One CONCACAF funds, and access to US\$750K from the FIFA Forward Funds, and with our focus being youth development, we took bold steps to organize and fund the U15 and U17 tournaments and started the first ever female league, all occurring simultaneously in every district countrywide except Toledo, Midsouth and Stann Creek. All these occurred while we were preparing national teams that attended international tournaments in U17, Beach and the UNCAF Copa Centro Americana and whilst planning our four-year strategy, mandated by FIFA, for our Contract of Agreed Objectives which is a requirement to access the additional funding.



Below please find a list of what was accomplished:

1. Empowered the Management Team (Directors) put in place under the FIFA development initiative and added a Marketing Manager
2. Finally re-launched our improved website in the first quarter of this year after being in limbo for a year and a half. This website is now active with news items on a weekly basis.
3. A major push to use our FFB Face Book page as a key communication tool with our fan base provided us with an engagement mechanism from which we were able to hear the good, bad and the ugly from football lovers which provided insights for management action.
4. Developed FFB Club Licensing Regulations and oversaw collaboration between Competition Department and the PLB to bring about a successful 2016/2017 campaign.
5. 2016/17 PLB Tournament was the first FFB sanctioned tournament contested by FFB Licensed Clubs
6. Retooled the FFB Competitions Department to collect match data for analysis and identification of technical issues
7. Organized the CONCACAF's Women's Football Day and Live Your Goals
8. Spearheaded National U-17 Tournament which showcased our best U-17 players in preparation for the UNCAF Tournament that was held in Costa Rica in November 2016.
9. Engaged the A national team in competitive friendlies in Honduras and Belize and Valladolid, Mexico for the U17 and A team for player exposure
10. Regularized compensation for secretariat personnel and finally issued staff a Christmas bonus

11. Spearheaded FFB Strategic planning process culminating in a proposed contract of agreed objectives guided by a vision and mission statement
12. Set a course for a personality-independent four-year development initiative to realize technical excellence in football
13. Deployed the FFB Player Status Committee which for the first time in FFB footballing history presided over player contract disputes in a professional manner
14. Laid the groundwork for installation of a truly independent Ethics Committee and Audit Committee immediately after Presidential elections by adopting the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct.
15. Championed the hiring of a resident head coach for continuity in national team development efforts and training of our coaches countrywide
16. Established a new format for referee training and monitoring by hiring referee coordinators in all districts. The Referee Department now has its own office at our HQ
17. Established the first national Women's League to produce a champion for the UNCAF women club tournament in August and other tournaments in the future
18. Oversaw the organization of Beach Tournaments countrywide with the first being in Caye Caulker
19. Created international exposure to Belizean Clubs, coaches and players by signing an exchange agreement between the FFB and professional Mexican Club Los Tigrillos, with ties to Chivas of Guadalajara, Pumas, Cruz Azul, Monterrey, Leon and Necaxa.
20. Renovated the dorms by repainting, and repairing lockers and installing air conditioners and television sets in every room to make them more comfortable for our national team players.
21. Signed the first ever television contract with TNC10 along with the PLB President for much needed finance and exposure for the league
22. Initiated the process of accepting San Pedro and Caye Caulker as a football district when our Statutes are changed
23. With the assistance of Ian Mork, former national team head coach of the Jaguars, we established an arrangement with NorCal, an academy from California with a 70,000+ players membership that will provide us with much needed equipment
24. Initiated the formation of a Coaches Association that will have a pool of qualified coaches to choose for our national team programmes and to assist with training youth coaches countrywide
25. Started the process of stomping out corruption from Belizean football. We cannot condone this type of behaviour and will do all in our power to eradicate it.

The above are all 'works in progress' and it will take a humongous effort to continue these and carry out our other plans as laid out in our Contract of Agreed Objectives. We are serious about developing our youths in order to give them a fighting chance to qualify for the 2019 Gold Cup (and beyond) and 2026 World Cup. For this reason we must hire persons in the districts that will assist with the running of our programs and like mentioned in my address, it can only be done if we unite to corroborate in bringing Belize back into the limelight as we did at the 2013 Gold Cup.



## FFB Administration

The Football Federation of Belize saw one of its busiest year yet between 2016 to present. On April 30, 2016, The Football Federation of Belize elected a new Executive Body during its 9th Ordinary Congress, held at the Ramada Princess Hotel in Belize City.

The new Executive Body voted in is as follow:

Marlon Kuylen – Senior Vice President (Middle)

Shane Orio – Executive Member (Left)

Darlene Vernon – Executive Member (Right)



Following 22 rounds of voting resulting in a tie each time, a new president and vice president for the FFB could not be elected.

