

OCA SALUTES HAIYANG 2012

3rd Asian Beach Games Special Edition

[China tops medals table](#)

[OCA President tours Athletes' Village](#)

[Sport by Sport rundown](#)

[Opening Ceremony Photo Gallery](#)



BRIGHT FUTURE FOR BEACH GAMES FORMULA



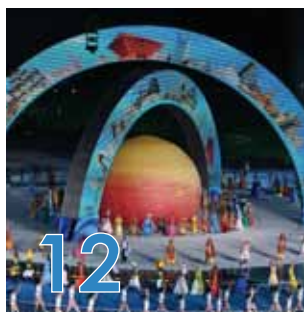
The Asian Beach Games have come a long way in a short time. From humble beginnings at Bali, Indonesia, in October 2008, the Beach Games developed quickly with the second edition in Muscat, Oman, in December 2010.

The success of the 3rd Asian Beach Games in Haiyang, China, is further evidence of the popularity of the format, combining competitive sport in a spectator-friendly environment and showcasing the natural beauty of the host city.

We are very proud of our Asian Beach Games, and - through the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) - have begun to explore the possibility of staging an International Beach Games in the near future. For this we must thank the Asian organisers.

The birth and rapid growth of the Asian Beach Games have provided a blueprint for a sand and sea sports festival on a much grander scale, and the organisers of the Bali, Muscat and Haiyang events deserve immense credit for their pioneering work, vision, planning and operational expertise.

The Asian Beach Games are going from strength to strength and have reached a level of maturity and brand profile that is hard to imagine considering the first edition was held less than four years ago. Thank you to everyone for making the Asian Beach Games a complete success.



Contents

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 China tops medals table | 15 Beach Soccer |
| 4 - 5 Overview, Facts and Figures | 16 Beach Volleyball |
| 6 - 7 Join Sheikh Ahmad on his Village tour | 17 Beach Woodball |
| 8 Kabaddi award for OCA
Volunteers come from near and far | 18 Dragon Boat |
| 9 Beach Basketball | 19 Powered Paragliding |
| 10 Beach Handball | 20 Roller Skating |
| 11 Beach Kabaddi | 21 Sport Climbing |
| 12 - 13 Opening Ceremony Photo Gallery | 22 Waterski/Wakeboard |
| 14 Beach Sepaktakraw | 23 Windsurfing |
| | 24 Closing Ceremony: Phuket 2014 |

SPORTING ASIA

Sporting Asia is the official newsletter of the Olympic Council of Asia, published quarterly.

Executive Editor / Director General
Husain Al-Musallam
husain@ocasia.org

Art Director / IT Manager
Amer El Alami
amer@ocasia.org

Director, Int'l & NOC Relations
Vinod Tiwari
vinod@ocasia.org

Director, Asian Games Department
Haider A. Farman
haider@ocasia.org

Editor
Jeremy Walker
jeremy@ocasia.org

Executive Secretary
Nayaf Sraji
nayaf@ocasia.org

Media Manager
Jian Zhou
jeans@ocasia.org

Graphic Designer
Abdul Muneem Khan
khansaab_29@yahoo.com

Olympic Council of Asia
PO Box 6706, Hawalli
Zip Code 32042
Kuwait

Telephone: +965 25717196
Fax: +965 25734973
Email: info@ocasia.org
Website: www.ocasia.org

Front cover:

The grace and poise of the victory ceremony assistants captivated athletes and spectators alike.

FINAL FLOURISH TAKES CHINA TO THE TOP

China finished on top of the medals table of the 3rd Asian Beach Games by winning four gold medals on the final day of competition to surge past Thailand in what had become a two-team race.

It was the first time China had finished in first place in the Asian Beach Games rankings after coming third in Bali 2008 and second in Muscat 2010.

Their steady march to the top, then, was quite predictable on home sand and sea, but nevertheless added another stirring chapter to their glorious sports history in Asia and the world.

China won 14 of the 49 events and added 10 silver and 12 bronze medals for a tally of 36 – also the highest ranking by total medals.

Thailand, overall champions in 2010, had to settle for second place with 13 gold, nine silver and six bronze for 28, and will be plotting to regain top spot when they host the 4th Asian Beach Games in Phuket in November 2014.




Ten NOCs won gold medals, and 23 NOCs won at least one medal.

