

Matangi Tonga (www.matangitonga.to)

## OTHER

### Tongan weightlifters compete in Pacific Islands Cup

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Nuku'alofa Tonga:



Lifting 190kg Tevita Finau, Winner Heavyweight category, Tonga Open Weightlifting Championship



TONGAN weightlifters competed in the Tonga National Weightlifting Championship and in the Tonga round of the Pacific Islands Cup Tournament at the Tonga Amateur Sports Association compound on Friday, February 27.

Maamaloa Lolohea, an Olympic heavyweight lifter, who is the coach and development officer for Tonga heavyweight lifters, said that 13 lifters competed in the Snatch, Clean and Jerk with seven categories, ranging from the 69kg to the 105kg.

In the Women's 69kg division, the winner was Tulisa Kailea, the only woman competitor. She lifted a total of 85kgs.

In the Men's division, the 56kg category was won by Maikolo Taufa, who lifted a total of 115kg. Other winners were: Niume Finau, (69kg) lifted 165kg; Talo Tuifua (77kg) lifted 115kg; Samisoni Uhila (85kg) lifted 150kg; Sione Vasi (90kg) lifted 170kg. The 105kg heavyweight category was won by Tevita Finau with a total lift of 190kg.

Maamaloa said that heavyweight lifters from 27 countries were competing in the Pacific Islands Cup Tournament and sending in their results by email. He said that at the end of the two-days competition, February 27-28, the results would be e-mailed to the Oceania Weightlifting Federation in New Caledonia for comparison and the announcement of the winners next week.

Maamaloa was very impressed with the competition, "considering that a majority of the competitors were new comers." He was very optimistic of a strong team of lifters to represent Tonga at the South Pacific Mini Games to be held in the Cook Islands in September.



Tonga Open Weightlifting Championship, 1st Runner-Up Men's 62kg Clean Jerks



Niume Finau, winner Men's 65kg Clean Jerk.





Sione Vasi, winner Men's 94kg Clean Jerk, Tonga Open Weightlifting Championship



Tevita Finau, Tonga Heavyweight lifting champion



Tulisa Kailea, winner Women's 69kg category, Tonga Open Weightlifting Championship,



Niume Finau, winner Men's 69kg Clean Jerks, Tonga Open Weightlifting Championship,



Tonga Open Weightlifting Championship, Men's 69kg 2nd Runner Up Clean Jerks



Tonga Open Weightlifting Championship, 2nd Runner-up Men's 77kg Clean Jerk



Talo Tuifua, winner Men's 77kg, Clean Jerk Tonga Open Weightlifting Championship,

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