

IWF ELECTORAL CONGRESS RIYADH – SAUDI ARABIA May 24th and 25th.

171 countries (a record) attended the 2025 IWF Electoral Congress in Riyadh – Saudi Arabia. The Congress was superbly organised at the Grand Hotel in Riyadh. A special congratulations must go to the President of the Saudi Arabia Weightlifting Federation Mohammed Ahmed Al Harbi.



President Mohammed Jalood



The Electoral Congress fully endorsed President Jalood for his second term of office. His impeccable relationship with every weightlifting country in the IWF, firmly cemented his position at the helm of the IWF. Congratulation Mr President. Ursula Papandrea from the USA was elected as the 1st Vice President of the IWF. This is the first time in history that a female has been elected to this position. What a great achievement. Well done Ursula. Congratulations also to the two Vice Presidents elected - Mr. Chengliang Liu from China and Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Al Harbi from Saudi Arabia. The OWF wishes both Vice Presidents all the best and congratulation on their appointments.

It was also an honour for the Oceania region to see Jerry Wallwork from Samoa – the OWF Senior Vice President, being elected to the IWF Executive Board. This is a great tribute to Jerry for his long service to the sport in Oceania. Other congratulations must go to the newly elected Secretary General of the IWF, Mr. Jose Quinones from Peru. His contribution to the sport for many years has been enormous.

Two more elected positions for Oceania were Pedro Sanchez from Australia who was elected to the IWF Technical Committee and Dr. Lisimoni Kami from Australia who was elected to the IWF Medical Committee. Well done Pedro and Moni. There could be further appointments made to committees in due course.

Finally, after 37 years of dedicated and unfailing service to the IWF Executive Board, Sam Coffa, decided not to stand. His involvement with IWF has been unmatched by anyone. In his time, he restructured the technical side of the sport. He also spent considerable time at the restructure of the constitution and by-laws. Over the 37 years on the Board, Sam held the positions of 1st Vice President, of Vice President and this last term as Executive Board Member. I know for a fact that even though he has stepped down from the IWF Executive Board, he will continue his involvement with the IWF.



Sam Coffa



Our new 2025-2029 IWF Executive Board at the Grand Hotel in Riyadh- Saudi Arabia – May 25th 2025

The OWF wishes President Jalood and the new Executive Board a very successful term of office.

The IWF President having a meeting with the Continental Presidents and General Secretaries.



Dr. Antonio Urso addressing the Congress in his last speech as IWF General Secretary.



The IWF Electoral Congress in Riyadh -Saudi Arabia



Oceania Delegates in Riyadh.



Our New 1st Vice President Ursula Papandrea from USA in action.



Jerry Wallwork, Paul Coffa with the General Secretary and the Vice President of the DPR Korea



Jerry Wallwork, Paul Coffa with Tom Liaw from Singapore

May God rest the departed souls of these three gentlemen in eternal peace.



**Boris Kayser
(Victoria)**



**Tony Villanti
(Victoria)**



**Alf Lacey
(New South Wales)**

Their contribution to weightlifting in Victoria and NSW – Australia, over many decades and their dedication and passion will be greatly missed. The OWF offers our heartfelt sympathies to their respective families and our condolences to the Australian Weightlifting Federation.



An evening dinner in Riyadh for all Oceania and Italian Delegates sponsored by Jerry Wallwork.