

OCEANIA WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION

AFFILIATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION



December, 2007

LATEST NEWS

2007 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS THAILAND

For the first time in the history of the World Championships, eleven Oceania countries took part in Thailand. The World Championships being an Olympic Qualification event produced very high standards.

Unfortunately our top lifters did not perform as expected. Manuel Minginfel competing in the 56kg category failed with three jerks on 147kg and therefore was eliminated from the competition. So did Yukio Peter from Nauru in the 77kg. He dropped three clean & jerks on 187kg and was also eliminated.

Of course there was some good performances put up by other lifters. Itte Detenamo of Nauru snatched 170kg and totaled 370kg in the 105+Kg category. Bronco Deiranauw from Nauru at the age of 16, competing in his first World Championships in the 62kg category, totaled 230kg. Sam Pera Jr. from the Cook Islands, also in his first World Championships lifted brilliantly and got his best ever total of 330kg.

Alexandrina Patris of Palau also got her best ever total in her first world championships of 171Kg in the 63Kg category, whilst Ele Opeloge of Samoa placed 11th in the 75+kg category with a brilliant snatch of 110kg. Unfortunately she failed with her second and third attempt on 148kg which would have qualified her for the Olympics.

WORLD CUP – APIA, SAMOA

What an outstanding success this was. We saw the first world record broken in any Olympic sports on a Pacific Island when Liao Hui from China set a world junior record in the clean & jerk in the 69Kg category with a lift of 190kg. China dominated the World Cup by winning every category which they contested. Two more world senior records were attempted by Chinese lifters but unfortunately both were unsuccessful.

The world cup winner in the men was Mao Jiao (CHN) 62Kg Category

In the women it was Wang Mingjuan 48Kg (CHN) Category



32 countries participated. Unfortunately due to visa problems 7 other countries failed to make the trip. The President of the IWF, Dr. Tamas Ajan and the 1st Vice President Mr Sam Coffa attended the World Cup. Other guests included Mr Myrddin John IWF Board Member and former world champions, Yurik Sarkisian, Stefan Botev from Bulgaria and Nikolai Peshalov from Croatia.

The Commonwealth and Oceania Championships were run in conjunction with the World Cup and we saw quite a few lifters producing some excellent results. Ele Opeloge of Samoa broke the Oceania snatch record with a lift of 114kg and she totaled 260kg which qualified her for the Beijing Olympic Games in the 75+Kg category. Whilst her brother Niusila Opeloge broke the South Pacific clean & jerk record with a lift of



201kg in the 105Kg class. Another great performance was set up by Itte Detenamo from Nauru in the 105+kg breaking the South Pacific total record with 379kg. Richard Patterson from New Zealand was in good form winning the Commonwealth Championship with a total of 313kg in the 85Kg category.

Seen Lee of Australia lifted brilliantly in the 58kg category, breaking the Oceania record in the Snatch with 85Kg and totaled 190kg. Dika Toua of PNG also produced an outstanding performance in the 53Kg class with a total of 190kg. She failed with her last clean & jerk of 115kg, which would have given her the Olympic qualifying total.

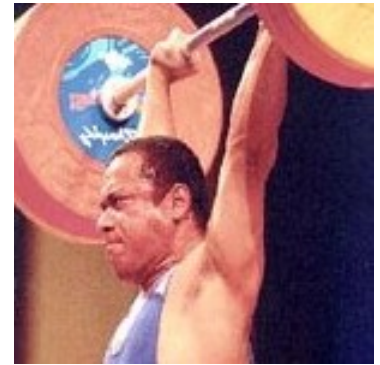
The Opening Ceremony was an outstanding success. The four day championships was direct telecast to China and also throughout the Pacific islands.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Hon. Marcus Stephen MP from Nauru, one of the greatest weightlifters the Oceania and the Pacific has ever produced. On December 18th Marcus was elected President of the Republic of Nauru.

What a great honour for the sport of weightlifting having a President of a country who is still very heavily involved in his sport.

H.E. Marcus Stephen, is also currently the General Secretary of the NOC and Vice President of the Oceania Weightlifting Federation.



BEIJING OLYMPIC TEST EVENT

Dika Toua from PNG has been invited to compete in the 53Kg category at the Olympic Test Event in Beijing on January 20th to the 24th. Her performance at the recent World Cup secured her an invitation to this event.

OWF NEW HEADQUARTERS

The Oceania Weightlifting Federation headquarters as of the 1st February will be in Noumea, New Caledonia. This includes the relocation of the Oceania Weightlifting Institute from Apia to Noumea. The Institute will start operating in Noumea in the first few days of February. The New Caledonia government is building new facilities for the Institute which includes accommodation for at least 24 athletes plus training quarters, offices, etc. The OWF will advise all concerned bodies of its new contact details once established in Noumea.

UESAKA EMAIL INTERNATIONAL CLUB TOURNAMENT

Uesaka Barbell Company will once again sponsor the Email International Club Tournament, this year scheduled for April 25th to April 27th. Details will go out soon regarding this tournament.

OCEANIA SENIOR AND JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2008 Oceania Senior and Junior Championships will be held in Auckland from the 26th March to the 30th March. Tina Ball, the Executive Officer of Olympic Weightlifting New Zealand will circulate soon all details regarding the Championships. These Championships are also the Oceania Continent Olympic qualification. During the Championships, March 27th, the Oceania Electoral Congress will be held also. Nominations forms have already gone out and are due on January 27th 2008

COMMONWEALTH RANKINGS

Michael Noonan, the record keeper and statistician of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation has just brought out the 2007 Commonwealth rankings including the rankings for one per country. It is great to see that of the 15 categories, 6 categories are headed by Oceania lifters. It is also pleasing to see in the one country per category rankings, so many Commonwealth countries participating in the sport of weightlifting. Indeed what a job it is to collate so many results from around the globe. Well done Michael.

Paul Coffa
GENERAL SECRETARY
OCEANIA WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION