



INSTITUTE LIFTERS RECEIVE LONDON 2012 IOC SCHOLARSHIP

Six Pacific lifters, four from the Oceania Weightlifting Institute and two from Samoa (former Institute lifters) have been awarded London 2012 IOC scholarships. This is certainly a tribute to weightlifting in the Pacific, the fact that the IOC has recognized the potential of these athletes in the lead up to the London Olympic Games. **The six lifters are:**

Manueli Tulo – Fiji – (junior lifter) 56kg category, currently Oceania Senior and Junior Champion.

Itte Detenamo – Nauru – 105+kg category, currently Oceania and South Pacific Champion.

Yukio Peter – Nauru – 77kg category Highest male ranking Oceania lifter in the world rankings in 2009

Steven Kari – PNG – 77kg , 4th place Youth Olympic Games - Singapore. Oceania Junior Champion and South Pacific Senior Champion.

Ele Opeloge – Samoa – 75+kg, ranking 4th in the world. currently Oceania & South Pacific Senior champion.

Mary Opeloge – Samoa – 75kg, junior weightlifter, currently Oceania Senior and Junior Champion.



Ele Opeloge- Samoa



Manueli Tulo- Fiji



Steven Kari- PNG



Yukio Peter- Nauru



Itte Detenamo- Nauru



Mary Opeloge-Samoa

YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES – SINGAPORE

What a great concept these games have turned out to be. Singapore saw the worlds best youth lifters assembled. The opening ceremony was a spectacular event and the weightlifting competition was also outstanding. Congratulation to Tom Liaw, President of Singapore Weightlifting and his organizing committee for the splendid job done at the Games. Most of our athletes from the Oceania region did exceptionally well. Almost all of them surpassed their best totals. The lifters competing in Singapore were:

Boys:

56Kg Elson Brechtefeld (Nauru) personal best total 209Kg- placed 9th

56Kg Shiro Amon (Marshall Isl.) personal best total 120Kg- placed 11th

62Kg Michael Taufa (Tonga) personal best total 217Kg -placed 11th

69Kg Joshua Milne (New Zealand) personal best total 201Kg- placed 9th

69Kg Charlie Lolohea (Fiji) personal best total 183Kg -placed 10th

77Kg Steven Kari (PNG) personal best total 270Kg-placed 4th

77Kg Bob Kabuati Silas (Kiribati) personal best total 230Kg- placed 7th

77Kg Liam Larkins (Australia) personal best total 212Kg- placed 8th

85Kg Fa'agu Saumaleato (A. Samoa) personal best total 210Kg- placed 7th

85Kg Faustino Mavrick (Palau) personal best Total 200Kg- placed 8th

Girls:

53Kg Tibon Lomina (Marshall Isl.) best total 65Kg- placed 8th

63Kg Michelle Kahi (Australia) personal best total 166Kg- placed 6th

58Kg Louise Lolohea (Fiji) personal best total 102Kg- placed 9th

63+Kg Luniarra Simanu (Samoa) personal best total 190Kg -placed 8th

Two other female lifters, one from PNG and one from the Solomon Islands who were in Singapore to compete unfortunately did not. The PNG lifter failed to make bodyweight in the 53kg category. The Solomon Island lifter, unfortunately there was an oversight of her birth date when initially entered. She was found to be one year too old. It is extremely regrettable when situations like this occur.

2010 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Due to the Commonwealth Games being held a week after the World Championships, all countries of the Oceania region will not be taking part in Antalya, with the exception of Fiji. It is sad to miss out on Antalya but the Commonwealth Games to this region is the biggest event next to the Olympics and consequently many countries will miss out on this years World Championships. However young Manueli Tulo from Fiji, the 56kg Oceania champion will be the only competitor from this region competing at the World Championships. As we all know, Fiji will not be taking part at this year's Commonwealth Games, therefore Fiji Weightlifting has decided to send Tulo to Antalya instead. It is a regrettable situation that Fiji will not be part of the Commonwealth Games. Politics should not play part when it comes to sport. Tulo would have been a medal contender in Delhi, as he is currently ranking third in the Commonwealth (1 per country).



COMMONWEALTH GAMES DELHI 2010

Sixty-four lifters from twelve countries of the Oceania region will participate next month in Delhi at the Commonwealth Games. This is the largest contingent of lifters from Oceania in the history of the Games. The opening ceremony is set for the 3rd of October. We expect great battles in many categories. And we expect the Oceania region to pull in quite a few medals including gold. Of the 15 categories contested, the Oceania region has presently five lifters ranking first in the Commonwealth. The Lifters are:

Yukio Peter from Nauru, first in the 77kg category. **Simplice Ribouem** from Australia, first in the 85kg category.

