



# RNOSC & RWANDA CGA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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**JANUARY - MARCH 2022**



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## O. Foreword by the RNOSC & Rwanda CGA President

**Dear Readers,**

We are delighted to release the Quarterly Newsletter of both Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) and Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association (Rwanda CGA) of January to March 2022;

This platform is a source of information for you covering every activity of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee/Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association.

Over the last three months, we managed to organize a technical course for coaches – level 1 with 29 participants including 8 women and 3 Para Table Tennis coaches, celebrating the Commonwealth Day 2022 by focusing on promoting inclusion in sport, supporting the Martial Arts Sports Festival 1st Edition and hosting the Ordinary General Assembly 2022.

I would like to highly appreciate the contribution of the RNOSC members, partners and individuals to the first quarter's success.

Let me conclude my message by encouraging the Rwanda Sport Movement to fully contribute to Kwibuka 28 Commemoration Activities.

Happy reading!

Sincerely,

**Theo UWAYO**  
President





# I. Technical Course – Level 1 for 29 Table Tennis Coaches

From the 17th to the 26th January 2022, the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) in partnership with the Rwanda Table Tennis Federation successfully organized a technical course for coaches – level 1 and 29 participants including 8 women and 3 Para Table Tennis coaches.

The 10-day workshop that held at Centre Christus – Remera, 28 out of 29 participants were awarded completion certificates and the course consisted of theoretical and practical knowledge and was conducted by Mr. Cédric ROULEAU

who is an International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Expert.

The participants also had an

opportunity to internally compete to deeply understand what they have learned through actions.



Participants learning through practice.



Cédric ROULEAU, the ITTF Expert during the practice session with participants.

Beside the knowledge, with support of the Mauritius Table Tennis Federation, Ping Sans Frontières and Go Sport Company, Mr. Cédric ROULEAU donated Table Tennis balls, nets, paddles and books to the Rwanda Table Tennis Federation

On January 18, 2022, the Secretary General of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Mr. Joseph KAJANGWE together with the President of Rwanda Table Tennis Federation Mr. John Bosco Birungi officiated the opening ceremony of the training while the closing ceremony was attended by the President of Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Mr. Theo UWAYO and the representative of Ministry of Sports Mr. Gervais MUNYANZIZA.

At the opening ceremony of the workshop, the President of the Rwanda Table Tennis Federation, said: "Our coaches were not at the required level and needed to be

trained in order to make the game more professional. I also take this opportunity to thank the RNOSC

and the Ministry of Sports for their partnership to make this happen."



Table Tennis equipment donated to Table Tennis Federation.



The President of Rwanda Table Tennis Federation John Bosco Birungi speaking at the opening ceremony of the technical course, January 18.



# TABLE TENNIS TECHNICAL COURSE FOR COACHES - LEVEL 1

17-26 January 2022 @ Christus de Remera



In his opening remarks, the RNOSC Secretary General:

**“Our responsibilities include assisting our members (National Sports Federations) in technical or management training. The 10-day course is for 29 coaches so we hope that at least each district will have a trained table tennis coach.”**

The RNOSC Secretary General Joseph KAJANGWE speaking at the opening ceremony, January 18.

The expert Cédric ROULEAU praised the inclusiveness when it came to the representation of participants: “There are active and former players in the national team.

The Rwanda Schools Sports Federation is also represented and for the sustainable development of the game, it is always good to promote it in schools. People with disabilities and women have also taken part of in the course.”

Révérien NSABIMANA, a trainee from Ruhango District, said they are going to start implementing what they have been taught in their clubs, which are located in different parts of the country and the federation pledged to keep assisting them.

During his closing remarks, the representative of the Ministry of Sports Gervais MUNYANZIZA:

**“I congratulate the RNOSC and Table Tennis Federation for the initiative.**

**The Ministry will continue to closely work with various**

**stakeholders such as the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee to further accelerate the development of sports sector.”**







At its conclusion, the RNOSC President Theo UWAYO, urged the participants to go back in their respective clubs and share the skills they have learned during this 10-day training with their members.

**“This is a high-level training course, which was provided by the International Table Tennis Federation Expert Mr. Cédric ROULEAU. I hope it will help produce more table tennis players in country under the Federation’s lead in the near**

The RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO giving his closing remarks, January 26, 2022.



