

I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Resolutions Log Sheet

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Referred	Committee / Ofc Referred	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	Date Adopted
405-33 (LS)	T. R. Muña Barnes B. J.F. Cruz Frank F. Blas, Jr.	Relative to commending and congratulating the Guam Women's National Rugby Team who made history by taking second (2nd) place in the Asia Rugby 7s Tournament in Chennai, India; and to further extending <i>Un Dângkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse</i> for their commitment, dedication and passion to growing the sport of Rugby on Guam and for being stellar Sports Ambassadors of our island.	06/17/16 4:05 a.m.	07/14/16 5:00 p.m.					06/14/16

I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2016 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 405-33 (LS)

Introduced by:

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Relative to commending and congratulating the Guam Women's National Rugby Team who made Guam history by taking second (2nd) place at the Asia Rugby Sevens Tournament in Chennai, India; and to further extending *Un Dångkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to them for their commitment, dedication, and passion to growing the sport of rugby on Guam, and for being stellar Sports Ambassadors of our island.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, in 2005, the sport of rugby was introduced in Guam's high
4 schools through the Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam

1 (IIAAG), with five (5) female teams playing flag rugby and five (5) male teams
2 playing tackle rugby; and

3 **WHEREAS**, in 2006, Guam was invited to participate in the Hong Kong
4 Women’s Sevens Tournament alongside international teams from powerhouses such
5 as New Zealand and Australia, as well as the USA and the Netherlands. The host team
6 of Hong Kong and other teams from Asia, including Japan, China, Kazakhstan,
7 Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Singapore participated in the tournament. Guam’s lack of
8 match practice was evident and the team returned without a win; but they realized the
9 team was better in gaining the experience, and thus they were determined to improve.
10 Still, the team was able to claim a Guam first in that the Guam National Team played
11 against the USA National Team – a situation that some believe remains a unique event
12 in Guam’s sporting history; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in March 2009, the women’s team returned to the Hong Kong
14 Women’s Sevens playing against recently crowned World Champion Australia, as
15 well as Tunisia, host Hong Kong, Singapore, and the Arabian Gulf. In June 2009,
16 Guam made its first appearance at an Asian Women’s Sevens tournament and were
17 ranked at tenth (10th) entering the ten (10) team competition; and Guam surprised
18 everyone at the tournament finishing as runners-up in the Plate Competition and
19 placing sixth (6th) overall; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in October 2009, Guam visited China at their invitation to play
21 four (4) matches over a two (2)-day period. The purpose for the tour was to expose
22 the team to strong international competition over a period similar to that of the East
23 Asian Games being held in December 2009, at which time the team headed for the
24 East Asian Games to play China, Hong Kong, and Japan. In another surprise for
25 observers, Guam beat host Hong Kong 12-0 in the first match to earn a semi-final

1 match against Japan. Guam kept close to Japan for much of that match but lost 19-7,
2 and was then beaten by Hong Kong in the Bronze Medal match; and
3 **WHEREAS**, in 2010, Guam took a national team disguised as a “University” team to
4 the 2010 World University Rugby Championships in Portugal; for the record, Guam
5 played six (6) matches losing the first four (4) to Canada (55-0), Italy (32-0), Ukraine
6 (36-5) and Portugal (50-0), to be relegated to the Bowl Competition where Guam
7 again met Ukraine (losing 47-7). In the final match, the ladies team played their
8 hearts out to defeat Norway (24-7) and they took ninth (9th) place at the tournament.
9 The players represented Guam well and enjoyed the spirit and festivity of a more
10 relaxed rugby tournament in Portugal; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in 2011, Guam took a small team, in both stature and player
12 numbers, to the Pacific Games; and while they were overwhelmed by the more
13 experienced Fijians, they were able to score points against other experienced
14 opponents and finished in seventh (7th) place beating Tahiti in the final match. In
15 2015, however, funding constraints led to the Guam women’s team having a hiatus
16 until the Asia Rugby Development tournament in Chennai, India. With only nine (9)
17 players of the allowed twelve (12), Guam again exceeded expectations and returned in
18 third (3rd) place despite beating eventual winners Uzbekistan in pool play; and

19 **WHEREAS**, in 2016, the team is comprised mostly of returning senior players.
20 There are eight (8) senior players who have one (1) or more international competitions
21 under their belt who have competed in either Thailand in 2013, or India, Japan, or
22 Hong Kong in 2015. This time around, they traveled with four (4) debutantes, who are
23 all fresh out of high school or graduated within the last two (2) years. The team is
24 made up of players who grew into the sport of rugby throughout the various high

1 schools on Guam, notably George Washington High School, the Academy of Our
2 Lady of Guam, *Okkodo* High School, and Notre Dame High School; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Women’s National Rugby Team traveled and competed
4 at the Asia Rugby Sevens Development Series in Chennai, India, where they
5 challenged teams from Nepal, Indonesia, India, and South Korea. They went
6 undefeated in the pool play and took second (2nd) place in the competition, which is
7 the first time that a Guam Women’s Rugby Team has made it into a final match and
8 placed, compared to 2015 when they placed third (3rd) at the same competition in
9 India due to point differentials against Uzbekistan and India; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Guam coach Dean Kaio and captain Olivia Flores were clearly
11 disappointed but very proud that the team, which featured four (4) new players, was
12 able to exceed expectations and go through pool play undefeated, scoring great tries
13 and defending resolutely; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Captain Olivia Flores expressed that the outcome of the
15 tournament really exemplified the huge amount of heart and determination their team
16 had, and that they definitely exceeded all the standards they set for themselves and it
17 made all their training and sacrifices worth it. She also said they worked so hard to get
18 where they are and that it is only the beginning, while sharing the motto: “We can and
19 we will. We are Guam Rugby!”; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Coach Dean Kaio was equally enthusiastic. He expressed that “It
21 is hard to be disappointed when all of our ladies put the hearts and bodies on the line
22 for their team and for Guam. I continue to enjoy my association with Team Guam
23 Ladies and am immensely proud of their commitment to improvement as well as their
24 passion and pride in playing for Guam”; now therefore, be it

1 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
2 on behalf of the people of Guam, commend and congratulate the Guam Women's
3 National Rugby Team who made Guam history by taking second (2nd) place at the
4 Asia Rugby Sevens Tournament in Chennai, India; and does further extend *Un*
5 *Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to them for their commitment, dedication and passion
6 to growing the sport of rugby on Guam, and for being stellar Sports Ambassadors of
7 our island; and be it further

8 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
9 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Guam
10 Women's National Rugby Team; to the Independent Interscholastic Athletic
11 Association of Guam (IIAAG); and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I*
12 *Maga'låhen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 14TH DAY OF JUNE 2016.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary