

# Happy New Year



## Latest News

January , 2012

## THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT...

It is very difficult to produce results when you are lifting on sand, with broken weights, bent bars, no shoes , no chalk and no belts and in some countries lifting is outside under the sun in temperatures of 30degrees plus. Not only that but not having the funds to purchase equipment makes it more difficult for countries and clubs to survive. Yet even under these extreme conditions weightlifting in the Pacific region is still as popular as ever.



But things are starting to change for the better now thanks to the IWF initiative by putting in place a global development plan. The President of the IWF, Dr Tamas Ajan has made sure that many countries of the Oceania Region will receive within the next two months new equipment. This time around the countries receiving equipment are: Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Kiribati, Australia, Tuvalu, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, American Samoa ,Cook Islands, New Zealand, Micronesia (FSM), Guam and the Solomon Islands. The next round we would assist the remaining pacific island countries.

I know that this equipment will be put to full use as soon as it lands on their shores. It is very difficult to win medals at World Championships and Olympics. However this assistance from the IWF certainly will elevate the standard of lifting further in our region. And we look forward to have quite a number of lifters from the region taking part at the Olympics. I'm sure it is only a matter of time before our region will start winning medals regularly at world events.

### OLYMPIC TEST EVENT

Matthew Curtain, the Oceania Assistant Secretary and Vice President of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation, is doing a great job in the lead up to the Olympic Games in his capacity as the Competition Manager for the 2012 Olympics. The test event held in London in the month of December was an outstanding success.

Branded as the '**London Prepares**' Weightlifting International Invitational – the Weightlifting Test Event was held in London from 10 – 11 December 2011. Categories contested were as follows: men's 94kg & +105kg / women's 69kg & +75kg.

With 26 National Federations represented, together with IWF President, Dr. Tamás Aján and Technical Delegates, Sam Coffa & Attila Ádámfi, the Weightlifting Test Event was an important exercise for the Organising Committee to validate current planning, crystallise operations and rehearse Game-time deliverables. 'Our focal aim was to test the Field of Play, technology solution as well as to give our invaluable sport-specific volunteers and workforce the opportunity to enhance their skills at a major international event' said Matthew Curtain.



**The competition stage at the Test Event**

Athletically, Azerbaijan dominated the Test Event winning Gold in men's 94kg category (ZAIROV Intigam, 171 + 206 = 377) and women's +75kg category (DOVHAL Yuliya, 117 + 138 = 255). The women's 69kg category was won by 2011 Junior World Championships silver medallist, SUWANNARATANA Wiriya (THA) defeating (by virtue of her lighter bodyweight) the current Junior World Champion, KANG Yue (CHN). Both athletes totalled 240kg. 2011 Universiade Champion, Péter Nagy (HUN) won the men's +105kg category (178 + 218 = 396) ahead of VELAGIC Almir (GER) & GYLLENHAMMAR Jim (SWE). Full results are available via [www.iwf.net](http://www.iwf.net)

At the cessation of the competition, the Test Event was hailed as a ‘big success’ by David Luckes, London 2012 Head of Sport Competition. ‘The competition gave all weightlifters and officials the chance to experience being associated within the dynamics of an Olympic environment so it was certainly a great event for everyone involved’ he continued. Congratulations Matthew for a job well done. We look forward to the Olympics with great expectations.



Matthew Curtain with his London Test Event team.



Dr Tamas Ajan IWF President, addressing the Technical Meeting.

**ANOTHER WEIGHTLIFTING CHAMPION PRESIDENT OF NAURU**



With the recent resignation of His Excellency, Marcus Stephen as President of the Republic of Nauru, a new President has been elected. The new President is His Excellency, Sprent Dabwido. Sprent was national champion in 1995 and 1996. He won a silver medal at the 1995 Samoa Games but more important he competed for Nauru at the 1995 World Championships in China in the super heavyweight category. The President’s brother, Mr. Trent Dabwido, is the Assistant Secretary of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation.

On behalf of the OWF we wish H.E. Sprent Dabwido a very successful term of office.

H.E. Sprent Dabwido President of the Republic of Nauru

**SAMOA 2012**

The 2012 Oceania and Commonwealth Senior , Junior and Youth championships to be held in Apia- Samoa (May 21-26) is set to be a huge event in the lead up to the Olympics, especially as it is an Olympic qualification event.

The OWF General Secretary will visit shortly Samoa to set up full details for these championships with Jerry Wallwork the President of the Samoa Weightlifting Federation. Mid February all invitations and entry forms will go out in preparation to this great event.

**FIJI HAS A NEW SECRETARY**

Following the resignation of Mr Chris Yee due to work commitments the new General Secretary is Ms.Lillian Amasa.

**2012 PACIFIC ISLANDS EMAIL TOURNAMENT**

The first tournament coming up in the Oceania is The Pacific Islands Email Weightlifting Tournament scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. All you need to do, again just like last year, is send the results of your tournament to the OWF and please make sure that the results are sent no later than the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

**OCEANIA TECHNICAL OFFICIALS FOR THE LONDON OLYMPICS**

Congratulation to Pedro Sanchez (AUS), and Garry Marshall (NZL) for being selected to referee at the forthcoming Olympics. Also to Sam Coffa (AUS) the IWF Technical Delegate at the Games.



Garry Marshall (NZL)



Sam Coffa (AUS)



Pedro Sanchez (AUS)

### OCEANIA LIFTERS RANKED AT WORLD LEVEL

This is how the best Oceania lifters in each category ranks according to the IWF world rankings (one per country)

#### MALE

77Kg Category	Yukio Peter	(NRU) 347Kg Total	4 <sup>th</sup>	from 80 countries
+105Kg Category	Itte Detenamo	(NRU) 413Kg Total	7 <sup>th</sup>	from 54 countries
62Kg Category	Manuel Minginfel	(FSM) 278Kg Total	15 <sup>th</sup>	from 69 countries
56 Kg Category	Manueli Tulo	(FIJ) 239Kg Total	28 <sup>th</sup>	from 60 countries
105Kg Category	Niusila Opeloge	(SAM) 346Kg Total	29 <sup>th</sup>	from 55 countries
94Kg Category	Simplice Ribouem	(AUS) 340Kg Total	32 <sup>nd</sup>	from 64 countries
85Kg Category	Steven Kari	(PNG) 321Kg Total	34 <sup>th</sup>	from 80 countries
69Kg Category	Bronco Deiranauw	(NRU) 270Kg Total	41 <sup>st</sup>	from 78 countries

#### FEMALE

+75Kg Category	Ele Opeloge	(SAM) 281Kg Total	4 <sup>th</sup>	from 45 countries
75Kg Category	Mary Opeloge	(SAM) 222Kg Total	15 <sup>th</sup>	from 43 countries
48Kg Category	Kathleen Hare	(PNG) 148Kg Total	31 <sup>st</sup>	from 57 countries
58Kg Category	Maria Liku	(FIJ) 178Kg Total	31 <sup>st</sup>	from 62 countries
63 Kg Category	Rita Kari	(PNG) 178Kg Total	34 <sup>th</sup>	from 57 countries
69Kg Category	Guba Hale	(PNG) 181Kg Total	39 <sup>th</sup>	from 56 countries
53Kg Category	Dika Toua	(PNG) 150Kg Total	47 <sup>th</sup>	from 58 countries

### OCEANIA LIFTERS RANKED AT COMMONWEALTH LEVEL

This is how the top Oceania lifters in each category ranks according to the Commonwealth ranking list one per country by Michael Noonan, CWF statistician.

#### MALE

56 Kg Category	Manueli Tulo	(FIJ) 239Kg Total	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
62Kg Category	Daniel Koum Koum	(AUS) 257Kg Total	4 <sup>th</sup>	
69Kg Category	Toromon Takenibeia	(KIR) 271Kg Total	6 <sup>th</sup>	
77Kg Category	Yukio Peter	(NRU) 347Kg Total	1 <sup>st</sup>	
85Kg Category	Steven Kari	(PNG) 321Kg Total	4 <sup>th</sup>	
94Kg Category	Simplice Ribouem	(AUS) 340Kg Total	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
105Kg Category	Niusila Opeloge	(SAM) 346Kg Total	1 <sup>st</sup>	
+105Kg Category	Itte Detenamo	(NRU) 413Kg Total	1 <sup>st</sup>	

#### FEMALE

48Kg Category	Kathleen Hare	(PNG) 148Kg Total	5 <sup>th</sup>	
48Kg Category	Vivian Lee	(AUS) 148Kg Total	5 <sup>th</sup>	
53Kg Category	Vivian Lee	(AUS) 156Kg Total	6 <sup>th</sup>	
53Kg Category	Socheata Be	(AUS) 156Kg Total	6 <sup>th</sup>	
58Kg Category	Maria Liku	(FIJ) 178Kg Total	4 <sup>th</sup>	
63 Kg Category	Jenly Wini Tegu	(SOL) 183Kg Total	5 <sup>th</sup>	
63Kg Category	Seen Lee	(AUS) 183Kg Total	5 <sup>th</sup>	
69Kg Category	Guba Hale	(PNG) 181Kg Total	7 <sup>th</sup>	
75Kg Category	Mary Opeloge	(SAM) 222Kg Total	4 <sup>th</sup>	
+75Kg Category	Ele Opeloge	(SAM) 281Kg Total	1 <sup>st</sup>	

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

2012 Pacific Islands Email Weightlifting Tournament February 24-26

2012 Australian Open National Club Tournament - Melbourne March 23-25

Paul Coffa

OWF General Secretary