Group photo after receiving the certificates

For more photos of the technical course:  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/158785774@N02/albums/72177720296043835>”





## II. The Rwanda CGA joined forces with NPC Rwanda to celebrate the Commonwealth Day 2022



The Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association (Rwanda CGA) in partnership with the National Paralympic Committee of Rwanda (NPC Rwanda) celebrated the Commonwealth Day 2022 on the 16th of March by organizing a Wheelchair Basketball 3X3 competition and skills challenge

contest which took place at the NPC Gymnasium.

Four teams competed and the results are as follows; INGANIZI team (1st place), INDASHYIKIRWA team (2nd place), INDANGAMIRWA team (3rd place) and INGERI team (4th

place) while for the skills challenge contest, six players competed and the top 3 were awarded including MUTABARE Joseph won the gold medal with trophy, MUHIRWA Hashim took home silver medal and HABAMENSHI Jean Claude got bronze.



Some photos of winners on podium:

During this year's annual celebration, the Rwanda CGA focused on promoting inclusion in sport and the event was graced by the Rwanda CGA President Mr. Theo Uwayo, the Governance Team Leader for British High Commission in Rwanda Mr. Adam Drury and NPC Rwanda Representative Mr. Jean Marie Nsengiyumva.

Their speeches revolved around the importance of celebrating Commonwealth Day and of sport itself.

NPC Rwanda representative Mr. Jean Marie Nsengiyumva: **"It is not just about playing, we also use sport for social development and social integration. Wheelchair basketball is a new sport in Rwanda with another opportunity to attract people with disabilities to be part of sport movement. We also hope that one of our athletes in Para-Athletics will participate at the upcoming Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games."**



Mr. Jean Marie Nsengiyumva speaking at the Commonwealth Day 2022, March 16.

The British High Commission Representative, Mr. Adam Drury:

**"I am so happy to celebrate the Commonwealth Day 2022 with Rwandan community as we reflect on the Commonwealth values. The theme of this year, "Delivering a Common Future", is celebrated today around parasport with Wheelchair Basketball. Indeed, sport is an important element that brings everyone together. The Birmingham 2022 will be really exciting – inclusion and equality will be at the heart of the games and Wheelchair Basketball will be integrated for its first time into the sports events. I am really looking forward to cheering of course the UK Team but also the Rwanda Team in July."**



The British High Commission Representative, Mr. Adam Drury addressing the participants at Commonwealth Day 2022, March 16.





Rwanda CGA President Theo UWAYO: **"In honour of the Commonwealth Day 2022 celebration, the Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association decided to celebrate this special day by promoting inclusion in sport which is one of pillars of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. In partnership with the Ministry of Sports and National Sports Federations, we are working closely to make sure that we are fully supporting our athletes ahead of this international multi-sport event."**

The theme for Commonwealth Day 2022 centred around the theme for the forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, **"Delivering a Common Future"**, which highlights how the 54 member countries in the Commonwealth family are 'innovating, connecting and transforming' to help achieve goals like fighting climate change, promoting good governance and boosting trade.

The Commonwealth Day is a significant day in the royal calendar and normally, it is held every year on the second Monday of March, to celebrate the unity, diversity, the

shared Commonwealth values and links of the modern Commonwealth as it brings people together for

dialogues and reflection upon the designated theme of the year.



The Rwanda CGA President Mr. Theo UWAYO giving his closing remarks at the Commonwealth Day 2022, March 16.



The Commonwealth Day celebration event was concluded with a group photo

For more photos of the celebration, click here:  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/158785774@N02/albums/72177720297775912>





### III. Rwanda Martial Arts Sports Federations successfully hosted the first-ever festival.

Young athletes in boxing showcasing their fighting skills in the ring at Martial Arts Sports Festival – March 19, 2022.



On 19th of March 2022, the Rwanda Martial Arts Sports Federations represented by the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) in partnership with Kigali Arena organized the first-ever festival named "Martial Art Sports

Festival 1st Edition" with purpose of promoting unity, togetherness and development among all Martial Art Sports in Rwanda.

Five Martial Arts Sports Federations namely Karate, Taekwondo, Judo,

Kung-Fu and Wushu, and Boxing participated and showcased their uniqueness through brilliant performances by seniors, juniors and children who entertained a full house of spectators at Kigali Arena.

