

# FIJI TIMES NEWSPAPER

## Contingent to spice up annual competition

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A contingent from the Norfolk Islands will spice up the annual Easter Open Tennis Championship in Lautoka next month.

The 22-member squad which includes 16 juniors will provide the local players with some stiff competition.

Fiji Tennis Association secretary John Shannon said the group from the Norfolk Islands will participate in the tournament for the first time.

Shannon said their participation would lift the profile of the four-day event.

"The focus at this year's Easter Championship will be on the juniors," he said.

"There will be four junior categories with the under-10, U12, U14 and U16.

"There are a lot of junior players who are part of our development program.

"This tournament will provide them the platform to test their skills.

"The players who are part of the International Tennis Federation regional program will be the ones to look out for. We are grateful to the players who are coming from abroad.

"A few years ago we had a group from American Samoa which played in the tournament."

Fiji number one Annie Shannon will be the top seed for the ladies open singles title. Tito Bira from Kiribati will be the favourite for the men's singles title.

There will be a category for the veteran players as well.

The tournament sponsored by Sports World will be held at the Regional Tennis Centre in Nadovu from April 18 to April 21.