

Oceania Weightlifting Federation News

Latest News

December 31,2008

Since the last newsletter of the OWF, the Commonwealth Championships has taken place in Limassol – Cyprus. Oceania lifters were quite successful at these Championships winning three categories in the men senior and three categories in the men junior. The winners in the seniors were Mark Spooner (New Zealand), Yukio Peter (Nauru) and Damon Kelly (Australia). Whilst in the juniors the winners were Malek Chamoun (Australia), Robert Galsworthy (Australia) and Sam Pera Jr. (Cook Islands).



*Mark Spooner (New Zealand)
69 kg Category winner*



Yukio Peter (Nauru) 77Kg Category winner



*Damon Kelly (Australia)
105+Category winner*

COMMONWEALTH CHAMPIONSHIPS – CYPRUS

The Championships were held in the beautiful city of Limassol in Cyprus from the 3rd to 7th December.

The event was a great success and congratulations must go to the President of the Cyprus Weightlifting Federation, Mr. Damianos Hadjidamianou and his daughter Joanna for all her efforts in the organization of the event. The event was very well set up, transport and accommodation was excellent, and the social activities organized by the President every evening were unmatched.

Sixteen countries took part in the event with unfortunately a few extra missing out due to late applications for visas. It was very good to see the gold medals particularly in the men categories being shared by Cyprus, New Zealand, Nauru, South Africa, Scotland, Barbados and Australia with Cyprus winning the team event. The junior men tournament was dominated by Malaysia whilst South Africa took the majority of gold in the women categories. It is a pity that Malaysia only entered their lifters in the junior event and not the seniors as well. The best male lifter in the senior event was Yukio Peter from Nauru whilst the best female lifter was Portie Vires from South Africa.



Malek Chamoun received a special award for his 300kg total. A proud father standing next to him. Congratulation George.



Mr Damianos Hadjidamianou President of the Cyprus Weightlifting Fed. with Paul Coffa OWF Gen.Secretary, Yukio Peter (Nauru) winner of the best lifter award with special guest Mr Marino Casadei Gen.Secretary European Fed.

C.W.F CONGRESS

The CWF Congress was held on the 4th December. Discussed were the following:

- The constitution was presented, to be reviewed next year and then being accepted at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Dehli.
- The Executive Board was expanded to include six more Executive Board Members. Two members
- from Oceania were included in the board. They are **Mr. Atma Maharaj (Fiji) and**
- **Mr. Robert Kabbas (Australia)**
- Mr. Atma Maharaj (Fiji) has been appointed Chairman of the Marketing division.
- Malaysia will be the host nation for the 2009 Commonwealth Senior and Junior Championships. The date set at this stage is December 16th – 20th
- The 2011 Commonwealth Championships for Junior and Senior is still open with South Africa being very keen to host it. The decision will be made in Malaysia in December next year.
- There will be no Commonwealth Senior Championships in 2010 being the Commonwealth Games year.



Mr Tony Hole first Vice President O.W.F. enjoying the championships.



Paul Coffa receives a Merit Certificate from the European Federation Gen. Sec.



Cyprus Culture at the closing ceremony

PACIFIC ISLANDS EMAIL TOURNAMENT

An email tournament for the Pacific Island nations will be conducted on the 28th February, 2009. Pacific Island lifters find it very difficult to travel and compete outside of their islands due to the cost factor. This email tournament will give them an opportunity to compete against lifters from other countries in the Pacific and will be an excellent preparation event prior to the Oceania Championships in May.

RECORDS

Congratulations to Seen Lee (Australia) for establishing new Oceania records. Seen competing in the 58kg category during the Hawthorn Championships on December 20th established new records in the snatch with a lift of 96Kg, a new record in the clean & jerk with a lift of 112kg and a new total record of 208Kg.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Atma Maharaj and to Mr Chris Yee are the new elected President and General Secretary respectively of the Fiji Weightlifting Federation. Mr Maharaj is also the General Secretary of the Fiji National Olympic Committee.

Mr. Andrew Nori and to Mr Timothy Rarakona have been elected President and General Secretary respectively of the Solomon Islands Weightlifting Federation. .

Mr Siale Ataongo Puloka has been elected President of the Tonga Weightlifting Federation.

CONGRATULATION TO YOU ALL FROM THE OCEANIA WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2009

February 27-28	Pacific Islands Cup Tournament by email	OWF office
March 28 – 30	Pacific Islands Scientific Seminar	Rome- Italy
March 31- April 1	IWF Electoral Congress	Madrid - Spain
May 3 - 7	IWF World Cup Junior & 1st Francophone International Tournament	Mont Dore New Caledonia
May 11 – 14	Arafura Games & Oceania Senior & Junior Championships	Darwin- Australia
May ??	First World Youth Championships	Thailand
June 12-21	World Junior Championships	Constanta- Romania
June 26-28	2009 Email International Club Tournament	OWF office
September 29 October 1	Pacific Mini Games	Rarotonga Cook Islands
October 10-18	World Masters	Sydney -Australia
November 17-27	World Senior Championships	Goyang City –Korea
December 16-20 (this date may change)	Commonwealth Championships (Sen. & Jun.)	Malaysia

**Paul Coffa MBE
SECRETARY GENERAL**

Happy New Year to every one- have a great 2009