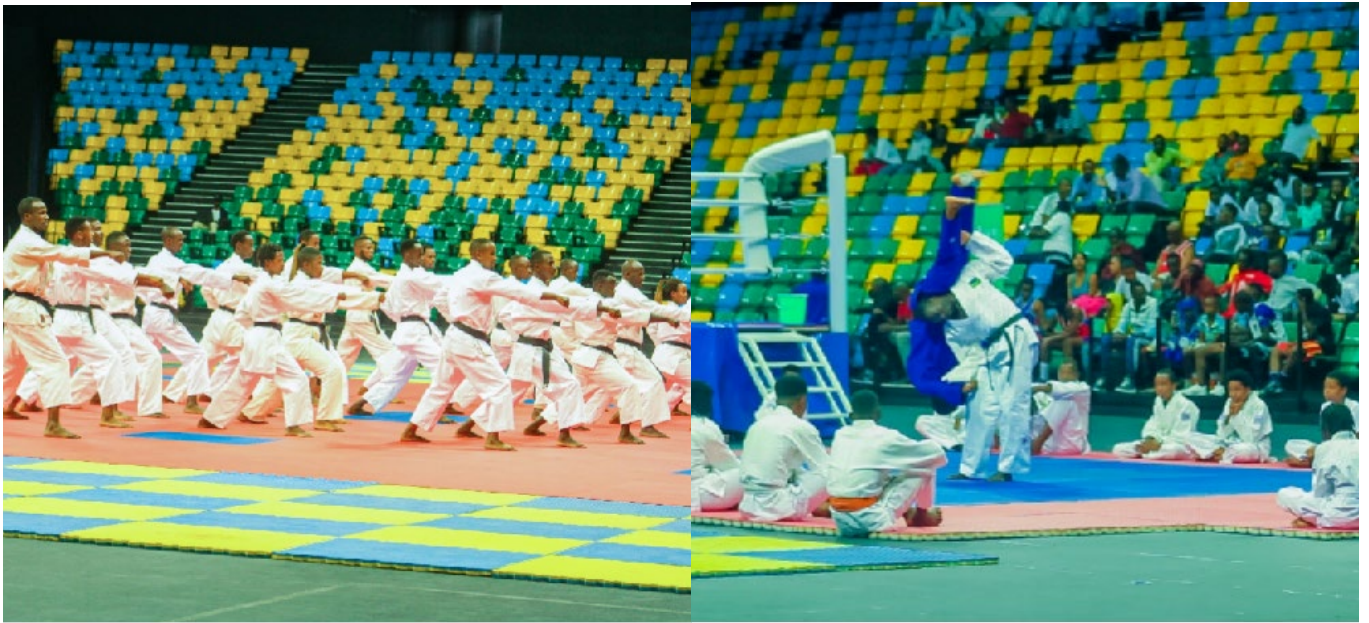


Young athletes in boxing showcasing their fighting skills in the ring at Martial Arts Sports Festival – March 19, 2022.



Taekwondo athletes showcasing their skills to the audience, Martial Arts Sports Festival – March 19, 2022.





“I am so happy that we managed to successfully organize the first edition of this special festival. This is a symbol of unity among us as Martial Arts Sports Federations but also a platform to identify new talents and beauty of our sports. We hope that this festival will become regional or even an international event in future,” said the President of Organizing Committee Mr. Placide BAGABO who is also the former President of Rwanda Taekwondo Federation



The President of Organizing Committee of Martial Art Sports Festival Mr. Placide BAGABO during the interview - March 19, 2022,



The Second Vice-President of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Mrs. Salama UMUTONI giving her remarks at the Martial Arts Sports Festival – Kigali Arena, March 19, 2022.

“Basically, the event aimed at promoting all martial arts sports in Rwanda and making them popular among Rwandans especially young generation – And encouraging Martial Arts Sports Federations to always work as team,” said the Second Vice-President of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Mrs. Salama UMUTONI.

In 2013, six Martial Art Sports Federations including Rwanda Taekwondo Federation, Rwanda Karate Federation, Rwanda Kung

Fu and Wushu Federation, Rwanda Fencing Federation, Rwanda Boxing Federation and Rwanda Judo Federation decided to come

together for creating a united martial arts voice that can help accelerate the development of martial arts sports in Rwanda.





