



6 Gold - 5 Silver - 2 Bronze

COMMONWEALTH GAMES - DELHI

What a great performance the Oceania regional weightlifters produced in Delhi at the recent Commonwealth Games. Two gold, two silver and one bronze to Australia, three gold to Samoa, one gold and one silver to Nauru and two silver medals to New Zealand.

These Games which received an enormous amount of criticism prior to the start, produced a great spectacle. The opening ceremony was magnificent with no adverse outcome. The village which housed the athletes and officials provided excellent accommodation. The dining facilities were of world class standard providing a range of meals including African cuisine, Asian cuisine, European cuisine, Indian cuisine, and Vegetarian cuisine.



Ele Opeloge (Samoa) with a brilliant 125Kg snatch



This was easy.. Yukio Peter (Nauru) with 185Kg clean & jerk

The weightlifting event, with the exception of the electronic scoreboard which unfortunately failed a few times, was extremely well run. The warm up area had plenty of space and was well set up. So was the main stage. The training hall was also very well equipped. It was located within the village and this was very well received by all countries. This meant that the athletes did not have to travel long distances for training. In fact it was within walking distance from the accommodation.



"I'm going for gold" Damon Kelly (AUS) wins the 105+Kg category. This was Damon's best snatch of 176kg.



"You beauty" Faavae Faauliuli makes history by winning the first ever gold medal for Samoa at Commonwealth Games.

This Games also produced the highest number of lifters entries and countries participation. 204 competitors entered the Games from 37 countries. It was also the first time that the Games had three 'B' categories included. This happened in the 62kg category, 69kg category and 85kg category. Of the 37 countries, 12 countries came from the Oceania region, 11 countries from the African region, 6 from the Asian region, 5 from Europe and 3 from North America/Caribbean.

- The lifters produced some brilliant performances. Ele Opeloge won gold for Samoa in the 75+kg category with a brilliant 160kg clean & jerk and totalled 285kg.
- So was the battle of the giants in the men's super-heavy category with Itte Detenamo (Nauru) producing a great snatch on 179kg, whilst Damon Kelly (Australia) came up with a superb lift of 221kg in the clean & Jerk with both lifters producing 397Kg total. Damon took the gold by being lighter on bodyweight.

- Yukio Peter of Nauru put to rest his nightmares of four years ago in Melbourne where he should have won gold. This time nothing was going to stop him winning gold in the 77Kg and he did this with his first clean & jerk of 185Kg.
- Faavae Faauliuli, won Samoa's first ever gold and made history for Samoa. He won the 94kg category with his best ever total of 334Kg.
- Simplice Ribouem from Australia won gold in the 85kg category, whilst Niusila Opeloge from Samoa won gold in the 105kg category..



“Gold is mine”. Niusila Opeloge (Samoa) wins the 105Kg category



“What an easy lift” Simplice Ribouem (AUS) takes the 85Kg gold medal with a total of 333Kg.

With so many young lifters from the region, most of them producing their best ever performances, Glasgow 2014 looks like being a pasture of success for the Oceania region. We expect even better results than this year's 6 gold medals.

Oceania referees were well represented amongst the technical officials at the Games. From Australia we had Sam Coffa, Pedro Sanchez, Jenny Sanchez, Boris Kayser. From New Zealand there was Garry Marshall. From Papua New Guinea we had Iwila Jacob and Frank Robby.



Kiribati, December 2001 - Ben and Yukio in the 69kg category..



9 years later in India competing in the 77kg class



Niue, September 2003 – Itte and Damon in the super-heavy class..



7 years later in India but of course both heavier.

Oceania medallists from the 2010 Commonwealth Games

AUSTRALIAN WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION



Damon Kelly

Gold +105Kg



Simplicie Ribouem

Gold 85 Kg



Ben Turner

Silver 77Kg



Seen Lee

Silver 58Kg



Deborah Acason

Bronze +75Kg

SAMOA WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION



Niusila Opeloge

Gold 105Kg



Ele Opeloge

Gold +75Kg



Faavae Faauliuli

Gold 94Kg



NAURU WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION



Yukio Peter

Gold 77Kg



Itte Detenam

Silver +105Kg



NEW ZEALAND WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION



Richard Patterson

Silver 85Kg



Stanislav Chalaev

Silver 105Kg



CWF ELECTORAL CONGRESS



The Hon. Vinson Detenamo

The Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation Electoral Congress was held during the Games – with the President the Hon. Vinson Detenamo from Nauru being re-elected unopposed.

The General Secretary, Paul Coffa from Australia was also re-elected unopposed. Whilst the new Assistant Secretary is now Trent Dabwido from Nauru. Trent competed for Nauru internationally including the Commonwealth Games in 1998. He was for many years the Sports Development Officer of the Nauru Olympic Committee and he was also one of the MC’s at the Sydney Olympic Games.

Matthew Curtain, who served as Assistant Secretary for the past four years, decided to stand as one of the six Vice Presidents and we were pleased that he was duly elected to that position. Also, Garry Marshall from New Zealand was re-elected as a Vice President, for his second term in that position.



Countries at the CWF Electoral Congress at the Ashok Hotel. 34 countries attended the Congress. Guests included Dr Tamas Ajan President IWF, Hon. Michael Fennell President CGF, Mr Michael Hooper CEO- CGF.



CGF President, Hon. Michael Fennell receives an appreciation award from the President of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Hon. Vinson Detenamo and Dr. Tamas Ajan, President of the IWF.



India wins the Trafalgar Trophy for the second time in Commonwealth Games history.



Australian supporters at the weightlifting venue.

Paul Coffa MBE
GENERAL SECRETARY
OCEANIA WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION

