



OCEANIA COCONUT WIRELESS

Single page news....



October 2026

Back in the 1990s in Nauru (Naoero now), I somehow found myself running an international TV network — as one does! Our friend, weightlifter Choku Olsson, worked for the NOC, and because the network belonged to the NOC, he became our resident “chief gossip collector.” We created a cheeky little show called **Coconut Wireless**, and it spread across the Pacific faster than a rumour at a village feast. Islanders adore a good story, and Choku delivered them by the coconut-load. This single page today carries the same spirit — giving Oceania, especially our Pacific Islands, a fun mix of weightlifting news, serious updates, and yes... a sprinkle of friendly gossip.

• Elite Junior Training Camp – Samoa

From 12–22 November, Jerry Wallwork will proudly roll out the red carpet (and the barbells) for the Elite Junior Camp, inviting one junior lifter from every Oceania nation to train at the Institute in Samoa. A brilliant initiative fully backed by Samoa. Fa’afetai, Jerry! You are on fire!

• Jerry Wallwork at the Asian Games

Speaking of Jerry — he made it to the Asian Games in Japan. Two days on the ground and four days on planes. That is not travel, that is endurance training. Dedication at its finest.

• NAOERO Returns to the International Stage –

NAOERO (formerly known as Nauru) is back in action, hosting an international tournament on 28 November. A friendly reminder: the correct name is NAOERO, its true identity. “Nauru” was simply the Europeans giving up on pronunciation. From here on — in weightlifting and everywhere else — it’s NAOERO. We eagerly await the NAOERO INTERNATIONAL WEIGHTLIFTING CUP.

• The Stowers Sisters to Los Angeles?

Rumour alert: Coconut Wireless is humming: Is Jerry plotting to send the Stowers sisters to Los Angeles — 86kg and +86kg? Could this mean Faegaiga Stowers is making a comeback? Stay tuned, the coconuts are vibrating.

• 2026 OTIP Camp – Saipan

The Oceania Talent Identification Program heads to stunning Saipan, Northern Marianas, from the 12th to 19th December. A paradise setting for discovering tomorrow’s champions. Not a bad gig. Well done John Davis.

• Oceania Records.

The Oceania International Cup last week produced outstanding results by some of our junior and youth lifters. Oceania records were broken by these young and up and coming superstars. Destiny Uera and Femily Notte from Naoero, Spike Murray, from Australia and Niusila Opeloge and Emmanuel Ulimasao from Samoa broke Oceania youth and junior records. But these were not the only ones – An Oceania senior record was broken also by superstar Taniela Rainibogi who snatched 171kg. 1kg more than his gold medal performances at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games. So what’s the secret Coach Henry? Looks like 2027 is now set to be a record year for Oceania lifters.

• Elite Senior Training Camp – Samoa

Thanks to the IWF, Samoa will host an Elite Senior Training Camp during the ONOC General Assembly in March 2027. This will be another major boost for the region. Samoa is becoming the unofficial capital of big lifts and big meals. What an opportunity for those lifters who are underweight.

• Luisa Peters in Japan .

Luisa Peters is also currently in Japan for the Asian Games — flying the Oceania flag proudly.

• 2027 Commonwealth & Oceania Championships

From 24–29 May 2027, Samoa will host the Commonwealth Senior, Junior & Youth Championships, alongside the Oceania Junior & Youth Championships. As you are all aware the Oceania Senior Championships will instead be held with the Pacific Games in Tahiti in July 2027.

In conjunction with the Commonwealth Championships Samoa is planning to host also the Pacific Rim International, attracting many countries. With prize money naturally!!!!

• IWF Olympic Qualification – Qatar

The IWF today has contacted us to ask all our affiliated countries that if anyone wishes to nominate as a technical official for the first IWF Olympic Qualification Event in Qatar this December, please act immediately. Nominations must be submitted on the official form: <https://iwf.sport/downloads/?did=2991>

THREE hours weigh-in!!!!

For those who have not caught up with the news, at the World Championships this year, the weigh-in times will be changed. The weigh-in will be three hours before the start of each session. So, if you weigh-in first you have three hours to rest. God Bless You!!! You could fall asleep and I hope you wake up before the competition.

FINALLY : Two officials attending the Oceania International Cup at Hawthorn, went across to Glenferrie Road to purchase some KFC. Unfortunately they were not able to get any. We understand that the lifters from Samoa and Naoero were there earlier. No wonder they ran out of chicken!!