



ABIA STATE GOVERNMENT

# SPOTLIGHT ON ABIA MDAs

MINISTRY OF SPORTS AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

JUNE 2023 - SEPTEMBER 2024





# PRODUCTION TEAM

## SPORTS AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT UNDER GOVERNOR OTTI: A JOURNEY OF VISIONARY LEADERSHIP AND REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Under the transformative leadership of Governor Alex Otti, OFR, Abia State has witnessed an unprecedented revival in sports and youth development. The Governor's unwavering commitment to grassroots development, sponsorship of sporting activities, procurement of state-of-the-art sports equipment, and renovation of facilities has laid the foundation for sustainable growth in these critical sectors.

This mission took flight with the appointment of Sir Nwaobilor Ananaba as the Commissioner for Sports and Youth Development. As a dynamic and focused leader, Sir Ananaba has been instrumental in translating the governor's vision into actionable progress, transforming a previously stagnant sports landscape into a thriving hub of activities and excellence.

One of the cornerstones of this success was the grassroots sensitization tour across all 17 local government areas, which assessed the state of sports infrastructure and participation. This initiative birthed the Abia State Governor's Secondary School Unity Games in March 2024, a platform that unearthed exceptional young talents. These athletes later showcased their prowess at the National Youth Games 2024, securing an impressive 10th position with 7 gold, 12 silver, and 12 bronze medals – the best performance in the state's history. These outstanding talents now form the backbone of Abia's contingent for the 2025 National Sports Festival in Ogun State.

Beyond sports, the state's efforts in youth empowerment have been equally commendable. Through innovative partnerships, thousands of young Abians have been trained in cutting-edge fields such as information technology, agriculture, etc. These programs continue to equip the youth with tools for self-reliance and national contribution.

In less than two years, Governor Otti's administration has delivered transparent and exemplary leadership, establishing Abia State as a rising force in sports and youth development in Nigeria and beyond. The remarkable achievements thus far are not only a testament to a visionary roadmap but also a promise of a brighter, more prosperous future for the state's youths.

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## ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE STATE LEVEL

**1ST ABIA STATE GOVERNOR'S SECONDARY SCHOOLS UNITY GAMES (ASGUSUG) 22ND – 27TH MARCH, 2024) UMUAHIA TOWNSHIP STADIUM.**

1st position: Umuahia North LGA

2nd Position: Aba South LGA

3rd Position: Isuikwuato LGA



**TEQ BALL:** Teq Ball world championship qualifier Aba, Abia State (10th – 13th July, 2024) Abia clinched 2 Gold and 2 Silver Medals.



**VOLLEYBALL:** South-South/South-East Volleyball Championship Umuahia, Abia State (26th June – 1st July, 2024) Abia male took 1st position while the Female team took 4th position.





## ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE STATE LEVEL

**BASKETBALL:** South – East Basketball Championship Umuahia, Abia State  
(24th – 27th April, 2024) Abia male team took 2nd position.



### **BASKETBALL:**

Fifty 1 Alliance Basketball  
League Umuahia, Abia State  
(6th July – 5th October,  
2024)

1st Position – Uturu Kings  
2nd Position – Umuahia Stars  
3rd Position – Aba Eclipse



**BASKETBALL:** Secondary School Basketball Milo Championship, Umuahia, Abia State  
(26th – 27th March, 2024)

1st Position: Maris Comprehensive Secondary School Uturu.  
2nd Position: Evangel Secondary School Umuahia.  
3rd Position: Dority International Early Learning Aba.



## ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE STATE LEVEL

The Abia State Government partnered with Dream Land Football Academy to Organize a Scouting Tournament where 6 young exceptionally talented footballers were discovered and taken to Europe to further their football careers.

The football Scouts came from Europe - Hungary. The Ambassador of Hungary to Nigeria, Dr. Endreffy Lóránd graced the finals of the scouting Tournament.





## NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

**8TH NATIONAL YOUTH GAMES ASABA, 2024**  
**DELTA STATE** (9th – 19th September, 2024).

Abia Took 10th Position  
Clinching 7 Gold, 12 Silver  
And 12 Bronze Medals.





## NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- **ATHLETICS:** MTN Athletics Championship Calabar (30th April – 3rd May, 2024).  
Abia Clinched 8 Gold, 4 Silver And 2 Bronze Medals.