China's 14 gold medals came from: 3 – sport climbing, water-ski; 2 – roller skating, dragon boat, windsurfing; 1 – powered paragliding, beach handball.



China's first gold medal-winner, Guo Dan, in the women's 10,000m points race in roller skating.

FINAL MEDALS TABLE

Rank	Country				Total
1	China	14	10	12	36
2	Thailand	13	9	6	28
3	Korea	6	7	10	23
4	Indonesia	6	6	4	16
5	Chinese Taipei	3	6	6	15
6	India	2	0	1	3
7	Iran	2	0	0	2
8	Japan	1	3	2	6
9	Afghanistan	1	0	0	1
9	Qatar	1	0	0	1
11	Philippines	0	2	2	4
12	Vietnam	0	2	1	3
13	Pakistan	0	1	1	2
13	Kazakhstan	0	1	1	2
15	Turkmenistan	0	1	0	1
15	Bahrain	0	1	0	1
17	Sri Lanka	0	0	2	2
18	Mongolia	0	0	1	1
18	Bangladesh	0	0	1	1
18	Brunei Darussalam	0	0	1	1
18	Singapore	0	0	1	1
18	Laos	0	0	1	1
18	Palestine	0	0	1	1
Total		49	49	54	152

HIGH PRAISE FOR HAIYANG 2012

When Haiyang was awarded the 3rd Asian Beach Games by the OCA in December 2006, the “Sand and Sun” of the slogan existed but little else.

A village by Chinese standards with a population of only 700,000, this outpost on the Yellow Sea coast in rural Shandong province had been by-passed by the economic boom surging through China’s major cities and industrial centres.

Then the “Building of Haiyang” began at a furious pace - and, by the time of the Opening Ceremony on June 16, the host city had been transformed into a vibrant, modern seaside resort ready to welcome the Asian Olympic Movement.

New roads, new hotels, new government buildings and even a new cross-sea bridge to improve communications with Qingdao...all this infrastructure was put in place thanks to the impact of hosting the 3rd Asian Beach Games.

When the Games closed down on June 22 and the athletes and officials headed for home, the legacy of this investment will remain in the daily life of the local citizens, proud of what their

hometown had achieved on such an international scale.

The Games also gave Haiyang the opportunity to showcase its sandy beaches and the natural beauty of Zhao Hu Mountain National Forest Park, where the dragon boat and waterski/wakeboard events took place amidst magnificent scenery.

Organisers were delighted with the number of spectators who attended the 13 sports, and the OCA was delighted with the atmosphere created at the venues, especially the four zones of Fengxiang Beach.

Sparkling new stadiums, most of them temporary constructions, were decked out in the fresh, bright look of the Games, while the tented venue villages, the beat of the summer music and the spectator-friendly announcements and commentary generated a festive mood.

Asia was on vacation in Haiyang – a fourth-level county in China’s massive government structure that will never be the same again.



A warm welcome from Hua Ling dance school.



The green and white uniforms of the volunteers were everywhere.



The look of the Games, at Zhao Hu Mountain.



The five-star Shenglong Jianguo Hotel - OCA HQ.



FACTS BOX

Opening Ceremony: June 16

Closing Ceremony: June 22

Opened by: Ma Kai, State Councilor

Closed by: Timothy Fok, OCA Vice President

Sports: 13

Events: 49

NOCs: 45

Athletes: 1,338 (862 male, 476 female)