Niusila Opeloge from Samoa, first in the 105kg category. **Itte Detenamo** from Nauru, first in the 105+kg category.

Ele Opeloge from Samoa, first in the 75+kg category.

In addition to this, many regional lifters are ranking just behind the leaders and they have equal opportunity to battle for gold.



We are also happy to see a number of technical officials from the region, refereeing at these games. From Papua New Guinea we have Frank Robby and Iwila Jacobs. From Australia we have Pedro Sanchez, Jenny Sanchez and Boris Kayser. From New Zealand we have Garry Marshall.

It is unfortunate that the OWF Vice President, Tony Hole from the Cook Islands, has had to withdraw due to heart surgery. Nevertheless we are very pleased to hear that Tony is recovering very well and no doubt we will see him at the next major international event in the region, dancing in his usual style. Below are the Oceania lifters competing at the Commonwealth Games:

Women

- 48Kg** Vivian Lee (Australia) , Kathleen Hare (Papua New Guinea)
- 53Kg**, Erika Yamasaki (Australia), Kate Howard (New Zealand), Hitolo Dogodo (Papua New Guinea)
- 58Kg**, Seen Lee (Australia), Rita Kari (Papua New Guinea), Jenlyn Wini Tagu (Solomon Isl.), Monalisa Kassman (Papua New Guinea)
- 63Kg** Faitoga Togagae (Samoa), Urima Tyrell (Samoa)
- 69Kg** Belinda Van Tienen (Australia), Guba Hale (Papua New Guinea)
- 75Kg** Mary Opeloge (Samoa), Jenna Myers (Australia), Amanda Phillips (Australia), Michaela Detenamo (Nauru)
- 75+Kg** Ele Opeloge (Samoa), Deborah Acason (Australia), Narita Viliamu (Niue), Tracey Lambrechts (New Zealand)
- 75+Kg** Luniarra Simanu (Samoa), Luisa Peters (Cook Islands).

Men

- 56Kg** Lou Guinares (New Zealand), Morea Baru (Papua New Guinea), Elson Brechtefeld (Nauru)
- 62Kg** Daniel Koum (Australia), Brown Ramohaka (Solomon Isl), Vannara Be (Australia), Cameron Sinclair (New Zealand),
- 62Kg** Lapua Lapua Tuau (Tuvalu), Ioane Haumili (Tuvalu), Michael Taufa (Tonga)
- 69Kg** Francois Etoundi (Australia), Ika Aliklik (Nauru), Mark Spooner (New Zealand), Tekaei Temake (Kiribati), Takeniberia Toromon (Kiribati)
- 77Kg** Yukio Peter (Nauru), Steven Kari (Papua New Guinea), Ben Turner (Australia), Bob Kabuati (Kiribati), Taubena Taatonga (Kiribati),
- 77Kg** Petunu Opeloge (Samoa)
- 85Kg** Simplicite Ribouem (Australia), Beru Karianato (Kiribati), Teataua Tiito (Kiribati), Richard Patterson (New Zealand), Val-John Starr (Nauru)
- 85Kg** Pala Basil Molisa (Vanuatu)
- 94Kg** David Katoatau (Kiribati), Faavae Faauliuli (Samoa), Sirla Perla (Cook Islands)
- 105Kg**. Niusila Opeloge (Samoa), Tovia Opeloge (Samoa), Robert Golsworthy (Australia), Meamea Thomas (Kiribati), Stanislav Chalaev (New Zealand)
- 105+Kg** Itte Detenamo (Nauru), Corran Hocking (Australia), Damon Kelly (Australia), Daniel Nimani (Niue)

PACIFIC GAMES COUNCIL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Pacific Games Council, General Assembly was held in Noumea, New Caledonia the week of the 24th to 30th August. Most of the Presidents and/or General Secretaries of the National Olympic Committees of the Pacific were in attendance. Quite a number of Pacific countries who have lifters training here at the Institute, paid a visit to their athletes and also to see first hand this world class weightlifting institute, which New Caledonia has built. These are the officials who visited the Institute.



- Mr Atma Maharaj (President Fiji Weightlifting),
- Mr Takitoo Taumoepeau (Sec.General -Tonga National Olympic Committee)
- Mr Fred Maetoloa (President- Solomon Islands National Olympic Committee)
- Mr Teake Esene Manatu (Sec General- Tuvalu National Olympic Committee)
- Mr Peter Birati (President- Kiribati National Olympic Committee)
- Ms. Rosie Blake (Sec.General- Cook Islands National Olympic Committee)
- Mr Terry Sasser (Sec.General- Marshall Islands National Olympic Committee)
- Mr Anthony Muller (President- Marshall Islands Weightlifting)
- Ms. Lorraine Ma (Sec.General & CEO of FASANOC)
- Mr Patrick Bower (2011 Team Fiji- Chef de Mission)
- Mr Pres-Nimes Ekwona (Gen.Secretary- Nauru Olympic Committee)
- Mr Jean-Marc Domergue (Sec.General- CTOS),
- Mr Alan Tano (President- Niue Weightlifting & Gen Secretary Niue National Olympic Committee)

On the final night, the CTOS and the Organising Committee of NC2011, hosted a fantastic function on a majestic island. And we were very honored to have all of our Institute lifters invited as well. Naturally, the lifters enjoyed the evening, especially the food which was magnificent. Special thanks must go to Charles Cali, President of the CTOS, and to his Board Members.



FASANOC officials visiting the Institute



Many Pacific leaders of National Olympic Committees at the Institute



7th MICRONESIA GAMES

The 7th Micronesia Games were held in Palau from August 1-10. The weightlifting event was well organised by Steve Patris, the President of Palau Weightlifting. Quite a number of young lifters took part, giving them valuable experience at this level. The best lifter of the tournament was Manuel Minginfel from the island of Yap.

It was a little disappointing not to have Kiribati or Nauru lifters participating. This was due to the Commonwealth Games coming up and also the Singapore Youth Olympic Games. However the tournament was still a success and congratulations to Baklai and the Palau Olympic Committee for organizing such friendly games.

THE 2010 PACIFIC CUP TOURNAMENT

This year the Pacific Cup Tournament was shifted from December to the 31st July, due to having International visitors during this period of time. The tournament produced some excellent performances. Apart from the Pacific Institute lifters and the New Caledonia lifters, we had lifters also from Korea competing. This gave the tournament a real boost. The Koreans stayed in New Caledonia for almost two weeks and trained together with the Institute lifters. This gave everyone an opportunity to see different methods of training.



**Suk Ji-Hun (Korea) 62kg category
Clean & Jerking 140Kg**



**Kim Tae-Hyeong (Korea) 94Kg Cat.
with 182Kg Clean & Jerk.**



Yukio Peter (Nauru) jerks 180Kg.



Korean lifters at the closing function of the Pacific Cup International tournament



Korean officials awarded OWF medals.

ELE OPELOGE- PACIFIC FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



Oceania top female weightlifter, Ele Opeloge of Samoa, was awarded the Female Athlete of the Year at the recent Pacific Games Council Meeting. Ele ranks 4th in the world and she is hot favorite to win gold at the forthcoming Commonwealth Games. Ele holds all Commonwealth and Oceania senior records in the 75+kg category.

Her best lifts are: Snatch 126Kg, Clean & jerk 155Kg and her best total is 281Kg. All of these records were set at this year's Oceania Championships held in Suva –Fiji in the month of May.

BON VOYAGE TO THE OLYMPIC YOUTH LIFTERS

The CTOS organized a cocktail function to farewell the Youth lifters training at the Institute going to the Singapore Youth Olympic Games. Attending the function were representatives of the New Caledonia Government, the Mayor of the City of Mont Dore, the President and Board Members of the CTOS and the President of the NC2011 Pacific Games. The lifters were very humbled by the kind gesture of the CTOS and the OWF appreciates very much the continued assistance and support of the CTOS, City of Mont Dore and the Government of New Caledonia.



Charles Cali President of the CTOS presents a gift to Super-heavyweight Itte Detenamo from Nauru.



Pascale Bastien-Thierry, President of NC2011 presents a gift to Manuéli Tulo from Fiji.



The four Pacific youth lifters going to Singapore together with top Officials of CTOS, NC2011, the Government of New Caledonia, the City of Mont Dore and New Caledonia Weightlifting.



Where there is food, there is always weightlifters !!

Coming Events

September 17-26	World Championships	Antalya- Turkey
October 3-14	Commonwealth Games	Delhi- India
December ??	Interclub International tournament	Penang- Malaysia

Paul Coffa
General Secretary

All photos courtesy of Tulia Frere, Matthew Curtain, Paul Coffa, Miles Wydall and Adi Nacola.



YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES - SINGAPORE



Weightlifting officials enjoying the Opening Ceremony



Matthew Curtain together with Sebastian Coe , Chairman of the Organising Committee 2012 London Olympics.



The President of the IOC Dr Jacques Rogge at the Opening Ceremony of this year's Youth Olympics in Singapore



Spectacular opening ceremony



Dato Ong Poh Eng from Malaysia with the Youth Olympic Mascots at the weightlifting venue in Singapore.



The Weightlifting venue of this year's Youth Olympics