

KIRIBATI performances in the 9th. MICRO Games in Yap. July 2018.

These Games involved Kiribati, Nauru, Marshall Islands, Guam, Northern Marianas and Palau plus the four members of Micronesia - Chuuk, Kosrei, Pohnpei and the hosts Yap. However, Yap did not enter the Athletics.

A team of six male track and field athletes flew with the KNOC team to Yap for these 9th. MICRO Games. The selection of sprinters came to fruition, as it has before, in the 4 x 100m relay, the KAA quartet gaining the bronze medal and breaking the National Record.

The big advance was in the field, especially the jumps. At this sub-regional level, KAA athletes can be successful in jumps and throws. So they achieved gold in both high jump and triple jump, plus silver in long jump.

With four other placings in the top five, this is one of the most rewarding trips undertaken by KAA in the last eight years! Congratulations to all six of them! Next time it would be good to see a similar advance in the throws, plus equal progress from the KAA women.

Date/Event	Heat/Final	Pos/	Name	Performance
16/07				
Mens 100m.	Heats	7/20	Tirioro Willie	11.73
		10	Biira Burennaira	11.85
		16	Kimwaua Makin	11.99
		17	Mobera Tonana	12.10
	FINAL	5/8	Tirioro Willie	11.72
17/07				
Mens Long Jump	FINAL	2/17	Buraieta Yeeting	6.17m.
		5	Biira Burennaira	6.00m.
18/07				
Mens 200m.	Heats	5/13	Titioro Willie	23.34
		6	Mobera Tonana	23.47
		7	Biira Burennaira	23.62
19/07	FINAL	5/8	Tirioro W	23.35
		6	Mobera T	23.39
		7	Biira B	23.74
18/07				
4 x 100m.	FINAL	3/6	Kimwaua/Tirioro/Mobera/Biira	44.11 NR
High Jump	FINAL	1/9	Lataisi Mwea	1.91m.
19/07				
Triple Jump	FINAL	1/8	Biira Burennaira	12.83m.
4 x 400m.	FINAL	5/6	Mobera/Biira/Tirioro/Lataisi	3-48.25

Kiribati Basketball in the 9th. Micro Games in Yap, Micronesia, July 2018.

Twelve male players (not named on the Games web-site) played three group matches. Their results were:- vs. Guam lost 47 - 72; vs. Palau lost 64 - 68; and vs. Pohnpei lost 74 - 87. All ten countries played in this competition.

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Kiribati Volleyball in the 9th. Micro Games held in Yap, Micronesia, July 2018.

(a) Beach Volleyball. (CNMI, Palau, Guam, RMI, Yap & KIR played.)

Three players are mentioned on the Games site: Uerei; Manuera Talaika; and Tokatiraoi Karaiti . (As with all I-Kiribati names it is not possible to know which name is the first name.) In this two-a-side format, in their first international competition , Kiribati reached the final ! If they had been more confident, this could have happened 14 years ago, when KNOC was advised to try. Results:-

Vs. Palau. WON 21 - 19 / 21 - 14.

Vs. Yap. WON 21 - 19 / 21 - 11.

Vs. Guam. WON 21 - 13 / 16 - 21 / 15 - 13. Close !

Semi-Final: BEAT Yap 21 - 9 / 21 - 11.

Final they lost to Palau 17 - 21 / 17 - 21. Thus SILVER Medals !

(b) Indoor Volleyball. (vs. CNMI, Palau, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Guam, Nauru, Yap,)

The players listed were:

Tiaon Riakim.

Kakoroa Bauro.

Namatang Barry.

Rotan Webaua.

Nabura Autin.

Hirata Natareira.

Tioieta Auro.

Kabure Bamatoa.

Aroman Raoi.

Tommy Highland.

Emosi Charles Corrie.

Karotu Mareweniti.

Takarawa Rurenteiti.

Kaotiraoi Karaiti.

Results were:-

Vs. CNMI. WON 3 - 0. 25-10/25-15/25-17.

Vs. Guam. WON 3 - 0. 25-22/25-18/25-19. Close !

Vs. Yap. WON 3 - 2. 25-13/22-25/25-23/25-27/20-18. V. close !

Vs. Palau. LOST 0 - 3. 25-27/20-25/21-25.

Vs. Chuuk. Forfeited. (Reason not known.)

Vs. Pohnpei. LOST 0 - 3. 21-25/15-25/21-25.

Semi-Final: LOST 2 - 3 to Palau 25-19/21-25/25-17/15-25/13-15.

BRONZE medal match with Pohnpei. **WON 3-0. 25-22/25-21/25-12.**

According to the Games site, all this without a travelling coach ! So these players certainly justified their journey ! Brilliant effort !

Summarised from the Micro Games site by David Little, who worked as a teacher in Kiribati from 1997 to 2011. July 2018.