NOC Officials: 455

Technical Officials: 549

Media: 273

Host Broadcast Staff: 424

Volunteers: 7,200

Printed Accreditation: 20,995



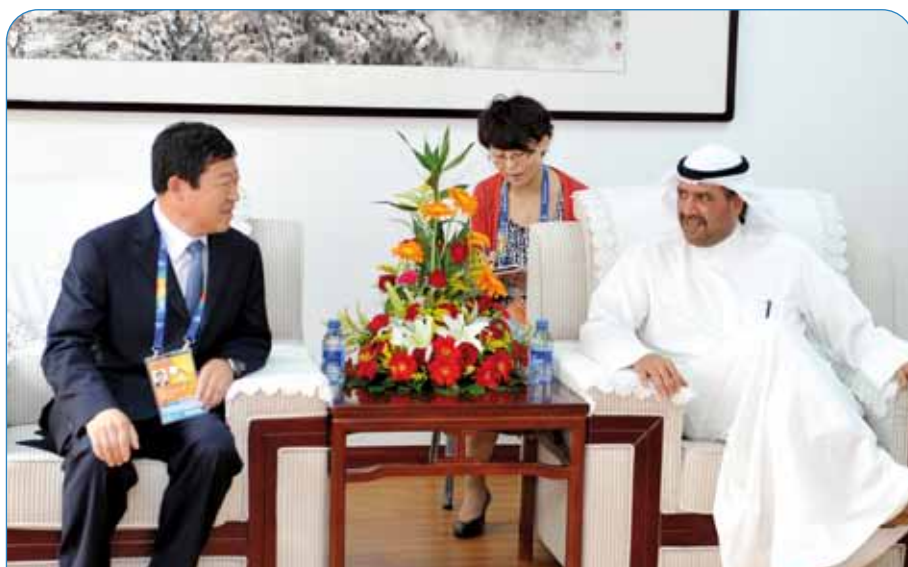
That's entertainment!



Feel the Passion! The compact venues brought the spectators close to the action.



All aboard for the Athletes' Village tour



Village Mayor Li Yingzuo welcomes Sheikh Ahmad



A souvenir photo with Sheikh Ahmad at Flag Plaza

OCA President dines

The Olympic Council of Asia President, H.E. Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, felt the pulse of the 3rd Asian Beach Games on a hectic first morning of competition on Sunday, June 17.

His day began with a visit to the roller skating venue, where he was greeted by Liu Peng, President of the Chinese Olympic Committee and China's Sports Minister.

The two sports leaders presented the first gold medals of the 3rd Asian Beach Games – to Guo Dan (China) in the women's 10,000-metre points race and to Chen Yan-Cheng (Chinese Taipei) in the men's event.

The motorcade of sports dignitaries, OCA and organising committee staff, security personnel and domestic and overseas media then made the short journey to the Main Media Centre, where the OCA President gave a press conference, along with COC Vice President and Deputy Sports Minister Yang Shu'an.

After an opening statement and question and answer session

out for Sunday lunch

lasting around 45 minutes, Sheikh Ahmad and his entourage entered the Athletes' Village, where they exchanged saloon cars and mini-buses for bright and breezy golf karts.

First port of call was the office of Village Mayor Li Yingzuo. Sheikh Ahmad congratulated him for his hard work and preparations for the Games, and said he was very happy to be in Haiyang and to 'Share the Joy' with the local people and Village residents.

Before departing, Sheikh Ahmad wrote a lengthy message in Arabic as a permanent souvenir of his visit.

The OCA President then headed for the athletes' dining hall, where he chose his lunch from the Halal counter and sat down to eat along with other officials, before going walkabout greeting athletes from various countries and regions.

After a round of TV interviews near Flag Plaza and more souvenir photos, Sheikh Ahmad left the Village for the OCA HQ hotel to round off a memorable trip.



Sunday lunch in the athletes' dining hall



A moment to remember for the Philippines



A TV interview in the Athletes' Village

KABADDI HONOURS OCA'S WEI JIZHONG

The opening morning of beach kabaddi on June 19 was marked by a special presentation to Mr Wei Jizhong, Honorary Life Vice President of the OCA and former Chairman of the OCA Sports Committee. The veteran Chinese sports leader received a commemorative plaque from Mr Janardan Singh Gehlot, President of the Indian, Asian and International Kabaddi Federations and Vice President of the Indian Olympic Association, in recognition of his initiative to introduce kabaddi at the 1990 Asian Games in Beijing.

Mr Wei even had some advice for China on how to establish kabaddi, as it was the only sport on the Haiyang programme which the host country did not enter.

"I recommend them to develop kabaddi in the remote countryside because with kabaddi you do not need any equipment. For some sports you need at least a ball, but with kabaddi, nothing," he said.

"You cannot start to develop kabaddi in the cities. This is the wrong tactic." Kabaddi, a rough-and-tumble team tag sport, has its roots in the rural villages of the Indian sub-continent but, thanks to the Asian Games, is now played far and wide in countries such as Japan, Iran and Thailand.



Wei Jizhong receives his kabaddi award.

VOLUNTEERS – PROUD TO SERVE HAIYANG AND ASIA

Over 7,000 volunteers were on duty during the 3rd Asian Beach Games, coming from near and far to serve Haiyang during its moment in the international sports spotlight.