Having been unable to break the tie, invited CONCACAF and UNCAF representatives conducted consultations with FIFA, after which Senior Vice President Marlon Kuylen was selected as Acting President of the FFB for one year.

Executive members, Shane Orio and Darlene Vernon were selected as Acting Sr. Vice President and Vice President respectively.



The first order of duty for the trio was to select two other members to fill the vacant posts of Executive members to so as to have a complete Executive Committee. Those Members are Mr. Raymond Davis and Anthony Malher, Executive members. The new Executive Members and full FFB Executive Committee were introduced to the association members on Saturday, June 11th, 2016.

## FFB and its Member Associations

Saturday, June 11th, 2016

Acting President, Marlon Kuylen and his Executives planned a field day for the Association Members were they taken to YWAM to get a firsthand view of Pastor/Coach Santi's successful U13, U15, U17 and U20 youth academy program. The idea was to use this program as a model to roll out youth academies in every district including San Pedro and Caye Caulker, Mid-South and Benque Viejo.



**Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – Also saw the introduction of Mr. Jacob Daniel, Coaches Director of Georgia Soccer and Technical Director for the United States Region III Boys Olympic Development Program, who has developed and implemented a playing style and curriculum that all 12 states in that region have been following.

Mr. Daniel made an hour-long presentation at the FFB Headquarters to the District Association members on his success of working along with youth soccer in the United States.





## International Relations

Signing of an exchange agreement between the FFB and professional Mexican Club Los Tigrillos, whom have ties to Chivas of Guadalajara, Pumas, Cruz Azul, Monterrey, Leon and Necaxa.



FFB's Executive Members at Mexico City for FIFA Congress 2016



## National U-17 Tournament

August 19th – 21st, 2016

The Atlantic Bank/Atlantic Insurance National U-17 Tournament was held at the Isidoro Beaton Stadium in Belmopan.

Eight teams participated:

1. Toledo
2. Mid-south
3. Stann Creek
4. Belmopan
5. Cayo
6. Belize City
7. Orange Walk
8. Corozal



match. At the end of the long whistle Belize City walk away victorious as the National U-17 Champions.



Champions:  
**Belize City**



## **FIFA Live Your Goals Festival**

**Saturday, August 20th, 2016**

Four separate FIFA LIVE YOUR GOALS Festival was held at the National Football Stadium, FFB Headquarters in Belmopan. The festival engaged young females in the sport of football.

The Districts of Corozal and Orange Walk were the first to partake in the one of a kind event.



**Saturday, September 24th, 2016**

The FFB held the second of four FIFA LIVE YOUR GOALS Festival that was attended by young females from The Belize District. Despite the weather, the girls kept it going.



**Saturday, November 12th, 2017**

The third of four FIFA LIVE YOUR GOAL Festivals was held at the FFB National Stadium in Belmopan. LYG Festival three was attended by young girls from the Cayo District, including Belmopan Santa Elena, San Ignacio, and Benque Viejo and surrounding villages.



**Saturday, December 3rd, 2016**

The final FIFA LIVE YOUR GOALS Festival was held at the National Stadium in Belmopan. The festival was attended by young and energetic girls from the Stann Creek and Toledo Districts, including the Mid-south Independence area.

*The FIFA Live Your Goal project is aimed to:*

- Increase the participation of girls and women in football.
- Increase the popularity of women's football locally, nationally and globally.
- Spark, foster, and generate excitement about women's football.
- Create the best platforms for women's football to thrive, with more females becoming lifelong participants in the sport.
- Ensure that football is the number one sport for females across the globe in terms of participation and popularity.





## Goal Keeping Workshop

The FFB and FIFA hosted the first ever Goalkeeping Workshop in Belize. The Workshop was conducted by FIFA Instructor, Clain Plummer and was held at the FFB headquarters. 29 participants, males, and females took part in the weeklong event.



## FIFA Advanced Coaching Course

September, 2016

FIFA Advanced Coaching Course was held at the FFB training facility in Belmopan. The course was conducted by Joe Figge, FIFA Advance Coaching Instructor.





## Grass Roots Coaching Course

October, 2016

FIFA Instructor, Vin Blain conducted a week long Grassroots Coaching Course in Belize. The course was conducted at the FFB training facility in Belmopan and was well attended by males and females from across the country.



## Belize VS Honduras (International Friendly Match)

Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016



The National ‘A’ Team of Belize took on the National Team of Honduras in a hotly contested match at the National Football Stadium in Belmopan.