- **HANDBALL:** Division One League Edo State (15th – 20th July, 2024)  
Abia Female Team Took 3rd Position.
- **TAEKWONDO:** 6th Edition Of South – East Open Taekwondo Championship Owerri (17th – 22nd April, 2024)  
A Total Of 1 Gold, 1 Silver And 2 Bronze Medals Were Won.
- **BOXING:**  
Yucateco Boxing League Rivers State Season 2. 8th June 2024  
Total Medal Won 1 Gold , 2 Silver
- **BOXING:**  
Yucateco Boxing League Season 2 Lagos (11th August, 2024).  
Abia Won 2 Gold.
- **SQUASH:** 5th His Excellency, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo National Squash Championship, Abeokuta Ogun State (19th – 24th August, 2024)  
Abia Did Not Win Any Medal.



## NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- **2ND PARA GAMES ABUJA** (7th- 15th Dec, 2023).  
Abia State Took 2nd Position With 16 Gold, 8 Silver And 11 Bronze Medals.
- **JUDO:** Ekus Judo Championship, Benin City, Edo State (24th – 27th April, 2024)  
No Medal Was Won
- **TABLE TENNIS:** 4th Edition Of South-South/South-East Offiong Edem Table Tennis Championship Calabar (5th – 6th July, 2024)  
Abia Clinched 2 Gold And 1 Bronze Medal.
- **TABLE TENNIS:**  
5th Dr. A. A Efunkoya Table Tennis National Cadet Championship 2024 Lagos.  
Abia Won 1 Silver.
- **HOCKEY:** Mc Arc Services South-East/South-South Under 15 And Under 13 Hockey 5 Aside Tournament, Port Harcourt, Rivers State ( 26th 27th July, 2024)  
Abia Under 15 Took 2nd Position.  
Abia Under 13 Took 3rd Position.

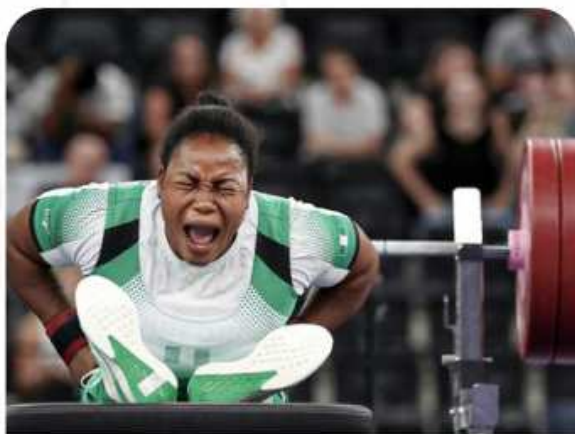




## INTERNATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

**PARALYMPICS GAMES FRANCE 2024** (28th August – 8th September 2024)

Abia Clinched 1 Gold And 1 Silver In Para – Power Lifting.



### **HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT IN SPORTS ADMINISTRATION:**

The Ministry Organized The First Ever Seminar For 335 Staff Of Abia State Sports Council.



## INTERNATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

### PARA BADMINTON:

1st Egypt Para Badminton Championship (22nd – 28th January, 2024),  
Abia Won 2 Gold, 1 Silver, 3 Bronze Medals.



### PARA POWER LIFTING:

World Para Power Lifting Championship Egypt (19th – 25th March, 2024)  
Abia Won A Total Of 4 Gold Medals



### JUDO:

Paques Au Dogo (Organized By Lions Club Lome Togo) 30th March – 1st April, 2024)  
Total Medals Won 2 Gold



## INTERNATIONAL LEVEL ACHIEVEMENTS

**PARA POWER LIFTING:** World Cup Para - Power Lifting Championship Tbilisi Georgia U.S.A (20th - 23rd June, 2024)

Medals Won 1 Gold, 1 Silver.



### **PARA BADMINTON:**

Uganda Para Badminton Championship Kampala (2nd - 7th July, 2024)

2 Silver Medals Were Won.





## UPGRADE OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

The myriad of achievements recorded in the sports sector of the State would not have been possible without intentional and strategic investments in the upgrade of infrastructure and purchase of sports equipment by the administration of Governor Otti.

Kanu Nwankwo indoor sports hall in the Umuahia Township Stadium was retrieved from ruins and retrofitted. Some parts of Enyimba Stadium were also renovated and retrofitted.

