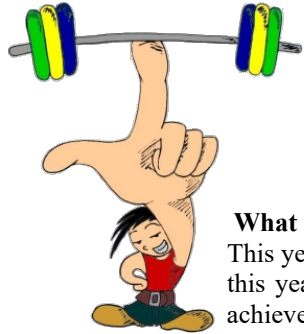




Oceania Weightlifting Federation

9,156 ENTRIES

(Again we surpassed our own expectations.)



What a great result the 2019 OTIP program has produced again.

This year, the eighth year of this program, those expectations have been once again surpassed. We have reached this year a overwhelming **9,156** entries coming from 13 countries. (That is 5,151 boys and 4,005 girls) We have achieved these astonishing figures with the full assistance of the IWF.

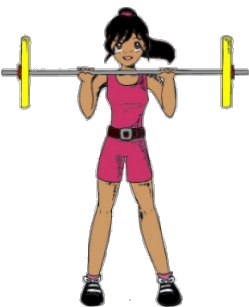
In 2012, Dr Tamas Ajan, President of the IWF launched the first **OTIP program (Oceania Talent Identification Program)** organized by the Oceania Weightlifting Federation. The aim was to reach, by the end of the fifth year - 5,000 student entries.

The results of this year could not have been achieved without the support of the 13 countries/federations who took part in the program. That is **Australia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Cook Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Kiribati, Guam and CNMI**. In particular, this year, a special thanks again must go to David Katoatau from Kiribati. David has contributed enormously spending one month travelling throughout the islands of Kiribati, to promote the sport of weightlifting and the OTIP program.

This OWF school initiative has been the backbone of the development of champions in the Oceania region in recent years. This program organised by the OWF, is financially supported by the IWF. Special thanks must go to Dr. Tamas Ajan, President of the IWF, for his support and enthusiasm towards the program. It is a unique program in the world of weightlifting. It was implemented specifically to identify talented students throughout the schools of the Oceania region, and in particular the Pacific Island nations.

What is truly remarkable, is that in a short period of time, the federations have been able to tap in to the work that they have done at the school level, and produce the next generation of champion weightlifters. Many students who have been identified through the OTIP program by their own federations, are now lifting in national and international events including the Commonwealth and Olympic Games.

It was great to see so many top lifters and officials in the different countries assisting with the OTIP program. The OWF is thankful for their support. **Nauru** – Quincy Detenamo. **PNG** – Toua Udia, Steve Dawanincura, Jeffrey Robby, Lorraine Harry, Iwila Jacob, Steven Kari. **Niue** – Narita Viliamu and Alan Tano. **Vanuatu** – Manueli Tulo, William Worworkon, and Henry Tavoava. **Kiribati** – David Katoatau, Riino Taatia and Tareitiia Tabaroua. **Solomon Islands** – Jenly Wini, Naoyuki Fujiyama, Wendy Hale, and Betty Wanesi. **Tuvalu** – Manuila Raobu. **Guam** – Edgar Molinos. **Cook Islands**- Joe Vueti, Luisa Peters and Unakea Kauvai, **CNMI** - John Davies and Jeanne Rayphand, and the offices of the **Australian Weightlifting Federation** and **Weightlifting New Zealand**.



***You never know how strong you are,
if you don't have a goal!***



Below are some photos from different island nations and their students who took part this year.

KIRIBATI



What amazing photos from Kiribati. David Katoatau has really promoted weightlifting at its best.

Also it is interesting to see young students lifting under the hot Pacific sun in different Islands outside in the school yard, some of them with no shoes.



SOLOMON ISLANDS



NAURU



PAPUA NEW GUINEA



VANUATU



COOK ISLANDS



AUSTRALIA



NIUE

ELEIKO
RAISE THE BAR

ELEIKO
RAISE THE BAR

ELEIKO
RAISE THE BAR

Paul Coffa
QWF General Secretary

THE 2019 OTIP PROGRAM

