

OEANIA WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION

AFFILIATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION

June, 2008

LATEST NEWS

Oceania lifters on the road to Beijing.

Congratulation to Manuel Minginfel from FSM

One of Oceania's best weightlifters, Manuel Minginfel 62Kg category from FSM has been informed recently by Dr Tamas Ajan, President of the IWF that he has qualified on his own merit to compete at the Beijing Olympic.

Manuel produced an outstanding performance at the Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) World Championships where he placed 4th overall and won a silver medal in the clean & jerk in the 62Kg category.



Australia nominates their lifters for Beijing.

On June 7th in Melbourne, Australia held its Olympic trials to select one male and one female lifter for Beijing. The trials were a great success with quite a few lifters producing outstanding performances.

Debra Lovely from Queensland secured her position on the Olympic team in the +75Kg category. She set new national records in the snatch with 112kg, clean& jerk 140Kg and total 252Kg, (All best lifts.) This will be Debra's second Olympic Games. She competed in the 75Kg category at the Athens Olympics 4 years ago.

In the men, Damon Kelly also from Queensland competing in the 105+Kg category secured his position on his last clean & jerk with a great lift of 222kg. Damon total 392Kg. Congratulation Debra and Damon.

Oceania lifters in Beijing.

With Australia now having finalized their two positions, this is how Oceania will be represented in Beijing so far:

MEN: New Zealand 2 lifters, Mark Spooner 69Kg and Richard Patterson 77kg or 85Kg.

Australia 1 lifter, Damon Kelly +105kg.

Nauru 1 lifter: Yukio Peter 77Kg or Itte Detenamo +105kg. (A decision will be made by Nauru in early July on which of the two lifters they will select.)

WOMEN: Australia 1 lifter, Debra Lovely + 75Kg.

Papua New Guinea 1 lifter: Dika Toua 53Kg .

Samoa 1 lifter: Ele Opeloge +75Kg.

INDIVIDUAL QUALIFICATION: Manuel Minginfel 62kg FSM -Micronesia

Now of course we are waiting for the invitation cards from the Tripartite Commission to be announced and we are looking forward to having more lifters from our region invited to compete.

World Junior Championships.

The Oceania region will be represented at this years World juniors in Colombia by Samuel Pera Jr from the Cook Islands in the +105Kg and from Australia Malek Chamoun will be competing in the 85kg and Robert Galsworthy in the 105Kg.

New Caledonia to join IWF.

New Caledonia will be the latest country to become a member of the IWF. This decision will be formalized at the World Junior Championships in Cali, Columbia on the 14th of June during the IWF Congress.

International Tournament.

Whilst at the World Junior Championships in Cali, Columbia it has been reported that New Caledonia will propose to hold a major international tournament in Noumea –New Caledonia in January 2009 during the official opening of the Oceania Weightlifting Institute. More details on this event will be published in the next bulletin of the OWF.

Arafura Games.

The Oceania Senior and Junior championships and the South Pacific Senior and Junior championships will be held in Darwin in May 2009, in conjunction with the Arafura Games. Andrew Forrest has been once again appointed as the director of the weightlifting event.

OWF President visits Hawthorn:

The President of the Oceania Weightlifting Federation, H.E. Marcus Stephen, whilst in Melbourne for a few days, visited his old club at Hawthorn, where he had spent almost 10 years of his life training. Matthew Curtain, the OWF Assistant General Secretary and the CEO of Australian Weightlifting introduced His Excellency to a number of young lifters. Marcus was very happy to meet up with his old friend and rival, the one and only Yurik Sarkisian.



Future events dates to note:

- 2008 Olympic Games – August 8- 22, Beijing China
- 2008 Commonwealth Youth Games – October 13-18, Pune, India
- 2008 Commonwealth Junior & Senior Championships – December 4- 7, Cyprus
- The 2009 Oceania Junior & Senior Championships and South Pacific Junior & Senior Championships to be held in conjunction with the Arafura Games in the month of May in Darwin, Australia.
- The 2009 Pacific Mini Games will be held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.
- 2009 Commonwealth Junior & Senior Championships - Malaysia
- The 2010 Oceania Junior & Senior Championships and South Pacific Junior & Senior Championships will be held in Noumea, New Caledonia and it will be also a test event for the 2011 Pacific Games.

Paul Coffa MBE
GENERAL SECRETARY