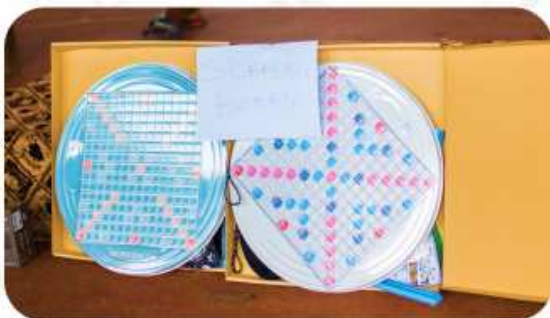
Some sports equipment bought:

- Chess Boards And Timer
- Dartboards & Darts
- High Jump Stand & Landing Foam
- Powerlifting Weight & Barbell
- Weightlifting Weights & Barbell
- Handball Goal Posts, Net, Balls
- Scrabble Boards
- Cricket Bats
- Hockey Sticks
- Athletics Technical Equipment:  
Javelins, Shot-Puts, Discuss
- Basketball Uprights
- Boxing Gloves





## UPGRADE OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE





## UPGRADE OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE



**KANU NWANKWO INDOOR  
SPORTS HALL: Before Renovation**



**KANU NWANKWO INDOOR  
SPORTS HALL: After Renovation**



The State Government bought Coaster Buses for the Abia Warriors Football Club and the Abia State Sports Council.





## REWARDING THE ATHLETES

Governor Otti received and rewarded heroic athletes from Abia who recently participated and made the State proud in both International and National Competitions. During the event, Governor Otti announced automatic employment for 15 athletes who won Gold and Silver Medals in international and National Sporting Competitions, temporarily lifting and reinstating the embargo on employment in the State's Civil Service.

The Governor announced a cash reward of N20 million for the Gold and Silver Medalists in the Powerlifting category at the 2024 Paris Paralympics, Onyinyechi Gift Mark, and Esther Nworgu, who are all Abians. He further announced a cash reward of N33 Million to the other 33 athletes who also won medals at other International and national competitions. Their coaching crews were not left behind as they were rewarded with N22 Million by the Governor.





**SIR NWAOBILOR  
NWADIMMA ANANABA**  
COMMISSIONER FOR SPORTS AND  
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Sir Nwaobilor Ananaba, the Abia State Commissioner for Sports and Youth Development was born in Osusu Village, Aba North Local Government Area of Abia. He is a highly motivated and courageous person who embraces responsibility and leadership to see the actualization of any project he believes in.

He is a team player with the ability to work with deadlines. His creative and entrepreneurial Spirit saw him set out early in life to pursue his dream of self-employment and fulfillment. While many of his contemporaries were struggling to figure out what they wanted in life, he already knew what he wanted at a very young age.

In his early twenties, he left the shores of Nigeria to the United Kingdom where he ventured into sports business and other ventures. As a FIFA licenced Agent and Professional Football Scout he has helped some young Abians, Nigerians and Africans realize their dreams of becoming professional footballers plying their soccer trades in different parts of Europe and the rest of the world.

#### **His Educational Qualification:**

University of Worcester, Worcester, UK (September 2020 – May 2023)

BA (Hons) Sport Business Management

Diploma in sport management, Sports Management Worldwide, 2010

OND in Automobile Engineering, College of North-West London, UK, 1995-1997

Diploma in Automobile Engineering College of North-West London, UK, 1994-1995

Mechanical Engineering Boys Technical College Aba, Abia State, Nigeria, 1979-1984

Level 2 Talent Identification in Football, Professional Football Scouts Association (PFSA), 2021

Introduction into football scouting: Professional Football Scouts Association (PFSA), 2021

Level 1 Talent Identification in Football: Professional Football Scouts Association (PFSA), 2021

Level 1 Opposition Analysis in Football: Professional Football Scouts Association (PFSA), 2021

Level 1 Technical Scouting in Football: Professional Football Scouts Association (PFSA), 2021

Football Association England (Football agent), 2015.

Sir Nwaobilor Nwadianna Ananaba is the founder of Obiaba Football Academy in Aba, Abia State. He is also a Co-founder of Sports Connect United Kingdom, a sports management agency, among others.

He is married to Lady Uchechi Ananaba, and they are blessed with three lovely children – two boys and a girl. He loves reading, sports, and traveling.



## PHOTO GALLERY





## PHOTO GALLERY