Take, for example, this pair of Shandong Institute of Business and Technology students, Jenny Zhan Yi, 23, and Zhang Xiangying, 21.

"I am a local girl, from Yantai, and I want to show our culture to all the people of Asia," said law student Jenny.

"Our school is supporting us to be volunteers by giving us 22 days leave. Almost 300 people from our school are here as volunteers and the school has put our exams back to next month so we can gain the experience of the Asian Beach Games.

"I am young and want to do something to help others. I want to learn how to work with others and serve others. This is the first time for me to do this volunteer work and it is a challenge."

Her friend, Xiangying, a political science student from Henan province - a journey of 16 hours by train - said she was looking forward to meeting people from different countries while serving the Games.



Jenny Zhan Yi (left) and Zhang Xiangying in the Athletes' Village.



Beach Basketball

The 3 x 3 format on the synthetic court was frantic for the players and fun for the spectators. India surprised China 17-14 in the women's final before Afghanistan proved too strong for Turkmenistan in the men's final, winning 16-9. There were bronze medals for the Philippines (women) and Mongolia (men).



Golden smiles from India.



Basketball attracted entries from across Asia.



Afghanistan's Nafi Mashriqi competes for the ball with Turkmenistan's Aleksandr Pashkov.



Qatar won their only gold medal of the Games in men's beach handball, beating Gulf rivals Bahrain 2-0 in the final. Pakistan took the bronze. The women's final was an East Asian affair, as China downed Chinese Taipei 2-0. Vietnam claimed the bronze.



Another fine left from "Pak-man".



Qatar and Bahrain play out a Gulf derby.



Qatar - jumping for joy.



Beach Kabaddi

South Asian powerhouse India had to settle for only one of the two gold medals. The Indian women were much too strong for an improving Thailand, winning the final 54-25, but the Indian men lost in the semi-finals to Pakistan 32-30. In the final, Iran saw off Pakistan 39-33 to claim a famous gold medal.



The men get down to business...



...and so do the women



"Where do you think you're going?" India overpowers Thailand

SEA CREATURES AND BEACH PART



The cauldron burns brightly.



The moon shines and sparkles.



Welcome Japan!



The spectators join in the fun.



Orange hats share the joy.

IES LIGHT UP OPENING CEREMONY



The Opening Ceremony in full flow.



Balancing act between the mascots.



The OCA flag is brought into the stadium.

Beach Sepaktakraw



Thailand recorded a clean sweep of the four gold medals, winning the team and regu events in the men's and women's competitions. Their agility and acrobatics also won over many new fans to the action-packed South-East Asian sport as sepaktakraw was played at Zone A of Fengxiang Beach, in the heart of the tourist area.



All gold for Thailand.



Spectators try and catch a souvenir.



Flying high – the thrills of sepaktakraw.



Everyone on the podium at the men's victory ceremony was a winner. Iran took the gold by taming China 2-0, but at least the long-suffering Chinese soccer fans could celebrate a silver medal. Palestine held off Lebanon 6-5 to win the bronze and promptly planted their flag in the centre of the pitch amidst delirious celebrations.



A proud day for Palestine.



The net bulges – goal, goal, goal!



The final between China and Iran is fiercely contested.

Beach Volleyball



In a gripping women's final, Thailand's Varapatsorn Radarong and Tanarattha Udomchavee fought back from one set down to beat China's Hu Anna and Chen Chunxia 16-14 in the tiebreak. In the men's event, Indonesia's Koko Prasetyo Darkuncoro and Ade Candra Rachmawan downed Kazakhstan's Alexey Kuleshov and Dmitriy Yakovlev in straight sets.



Kazakhstan's Alexey Kuleshov digs in the sand.



No 1 – that's Thailand.



"Put it there, partner!" Indonesia on their way to gold.



Beach Woodball

Although woodball has its origins in Chinese Taipei, there is no doubting the kings – and queens – of the sandy fairways. For the second consecutive Asian Beach Games, Thailand won all four gold medals, in men's and women's teams and the next day in the individual events through Chinnakrit Imkrajang (men) and Praewpan Chaithong (women).



Going for the gate.



Thailand's individual champions.



The beach woodball village and course, with tourist hotels in the background.