From left: The Counselor at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Rwanda Mr. WANG Jiaxin, the President of Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Mr. Theo UWAYO and the President of Rwanda Kung Fu and Wushu Federation Mr. Marc UWIRAGIYE



Spectators during the martial arts sports festival at Kigali Arena, March 19, 2022

## IV. The RNOSC hosted its first Ordinary General Assembly since the New Executive Committee's elections in May last year





The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) held its first Ordinary General Assembly on the 26th of March 2022 since the elections of the new Executive Committee and was chaired by

the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO at Gorilla Hotel in Rubavu district.

In his opening remarks, the RNOSC President thanked the members for

attending the general assembly and gave some updates about the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and upcoming events including Birmingham 2022 and Paris 2024.



The General Assembly started off with National and Olympic Anthems and a minute of silence was observed in memory of athletes who passed away last year (In picture from left: The RNOSC First Vice President Mrs. Alice UMULINGA, RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO and IOC Member Mrs. Félicité RWEMARIKA).



The RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO addressing the participants of the Ordinary General Assembly 2022 – March 26.

**“I commend all National Sports Federations for their significant contribution to the implementation of the covid-19 guidelines, and for Rwanda as a country that has been able to dramatically slow the spread of this pandemic. COVID-19 is a hindrance to the development of sport, that is why we must stay vigilant. In the first three months of this year 2022, as the RNOSC, we managed to organize a training session for Table Tennis Coaches where all districts were represented and we also celebrated the Commonwealth Day 2022 in this March,”** said the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO.

Over the last year, Rwanda was represented at Tokyo 2020 Olympics by 5 athletes in 3 sports include Athletics, Swimming and Cycling but unfortunately Rwanda did not win any medal - And also, in November 2021, Rwanda received the Queen's Baton and it toured different selected places in Kigali

city ahead of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games:

**“We need to rethink the way we support our athletes/sports if ending up on the international medal tables is truly our goal. Otherwise, the Queen’s Baton Relay in Rwanda was a success**

**thanks to our partners and government’s support,”** the RNOSC President.

He concluded his speech by thanking the Ministry of Sports for its continued support towards the development of Rwanda Sport Movement



On the meeting’s agenda, different items were presented and approved including the minutes of the RNOSC Ordinary General Assembly 2021, reports such as Activities and Financial Reports, Internal and External Audit Reports and the report on the Genocide Memorial Tournament 2021 (GMT 2021).

The RNOSC Secretary General Mr. Joseph KAJANGWE presenting the RNOSC Annual Activities Report at the Ordinary General Assembly 2022 – March 26.



The RNOSC Treasurer General Mr. Christian GAKWAYA presenting the RNOSC Annual Financial Report and Budget 2022



The President of the GMT 2021 Organizing Committee Mr. Placide BAGABO presenting the report at the RNOSC Ordinary General Assembly 2022, March 26





The new President of the Rwanda Handball Federation Mr. Twahirwa Alfred

Following the Ordinary General Assembly 2022's approval, the Rwanda Netball Federation is the latest member of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee while the newly elected Executive Committees' members from Volleyball, Athletics, Handball, Taekwondo, Triathlon Federations and the Rwanda Workers' Sports Association (ARPST) were also officially welcomed aboard.

Also, the General Assembly approved the nominations of the new Presidents of the RNOSC Commissions as follows, except for the Athletes' Commission and National Olympic Academy that will be confirmed later:

1. Legal & Ethics Commission:

**Delphine Mukakarangwa**

2. Woman In Sports Commission:

**Ariane Uwamahoro**

3. Sports For All Commission:

**Raymond Bananeza**

4. Media and Communications Commission:

Jacques Furaha

5. Medical and Anti-Doping Commission:

Dr. Nuhu Assoumani

6. Technical Commission:

**Emmanuel Murenzi**

7. Marketing Commission:

**Julius Mbaraga**

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee has put in place eight Commissions with the aim of advising and supporting the Executive Committee in achieving its objectives:

The General Assembly 2022 reached several resolutions including the commitment to promote sports for athletes with a disability at all levels.



For more photos of the celebration, click here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/158785774@No2/albums/7217772029776915>



## V. The message of the RNOSC & RCGA President for Kwibuka 28

“In this era we consider sport as a powerful tool to make the world a better place, I urge the Rwanda Sport Movement to always maximize the force of sport in this journey of building the “Rwanda we want”.

I also take this opportunity to stand in solidarity with my fellow Rwandans and the World to pay respect to victims of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, especially during this 100–Day Commemoration Period.”

**#Kwibuka28|Remember – Unite – Renew**

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