Honduras struggled to victory with a 2 to 1 score over Belize.

Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
November, 2016

The National “A” Team of Belize traveled to San Pedro Sula, Honduras for a return match against the Honduran National Football Team.

That match was played at the Estadio Olimpico, San Pedro Sula, because the match was not within scheduled FIFA International friendly match dates, it was played behind closed doors. At the end of regulation it was





BELIZE - 0 vs. HONDURAS - 5

## CONCACAF U-17 Championship

November 17<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The National U-17 Football Team of Belize participated in CONCACAF U-17 Championship qualifying tournament held in San Jose, Costa Rica. Although they played very competitive, team Belize recorded no wins at the tournament. They went up against the likes of our Central American neighbors, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras





**Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – The Football Federation of Belize welcomed the arrival of newly hired Head Coach of the Belize National Football Team, Richard Orłowski. Mr. Orłowski is of Polish decent and has twenty years of coaching experience with youth and senior teams.



## UNCAF COPA CENTRO AMERICANA

January 13 to 22, 2017

The National Football Team of Belize participated in the **UNCAF COPA CENTROAMERICANA** that was held in Panama.

The 2017 Copa Centro Americana was the 14th edition of the Copa Centro Americana, the biennial international men's football championship of the Central American region organized by the Central American Football Union (UNCAF).

The tournament was hosted in Panama between 13–22 January 2017. The top four teams qualified for the 2017 CONCACAF Gold Cup, while the fifth-



14

place team advanced to a play-off against the fifth-place team from the 2017 Caribbean Cup for the final Gold Cup berth.

Six of the seven UNCAF members were eligible to participate in the tournament. Guatemala's suspension prevented them from competing.

Team	UNCAF Nations Cup / Copa Centroamericana appearances	Previous best performance	FIFA ranking at start of event
 Belize	11th	4th place (2013)	163
 Costa Rica	14th	Champions (1991, 1997, 1999, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2013, 2014)	17
 El Salvador	14th	3rd place (1995, 1997, 2001, 2003, 2013)	138
 Honduras	14th	Champions (1993, 1995, 2011)	75
 Nicaragua	14th	5th place (2009)	111
 Panama	13th	Champions (2009)	58


All games were played at the Estadio Rommel Fernandez in hosting country Panama.



## Matches played by Team Belize

### Match day 1: Draw

- 13 January, 2017-21:00
- Estadio Rommel Fernandez

Panama 

0-0

 Belize

[Report](#)

— Referee: Ricardo Montero (Costa Rica)

#### Match day 2: Loss


— 15 January 2017- 13:00  
 — Estadio Rommel Fernandez  
 — Referee: Kimbell Ward (Saint Kitts and Nevis)

**Belize** 

**0–3**

[Report](#)

 **Costa Rica**

Ortiz  25', 65'  
 Venegas  51'

#### Match day 3: Loss


— 17 January 2017-16:00  
 — Estadio Rommel Fernandez  
 — Referee: Óscar Moncada (Honduras)

**El Salvador** 


**3–1**


[Report](#)

 **Belize**

McCaulay  43'

Mayén  15'

Barahona  20'

Romero  23'

#### Match day 4: Loss

— 20 January 2017-16:00  
 — Estadio Rommel Fernandez  
 — Referee: Joel Aguilar (El Salvador)

**Nicaragua** 


**3–1**

[Report](#)

 **Belize**

Smith  54' (pen.)

Barrera  30'

Cadena  84'

García  90'

#### Match day 5: Loss


— 22 January 2017-11:00  
 — Estadio Rommel Fernandez  
 — Referee: Kimbell Ward (Saint Kitts and Nevis)

**Belize** 

**0–1**

[Report](#)

 **Honduras**

Hernández  56'

As shown in the standings below, Belize placed 6th out of the 6 Central American nations that participated in that tournament with Honduras taking the title.

## Standings [\[ edit \]](#)

Pos	Team	V·T·E	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	 <b>Honduras (C)</b>		5	4	1	0	7	3	+4	<b>13</b>	Qualification to 2017 CONCACAF Gold Cup
2	 <b>Panama (H)</b>		5	3	1	1	4	2	+2	<b>10</b>	
3	 <b>El Salvador</b>		5	2	1	2	5	4	+1	<b>7</b>	
4	 <b>Costa Rica</b>		5	1	3	1	4	2	+2	<b>6</b>	
5	 <b>Nicaragua</b>		5	1	1	3	5	6	−1	<b>4</b>	Advance to 2017 CONCACAF Gold Cup CFU–UNCAF play-off
6	 <b>Belize</b>		5	0	1	4	2	10	−8	<b>1</b>	



# Team Belize

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## Women's Football

In 2016 the FFB saw an array of activities. On Saturday, May 21st, 2016, Belize along with all CONCACAF countries participated in CONCACAF's Women Football Day.



