

## Media Update

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### **30 Papuan Youths Pass Selections Out of Thousands of Aspirants, to Join Papua Football Academy in 2024**

**Timika, 12 Agustus 2024** – On Monday (12/8), Papua Football Academy (PFA) officially made an announcement and called 30 youths born in the years 2011 and 2012 who had passed selections, to join the academy as the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of PFA students, at its homebase, and be part of PFA U-13. The announcement was made online on the website [www.papuafootballacademy.com](http://www.papuafootballacademy.com).

“They are the best of Papuan youths who passed PFA Talent Search 2024 selections while competing against more than two thousand contenders hailing from various areas across Papua,” Papua Football Academy Director Wolfgang Pikal said.

He said this year PFA was expanding its search area to access as many selection participants as possible. The PFA scouting team held special selection sessions in several locations, namely Nabire, Merauke, Jayapura, Sorong, Biak, Manokwari and Mimika, plus 11 more areas to offer better access to youths to take part in selections. These areas included Agats, Boven Digoel, Fak-Fak, Kaimana, Keerom, Sarmi, Sentani, Serui, Supiori, Waropen and Mappi.

A total of 2,110 youths registered to participate in selections this year. This number was a huge increase compared with previous selections. The PFA Talent Search 2022 (which was held in Timika, Jayapura, Merauke) brought in 477 participants. Meanwhile the PFA Talent Search 2023 (in Timika, Jayapura, Merauke, Nabire, Waropen and Serui) netted 445 participants.

Wolfgang said during the selection process, the Technical Team and PFA management endeavored to garner the best quality of talent. Those selected were required to meet specific criteria and undergo a stringent selection process, as called for in order to meet the challenges and demands arising from advancements in modern football, wherein not only special technical skills are required, but also physical standards for body posture and fitness.

“PFA welcomes all these outstanding Papuan youths to join the PFA big family. Thank you to all football stakeholders in Papua who have supported the PFA Talent Search, including City/Regency Sports Offices, the province’s PSSI association, city/regency PSSI associations, clubs and the association of coaches,” Wolfgang conveyed.

For the record, the 30 selected students had passed the final stage of selections and participated in training at the Talent Search 2024 Final Camp in Jayapura City, in July 2024. This stage included tests on football technique skills, medical tests, a general medical check-up, testing for potential and competence grounded on a database on fingerprints and psychological tests. Subsequently they will undergo a football training scholarship program and will stay in a dormitory and attend academic classes for a year, with the promise of continuing into the next year subject


to demonstrating increased performance quality. They will be molded in the Mimika Sports Complex football boot camp while being protected through PFA Children Safeguarding to guarantee their supervision.

PFA is an early education Football Academy for young talented Papuans, initiated by PT Freeport Indonesia in 2022. President Joko Widodo personally officiated at the official launching of PFA, while stating the hope of this academy giving birth to Papuan football stars.

PTFI Director & EVP for Sustainability Development & Community Relations Claus Wamafma disclosed Papua Football Academy is part of PT Freeport Indonesia's social investment and long term commitment to human resources development for young Papuans, towards enabling them to grow into competitive individuals who have acquired discipline and are imbedded with the values of fair play, unity and respect in all aspects of life. .

"It is our hope that through PFA, children will obtain education and the prospect of optimizing their talent. Through football they will be encouraged to become excellent individuals who are intelligent, competitive, confident, and adaptive, and will gain the opportunity to become professional football players, nationally and internationally," he said.

PFA has trained 60 students comprising two batches, those born in 2009 and 2010 respectively. The first batch graduated from the academy on 19 June 2024. As it announces arrival of the new students making up the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch, PFA is set to welcome these new students, accompanied with commitment and hard work to bring about young Papuans born in 2011 with good character, through the sports of football, in line with the PFA tagline "From Papua for Indonesia".

PHOTO	CAPTION
	PFA Head Coach Ardiles Rumbiak and PFA Director Wolfgang Pikal at the PFA TTalent Search Final Camp in Jayapura with 60 selected youths from 18 regencies/cities.
	Two PFA student candidates demonstrating their best performance at the PFS Talent Search Final Camp, in Mahacandra Playing Field, in Cendrawasih University.

	
	<p>The PFA Officials Team with 30 newly selected students who will be part of PFA U-13 and are set to begin training at MSC Timika.</p>
	<p>30 newly selected PFA students are set to undergo training at Mimika Sports Complex in Timika.</p>

#### About PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI)

PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) is a mineral mining company affiliated with Freeport-McMoRan (FCX) and Mining Industry Indonesia (MIND ID). PTFI mines and processes ore to produce copper concentrate also containing gold and silver.

PTFI markets copper concentrate to all parts of the world and primarily to the first domestic copper smelter, which is operated by PT Smelting. The PTFI mining operation is located in the mineral district in Grasberg, Papua – Indonesia. PTFI is currently conducting an underground mining operation that is the biggest in the world using the block caving method. In conducting its operation, PTFI promotes and upholds responsible and sustainable business practices.