# **OCEANIA WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION**

Newsletter



November 14, 2019

## WORLD RECORD TO EILEEN CIKAMATANA



ELEIKO

RAISE THE BAR

Australian junior and senior weightlifting champion, Eileen Cikamatana, competing in Lima, Peru during the IWF Grand Prix, established a new World Junior Clean & Jerk record with 151kg in the 87kg category. (In fact she weighed 83.6kg) She totalled 266kg to beat the 2018 World Senior Champion, AO Hui from China, who did 262kg total. In third place was Tamara Salazar Arce from Ecuador with 252kg Total.

This is the fourth world record in weightlifting history set by an Oceania lifter. The first goes back to 1969 when George Vasil from Australia, set a new world Junior record in the press in the 52kg category with 97.5Kg. The second was Nicu Vlad, lifting for Australia at the 1993 World Championships in Melbourne he set a new world Senior record of 190kg snatch in the 100kg category. Then in 1997 during the Junior World Championships in Capetown, South Africa, Olivia Baker from New Zealand set a new Junior

world clean & jerk record of 115.5kg in the +83kg category. Now 22 years later, the fourth person is Eileen Cikamatana from Australia establishing a new World Junior record with a clean & jerk of 151kg.

Incredibly Eileen has only just started. There will be more world records coming from this young athlete. In three weeks time she will compete in the bodyweight category of 81kg at the IWF World Cup in Tianjin, China. She is so young that she has years ahead of her to break world records at the senior level as well.

The next few events for Eileen are: the Ian Laurie Cup, in Melbourne on November 23. Then the World Cup in China on the 13<sup>th</sup> December and the 2020 World Cup in Rome on the 31st January.



Eileen together with the President of the African Weightlifting Federation, Mr. Khaled Mehalhel (on her left) and the General Secretary of the IWF, Mr. Mohamed Jalood.



Eileen and Paul with IWF Vice President and Olympic Champion, Mr. Nicu Vlad and Triple Olympic Gold Medallist, Pyrros Dimas.



**Don Opeloge** - from Samoa lifted brilliantly also in Lima competing in the 96kg category. Don snatched 160kg, clean & jerked 201kg and totalled 361kg – all new junior and senior Oceania records. Don placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall in the 96Kg category.



Don snatching 160kg on his third attempt.



Don Clean & Jerk 200kg in training in Lima

#### **OWF RECOGNITION**



Over 100 delegates attended a function at the San Marcos University, the oldest university in the Americas. The function was held to honour the five continents attending the IWF Grand Prix. Each continent received a special gold plaque in appreciation.

In addition to this, Paul Coffa the OWF General Secretary accepted a special award from the Organising Committee of the Lima Grand Prix, in recognition of the magnificent record that the Oceania region holds in having no doping violations for the last 12 years. The countries of Oceania must be congratulated for being vigilant and compliant with anti-doping. We look forward to continue this clean record.

#### **2019 OTIP PROGRAM** 9,156 ENTRIES in the 2019 OTIP PROGRAM.



A great result from this year's OTIP program. This year saw entries 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. The countries participating were:

Australia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Cook Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Kiribati, Guam and CNMI. The OTIP training camp for students selected by countries who participated will be held between the 1<sup>st</sup> December to the 9<sup>th</sup> of December at the Oceania Weightlifting Institute in New Caledonia.

### 2019 PACIFIC CUP INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Pacific Cup International Tournament in New Caledonia this year has attracted quite a large number of lifters. The event will be held at the Oceania Weightlifting Institute on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December. A technical seminar will also be held on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December at CISE.

Other News:



Champion weightlifter Laurel Hubbard, from New Zealand, who placed fourth in the snatch at the recent World Championships in Pattaya -Thailand with a lift of 131kg and sixth overall in the total 285kg has decided to do the rest of her preparation for the qualifying events for the Tokyo Olympics, at the Oceania Weightlifting Institute in New Caledonia.

Laurel believes that 300kg total is within her reach and we wish her all the very best in her preparation for the upcoming events.

<u>New Zealand</u> Congratulations to Richard Patterson, 2014 Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist as he was appointed President of Weightlifting New Zealand. The OWF wishes Richard a very successful term of office.

<u>**Tuvalu</u>** - Tuvalu Weightlifting Federation has a new President in Fiafiaga Lusama and General Secretary Felix Seluka Koakoa. The Assistant Secretary is Lapua Tuau Lapua who is currently undertaking a 12 month Oceania regional coaching course in New Caledonia. The OWF wishes all appointees a very successful term of office.</u>

Paul Coffa MBE OWF General Secretary