Dragon Boat



Nine Dragons Lake in Zhao Hu Mountain National Forest Park provided a spectacular setting for the colourful and competitive dragon boat races. Indonesia won four of the six gold medals (men's 200m straight, 500m straight and 3,000m round and women's 3,000m round), and China collected the other two (women's 200m straight and 500m straight).



Indonesia celebrates another gold medal.



Nine Dragons Lake - ideal for dragon boat racing.



The action was fast and furious during the dragon boat races.



Half-Thai, half-Czech daredevil George Macak, who designed, built and flew his own machine, went home with three gold medals and a silver for Thailand from the four events. He won the open individual combined and open individual precision classes and was a member of Thailand's first-placed open team combined. China's Sheng Guangqiang flew to gold in the open individual economy.



Indonesian birdman Bambang Santoso prepares for takeoff.



It is now safe to switch on your mobile phone.



Feeling the Olympic spirit...and almost the Olympic flame.

Roller Skating



Chinese Taipei's three gold medals all came in roller skating, through Kao Mao-Chieh (men's 200m time trial), Chen Yan-Cheng (men's 10,000m points) and Li Meng-Chu (women's 20,000m elimination). Korea also won three gold - Lee Myung Kyu (men's 500m sprint), Son Geun Seong (men's 20,000m elimination) and Shin So Yeong (women's 500m sprint) - and China claimed the other two titles: Zang Yinglu in the women's 200m time trial and Guo Dan in the women's 10,000m points.



The wheel deal!



Golden celebrations for Chinese Taipei.



Roller skating athletes impressed spectators with their speed and stamina.



Sport Climbing

Korea's Kim Ja In climbed to two individual gold medals in women's bouldering and women's lead, and compatriot Min Hyun Bin won Korea's third sport climbing gold in men's lead. China also won three of the eight gold medals on offer, though Zhong Qixin (men's speed), Wang Yang (women's speed) and women's speed relay. There was one gold apiece for Indonesia (men's speed relay) and Japan, for Atsushi Shimizu in men's bouldering.



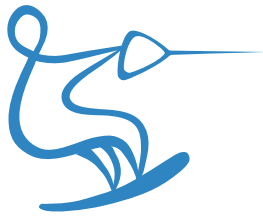
Spiderwoman visits Haiyang.



A gripping experience.



Korea's Kim Ja In climbs to the top.



China dominated the waterski/wakeboard events on the last day of competition, winning three of the four gold medals to overtake Thailand and finish on top. Shi Longfei (men's tricks) and Song Yufei (women's tricks) cleaned up in waterski, and Han Qiu won the women's wakeboard. Thailand's Tatsanai Kuakoonrat (men's wakeboard) prevented a Chinese grand slam.



Tricky stuff in women's waterskiing.



You just keep me hanging on.



The spray flies in men's wakeboard.



China mastered the waves and sailed to both gold medals in T293. Teenager Wei Bipeng, 17 this year, won eight of the 11 men's races and had two second places and a fourth, while Feng Yihua, 16, finished first in seven of the 11 rounds for women over five days of competition.



Fully focused on the Yellow Sea.



OCA Vice President Timothy Fok attends the women's medal ceremony.



The windsurfing competition in full flow.

4th Asian Beach Games

Phuket, Thailand: November 14 – 21, 2014



Thai culture in the closing ceremony.

PHUKET, LET'S BOOK IT FOR 2014



in November 2014.

As a world-famous tourist paradise, Phuket needs no introduction, but the laid-back atmosphere of the "Pearl of the Andaman

The curtain came down on the Haiyang Asian Beach Games on Friday, June 22, when a short and sweet closing ceremony lasting 60 minutes was held at Heqing Stadium.

The flame was extinguished and the OCA flag was passed on to the next host of the ABG – Phuket, Thailand,

Sea" will be put to one side when beach battles resume.

Thailand, whose National Olympic Committee receives strong support from the government's Sports Authority, sent 160 athletes to Haiyang and finished second in the medals table to China, winning 13 of the 49 gold medals on offer.

The NOC President and Deputy Prime Minister, General Yuthasak Sasiprapha, received the OCA flag from OCA Vice President Timothy Fok before passing it on to NOC Executive Sombat Kuruphan. A short cultural performance set the scene for the Thai delights awaiting the visitors to Phuket in just over two years' time.

The 4th ABG, featuring 17 sports at two main hubs, will take place from November 14-21, 2014.

OCA Sponsors Club

