

OEANIA WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION

AFFILIATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION

April, 2008

LATEST NEWS

2008 Oceania Championships a great success!!!!

Ele Opeloge smashes Commonwealth records.

Oceania & South Pacific Championships

Champion Samoan weightlifter Ele Opeloge was in superb form in Auckland, New Zealand last week during the Oceania and South Pacific Championships.

Ele succeeded with 3 brilliant snatches 110Kg, 115kg, and 118Kg , the last lift was 1Kg over the commonwealth record previously held by Maryam Usman from Nigeria at 117Kg. In the clean & jerk Ele broke her own commonwealth record of 150Kg .She lifted 151Kg and totalled 269kg for another commonwealth record in the total as well. Ele is on the right path to producing some great performances in Beijing.



Ele Opeloge (Samoa)

Another excellent performance was produced by Australian champion Seen Lee in the 58kg category. Seen snatched 90kg and 92Kg for new Oceania records and totalled 198kg which was also an Oceania record. The championships which were held in Auckland New Zealand on March 27-30 were also the Continental qualification event for Beijing.

In the men's, New Zealand was certainly on a mission to win, and to their credit they came out on top in the team classification. By finishing first, New Zealand qualified 2 lifters for Beijing. They scored 195 points. Australia was second with 189 points qualifying one lifter with Nauru coming third on count back from Samoa scoring 188 points thereby qualifying 1 lifter also.

Manuel Minginfel from FSM qualified on his own merit when he placed 4th at the World Championships in Santo Domingo.



Seen Lee (Australia)

In the women's event Australia came first and qualified one lifter, second was PNG qualifying one lifter and in third place Samoa qualifying also one lifter.

Olympic Weightlifting New Zealand did an outstanding job with the organization of the event. The stage and venue were of world class standard. The competition system was provided by the IWF with Attila Adamfi and Robert Nagy running the program. The volunteers did a great job and the VIP room provided exceptional service. All in all, well done New Zealand. Congratulations to the President, Garry Marshall, and of course to the two event directors, Nigel Avery and Tina Ball.

OWF Electoral Congress

On March 27th the OWF Electoral Congress was held in Auckland and the results were as follow:

President: H.E. Marcus Stephen (Nauru)

Ist Vice President: Tony Hole (Cook Islands)

Vice Presidents: Ronald Frere (New Caledonia) and Frank Robby (PNG)

General Secretary: Paul Coffa (Australia)

Assistant Secretary : Matthew Curtain (Australia)



H.E. Marcus Stephen MP

The chairman of the technical division is once again, Pedro Sanchez from Australia, the chairman of the medical division is Dr Lisimoni Kami from Tonga and the chairman of the masters division is Lawrie Townsend from Australia.

Future events dates to note:

- 2008 Commonwealth Youth Games – October 13-18, Pune, India
- 2008 Commonwealth Junior & Senior Championships – December 4- 7, Cyprus
- The 2009 Oceania Junior & Senior Championships and South Pacific Junior & Senior Championships to be held in conjunction with the Arafura Games in the month of May in Darwin, Australia.
- The 2009 Pacific Mini Games will be held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.
- 2009 Commonwealth Junior & Senior Championships - Malaysia
- The 2010 Oceania Junior & Senior Championships and South Pacific Junior & Senior Championships will be held in Noumea, New Caledonia and it will be also a test event for the 2011 Pacific Games.

New contact details of the OWF:

The contact details of the OWF are as follow;

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2008 Uesaka Email Club Tournament

On April 25- 27 the Uesaka Email International Club Tournament will be held once again. Last year the results were outstanding with over 1,000 competitors taking part. We hope that this year we will be able to surpass this mark.

Matthew Curtain Competition Manager LOCOG 2012

Congratulations to Matthew Curtain, upon his appointment as the Weightlifting Competition Manager for the 2012 London Olympic Games. Matthew has been involved in the sport of weightlifting for over twenty years. He was the Weightlifting Competition Manager for the very successful Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. With his vast experience, I am sure that the weightlifting event at the London Olympics will be superbly run. Matthew is also the current Assistant Secretary of both the Oceania and Commonwealth Weightlifting Federations.

Paul Coffa MBE

General Secretary