



**OCEANIA REGIONAL POWERLIFTING FEDERATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
30TH OCTOBER 2024, NAURU**

Venue: Menen Hotel Conference Room
Time: 5.15pm

Present: Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu

Absent: American Samoa, New Caledonia, Tahiti, Tonga (No apologies received)

AGENDA ITEM 1 – OPENING & WELCOMING REMARKS

1.1 ORPF President – Member Federation Presidents, Secretaries, all those in attendance in person and virtually, it is my privilege to welcome you all to our 2024 Oceania Annual General Meeting. I am thrilled to see 11 of us member federations attending this meeting in person and virtually. It is our first AGM as the newly appointed ORPF Executive.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL OF NATIONS AND DELEGATES

2.1 American Samoa (absent), Australia (in person/virtual), Fiji (in person), Kiribati (in person), Nauru (in person), New Caledonia (absent), New Zealand (in person), Niue (in person), Papua New Guinea (virtual), Samoa (in person/virtual), Solomon Islands (in person/virtual), Tahiti (absent), Tonga (absent), Tuvalu (online).

2.2 A count of members present was 11 which meets the required quorum. The quorum is met, therefore the Annual General Meeting can officially commence.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – PRESIDENT’S REPORT

3.1 Acknowledge all combined efforts of all member federations in attendance

3.2 ORPF focuses on promoting powerlifting through several key initiatives

3.3 ORPF leads the sport’s development in the region, strengthen alliances with governing bodies and sponsors and most importantly to enhance the opportunities and benefits for lifters in a transparent, drug-free environment

3.4 ORPF is committed to fair governance and aims to address doping practices within the sport

3.5 ORPF prioritises cultivating relationships with all its members, international media, public organisations and IPF to ensure comprehensive representation of interests.

3.6 ORPF has initiated the development of strategic alliances with various sports organisations to promote powerlifting across the region, ensuring it’s growth, enhancing participation and strengthening connections with the local community. This collaboration approach aims to integrate powerlifting into wider sporting frameworks and encourage further engagement from the community.

3.7 The formal presentation of the Oceania Regional Powerlifting Strategic Plan 2024-2029 will mark a significant milestone in this endeavour. The plan will outline the vision and actionable strategies for ORPF and aimed at building a sustainable and inclusive powerlifting environment in Oceania. By aligning with local, regional and international partners. The Federation also seeks to create pathways that will increase participation and nurture talent within the sport.

(Report moved by the President & Second by New Zealand)



AGENDA ITEM 4 – GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES 2024 (ENDORSEMENT)

- 4.1 Fiji – If the audited financial report for 2024 is available to discuss at this meeting as it was mentioned in the Treasurer’s report from the General Assembly in 2023. The report will be discussed in Agenda item 5.
(Report moved by the President and Second by Fiji)

AGENDA ITEM 5 – TREASURER’S – AUDITOR’S REPORT – APPROVAL OF BUDGET

- 5.1 Report was written before the final nominations of athletes on Goodlift
- 5.2 Outstanding fees to IPF for 2022 & 2023 from PNG, NCL and Samoa was paid by IPF to avoid exclusion of the three countries as members to IPF. This is on conditions that these countries are to reimburse the fees to IPF before the IPF General Assembly in June 2025. If these countries fail to reimburse these funds by June 2025, then they will not be able to nominate any athletes to any of the IPF championships
- 5.3 Samoa acknowledged the arrangements thus far and thanked ORPF for facilitating to ensure the extension of time for the reimbursement. The Samoa IPF fees for 2022 and 2023 has been settled
- 5.4 PNG echoed the comments made by Samoa and reassured ORPF that PNG Powerlifting will ensure the fees are paid before the set final timeframe for the reimbursement
- 5.5 Currently only Solomon Islands have outstanding entry fees. In the ORPF Constitution (103.3.1), if a national federation nominated for an ORPF competition has not paid the required participation and doping fees to the bank account of the ORPF within one day prior to the technical meeting for the particular championship, a penalty fee of AUD250 will be charged). The PNG, Solomon Islands and Kiribati Federations will be charged with the penalty fee including all other outstanding invoices for the 2024 Oceania Championship before the 31st of December 2024
- 5.6 ORPF Constitution 105.13 - Any participating nation with more than 3 lifters in an ORPF competition must include at least one international referee amongst it’s official. Failing to present a referee, the lifters of that nation can compete but a fine of AUD250 will be charged. Unfortunately, Samoa brought four athletes to the championship without a referee. The penalty fee is to be paid by the 31st of December 2024.
- 5.6 Apologies as the ORPF Treasurer is not here to present his report
- 5.7 The ORPF Constitution stipulates all the fines and penalties of ORPF and are not made up by the Executive on the spot
(Report moved by the ORPF President and Second by Samoa)

AGENDA ITEM 6 – SECRETARY GENERAL’S REPORT

- 6.1 Looked beyond the impact of COVID19 pandemic to the sport and focused on strengthening ORPF then reconnecting to our Oceania member federations
- 6.2 Delivered the sport of Powerlifting at the XVII Pacific Games held in Solomon Islands from November – December 2023
- 6.3 Five new Cat 2 IPF International Referees certified, and twenty new coaches completed the coaching course during the Pacific Games in Solomon Islands
- 6.4 Thirty new international records were set at the Solomon games
- 6.5 Empower, encourage and foster relationships with our members
- 6.6 Mutual consultations with the National Olympic Comms to ensure support is rendered to the Powerlifting National Federations
- 6.7 Collect all outstanding fees for IPF & ORPF from 2022 – 2024
- 6.8 Facilitate all antidoping requirements for all lifters competing in the 2024 Oceania Championship
- 6.9 All preparations for the 2024 Oceania Powerlifting & Bench Press Championship



- 6.10 Negotiate with partners for the development of technical officials in the sport
6.11 Acknowledge support from all the members and IPF
(Report moved by the ORPF President and Second by New Zealand)

AGENDA ITEM 7 – COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 7.1 A total of 86 lifters (54 males & 32 females) from 11 nations took part in the XVII Pacific Games 2023. This proved to be a successful event, and Powerlifting has once again been voted in to be included at the next 2027 Pacific Games in Tahiti
- 7.2 Shortage of referees and technical officials had to be flown in from outside of our region. This raised the costs of our sport more than expected. This was highlighted as a major priority. As such, Powerlifting was uniquely permitted to conduct international examinations at the Games. Five examinations were conducted resulting in 5 new international referees accredited as IPF Category 2 referees from Niue, Nauru & New Caledonia
- 7.3 The 2024 Oceania Regional Powerlifting & Bench Press Championships is set to feature 105 lifters in Powerlifting (72 males and 33 females), and 58 lifters in the Bench Press Championships (39 males & 19 females) from 11 different nations
- 7.4 The current IPF referees in Oceania is 28. These referees are from 8 different nations. Nine of these referees are Category 1 from four different nations
- 7.5 Major priority is to increase the numbers of international referees in our region.
- 7.6 The Technical Committee has 4 vacancies as does the Athletes and Women's Committees. All member countries are encouraged to nominate these candidates via the executive. The vision is to grow organically and with purpose and direction to develop our region in a sustainable and honest way
- 7.7 Encourage those who are looking at applying to sit the Cat2 Referee examination to take up the online courses on the NZPF Website
- 7.8 Proposed to hold coaching training in Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Solomon Islands and Nauru
(Report moved by the ORPF President and Second by Australia)

AGENDA ITEM 8 – NATIONAL REPORTS

- 8.1 **American Samoa** – None
- 8.2 **Australia**
- (a) Officially a member to ORPF January 2024 and IPF in June 2024
 - (b) No affiliation to the former Australia Powerlifting Association. Raise own funds for sustainable competitions
 - (c) Members are scattered with 70% of the members in East coast, 22% based in NSW and majority based in Sydney
 - (d) 400 athletes competed in their national competitions, and some are competing in the Sheffield competitions
 - (e) Most athletes are returning to IPF
 - (f) Since establishing in January of 2024, affiliated members have increased to 1,500
 - (g) Acknowledge the ORPF Executive for the tremendous support to the APA this year
- 8.3 **Fiji**
- (a) Financial constraints and getting the Government's trust back
 - (b) Increase in numbers of athletes especially female
 - (c) Good run at the last Pacific Games. Managed to bag a few medals from the competition
 - (d) Ensure to work with ORPF to maintain the dialogue



- 8.4 **Kiribati**
- (a) Sports bringing in interest from the young athletes
 - (b) National competitions are supported by the Government and the local business sector
 - (c) A need for an expansion of the Executive Committee to assist with running of the sport
- 8.5 **Nauru**
- (a) Compiled a Powerlifting Calendar of events for 2024
 - (b) A big competition pool of events spread throughout the whole year and really depends on the funding
 - (c) Two lifters sent to Birmingham and six powerlifters to South Africa returning with medals
 - (d) Host of the 2024 Oceania Regional Powerlifting & Bench Press Championship
 - (e) Challenges with too many federations. Most of the athletes are now returning to IPF and are currently under suspension as a stand down period to switching back to IPF from Worlds Powerlifting and other federations
 - (f) Financial constraints will continue to be a challenge for Nauru attending international competitions
- 8.6 **New Caledonia**
- (a) None
- 8.7 **New Zealand**
- (a) Powerlifting is growing rapidly now. There is an increased number of athletes coming in. One region has experienced a 100% growth rate
 - (b) Challenge is having not enough volunteers. In 2025, there will be a change in the national competitions
 - (c) Funding available for Pacific Islanders for development of their officials and athletes
- 8.8 **Niue**
- (a) We face the same issues with two federations in Niue
 - (b) A few lifters. Currently recruited a few Niuean athletes lifting in New Zealand who are keen to represent Niue
 - (c) Have received some funding from the Government of Australia. We have an existing project to include the children with a disability
- 8.9 **Papua New Guinea**
- (a) Left the meeting
- 8.10 **Samoa**
- (a) Challenge to get to the championship because of financial constraints
 - (b) Increase in consultation with the diaspora living abroad but being cautious about recruiting overseas based athletes because of the different level of doping
 - (c) An increase also in young athletes coming through
 - (d) Wish ORPF a successful competition
- 8.11 **Solomon Islands**
- (a) Apologies for pulling out of the championships due to funding constraints. Powerlifting is not a popular sport compared to football and athletics etc
 - (b) Financial support is out of own pockets. One athlete who will be competing in the Master 3 in this 2024 championship. Solomon Islands looks forward to join in the 2025 championship



- 8.12 **Tahiti**
(a) None
- 8.13 **Tonga**
(a) None
- 8.14 **Tuvalu**
(a) Established a single federation of Powerlifting as it was joined with Weightlifting
(b) Newly appointed President for Powerlifting
(c) Worked tirelessly to pay off all our outstanding debts with IPF and ORPF
(d) Only one athlete travelling to the 2024 Oceania Championship
(e) Powerlifting is not an Olympic sport; therefore, the sport is not entitled to the funds however, the government is supporting the sport

AGENDA ITEM 9 – NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

- 9.1 No new member applications received
9.2 Welcome Australia Powerlifting Association (APA) who is now an Associate member to ORPF and a member to IPF
9.3 Expression of Interest to affiliate as members – Northern Marianas, Cook Islands and Guam

AGENDA ITEM 10 – PROPOSALS

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ORPF CONSTITUTION (Refer Annex 1)

- 10.1 Proposal C1 – 7.3.7 Credentials
10.2 Proposal C2 – 9.1 Election
10.3 Proposal C3 – 9.2 Term of Office
10.4 Proposal C4 – 13.2 Failure to Pay Annual Subscription Fee
10.5 Proposal C5 – 14 Doping Control, Main Procedures 14.1 General (14.1.1)