The event was held at the Governor General Field (GG Field) in Capital City, Belmopan.

The event was well attended and had the participation on young women from various part of the country.

## National Amateur Women's League

The National Open Amateur Women's Development Tournament commenced on Saturday, February 25, 2017.

This tournament was comprised of eight teams from across the country:

- Toledo
- Independence
- Stann Creek
- Belmopan
- Cayo
- Belize
- Orange Walk
- Corozal

These teams faced each other every weekend and the winning team will represent Belize in the UNCAF Women Club Championship which will be held July 2017.

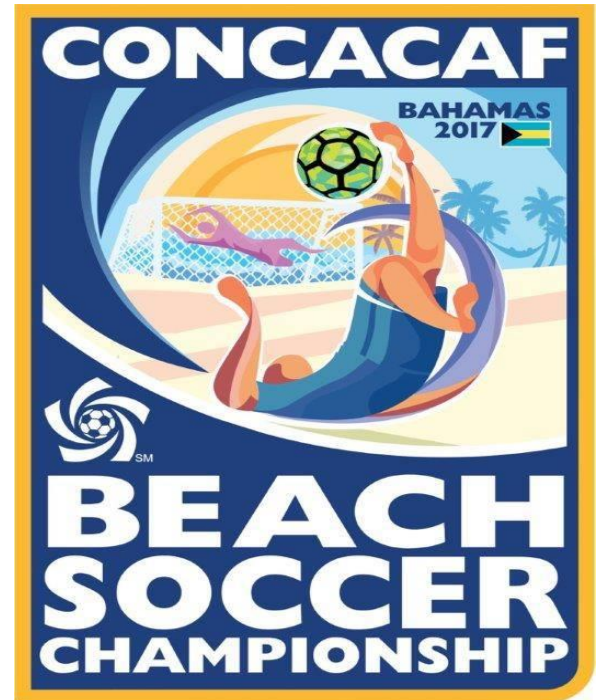


## Beach Soccer

The 2017 *CONCACAF Beach Soccer Championship* took place in Nassau February 20-26, 2017. All matches were played at the Malcolm Beach Soccer Facility.

The tournament aimed to crown the best beach soccer nation on the continent and also served as the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup qualifier for teams from North, Central America and Caribbean which are members of CONCACAF, where the top two teams (Panama and Mexico) qualified for the 2017 FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup also to be held in the Bahamas.

Team Belize placed 13<sup>th</sup> in the entire competition winning four of six games played.





Belize's Marlon Meza walked away with the Golden Boot for being the top scorer in the tournament with 12 goals.



Different Award Winners at CONCACAF Beach Soccer

Marlon Meza

## Matches played by team Belize

FIFA Beach Soccer 2017 Prel. Comp. CONCACAF

20 FEB 2017 Nassau	 JAMAICA	FULL-TIME 5 - 5 Belize win on penalties (0 - 2)	BELIZE 
21 FEB 2017 Nassau	 BAHAMAS	FULL-TIME 3 - 0	BELIZE 
22 FEB 2017 Nassau	 BELIZE	FULL-TIME 1 - 4	GUYANA 
24 FEB 2017 12:45 Nassau	 BELIZE	FULL-TIME 6 - 4 Belize win after extra time	US VIRGIN ISLANDS 
25 FEB 2017 Nassau	 BARBADOS	FULL-TIME 2 - 6	BELIZE 
26 FEB 2017 11:30 Nassau	 BELIZE	FULL-TIME 9 - 4	TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS 

# Beach Soccer in Action





## Referee Development

A Referee Coordinator has been assigned in every district to carry out and monitor the progress of refereeing programs developed by the referee department in order to improve our referee performances. A monthly report will be provided to the referee director on the progress of the referees.





## PLANNING

**Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – The FFB convened a meeting with the Executive Committee, Directors, Member Associations, and Premier League on various matters including a presentation on its Vision, Mission and Values.



The Executive Members of the Football Federation of Belize along with its Management team have worked countless hours in formulating a strategic four-year plan which focuses on the development of football through training, youth development programs, grassroots, tournaments, leagues and a sustainable National Teams program. This will allow our youths and female to compete with the rest of the region in the near future. For too long our females have been neglected and our youth programs have been sporadic. Going forward we plan to restructure the district associations and organize robust youth and female leagues to nurture and develop international caliber players.