DECISION

The Proposed amendments to the ORPF Constitution was fully supported by Nauru, Niue, Kiribati, Australia, Fiji, Samoa, New Zealand and Solomon Islands

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE IPF CONSTITUTION (Refer Annex 2)

- 10.6 Proposal B1 – 101.3 Constitutional General Assembly Schedule
10.7 Proposal B2 – 101.9.1 Records Registrar (101.9.1.1)
10.8 Proposal B3 – 101.9.2 Championship Secretary (101.9.2.2)
10.9 Proposal B4 – 103.9 Lapel Pins
10.10 Proposal B5 – 103.10 Delinquent National Affiliate Fees
10.11 Proposal B6 – 104.2 Oceania Record Certificates
10.12 Proposal B7 – 104.3 Best Lifter Award
10.13 Proposal B8 – 104.4 ORPF Medals
10.14 Proposal B9 – 104.5 ORPF Competition Participation Certificate
10.15 Proposal B10 – 104.11 Recognition of Oceania Records (104.11.1)
10.16 Proposal B11 – 104.12 Oceania Powerlifters of the Year
10.17 Proposal B12 – 105.2 National Flags
10.18 Proposal B13 – 105.4 Invitation and Accommodation (105.4.1), (105.4.2), (105.4.3)
10.19 Proposal B14 – 105.5 Nomination
10.20 Proposal B15 – 105.6 Representation at the Technical Meeting (105.6.1), (105.6.2)
10.21 Proposal B16 – 105.7 Recommended official hotel(s)



- 10.22 Proposal B17 – 105.12 Competitions (105.12.3)
- 10.23 Proposal B18 – 105.13 Including a Referee in National Teams, Fine, Restriction
- 10.24 Proposal B19 – 105.14 Sanction of International Level Competitions in the IPF Oceania Region

DECISION

- (a) Proposals B12 & B18 to be carved out of the first vote. All other proposed amendments were fully supported by Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Nauru, Australia, Samoa, New Zealand, Tuvalu and Solomon Islands***
- (b) Proposal B12 – Retain the original wording***
- (c) Proposal B18 – Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Nauru, Australia, Samoa, New Zealand, Tuvalu and Solomon Islands did not support the proposed changes***

AGENDA ITEM 11 – ACTION ON DELINQUENT NATIONS

- 11.1 None

AGENDA ITEM 12 – HALL OF FAME

- 12.1 ORPF received an application from the Nauru Powerlifting summarising all Powerlifting achievements for Harris Irving. The application was delivered to verbally to the Annual General meeting by the Secretary General of ORPF
- 12.2 The application was fully supported by Niue, Nauru, Kiribati, New Zealand, Samoa, Fiji, Australia and Solomon Islands. Tuvalu and Papua New Guinea had left the meeting to join other meetings.

AGENDA ITEM 13 – FUTURE CHAMPIONSHIPS (2025 HOST)

- 13.1 Expression of Interest to host the 2025 Championship – One EOI received from New Zealand, therefore, all in attendance agreed and confirmed New Zealand as host for the 2025 Championship in Christchurch
- 13.2 Expression of Interest to host the 2026 Championship – One EOI received from Fiji, therefore, all in attendance agreed and confirmed Fiji as the host for the 2026 Championship

AGENDA ITEM 14 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 14.1 The President of ORPF extended his heartfelt thanks to all athletes, officials and supporters who attended the 2024 Oceania Powerlifting & Bench Press Championships. The dedication and enthusiasm made the event a resounding success. He also expressed appreciations for the hard work and commitment displayed by each athlete, as well as the invaluable support from their coaches and family members. Together, we will celebrate the remarkable achievements and foster a spirit of camaraderie within the powerlifting community.

Thank you for attending this AGM and being part of this unforgettable experience, Yaren, Nauru, 2024.

AGENDA ITEM 15 – ADJOURNMENT

- 15.1 Nil

Meeting closed at 1937 hours
Closing Prayer - Kiribati

