



IWF MASTERS WEIGHTLIFTING COMMITTEE

General Secretary – Bill Barton
45, Middleton Drive, Bury, Lancs. BL9 8DT. ENGLAND
Tel/Fax: +44 161 796 2191
Email: wa.barton@talktalk.net



2nd January 2013

For the attention of:
all National Masters Chairmen

Dear All,

Allow me to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year 2013 and wish you all continued good health and peace in your lives for the future.

WMG 2013 (World Masters Games)

In August this year we have yet another WMG in Turin, Italy. To my knowledge weightlifting has been a part of these WMG since 1989 in Aalborg, Denmark. The following WMG were 1994 Brisbane, Australia, 1998 Portland, Oregon, USA, 2002 Melbourne, Australia, 2005 Edmonton, Canada, and 2009 Sydney, Australia.

In considering 2013 WMG Turin we are only 7 months and a few days away from this event which incorporates the 2013 World Masters Weightlifting Championship and gives competitors an opportunity to break WMG records, and also World and Continental Masters records. More work for our IWF Masters Records Chairman (Les Simonton) and for the Continental Records Chairmen, so a special “thank you” to them. It is also my hope to negotiate and provide, for the first time at any WMG for athletes who reach the podium, two medals – one will be the WMG medal and the second will be a World Masters Championship medal and in addition, a special gift from Italy.

Since November 2011 I have been working extremely hard to negotiate weightlifting as a part of the 2013 WMG and to reach agreement on many things relating to weightlifting through contact with the WMG Weightlifting Organising Committee (WMGWLOC). This has only been made possible through my friendship with Walter Cerrato who owns a gym in Turin and who many of you will know as the coach of Susana Perrone. Walter has been acting as the representative of the IWF Masters Committee in close contact with me and under my directions, and he will be the Competition Manager in Turin.

You may consider that the WMG entry fee is high; it is certainly a slight increase on 2009 but is offset by the fact that for the first time since 1994 there will be no other fee to pay. The IWF Masters Committee is not asking for an additional fee of \$30 USD to cover its administration and doping control costs because again for the first time in its history the IWF Masters Committee has the finances available to cover these costs in a WMG year where there is no revenue.

Therefore it is **“full steam ahead”** for the 2013 WMG Torino! You can inform all the Masters in your country who can achieve the qualifying standard that they can proceed with their entry through the WMG online registration system. The “early bird” reduced registration fee has been extended to the 21st January and with further negotiation may be possibly extended to late February. Please be aware that doping control procedures will be a part of the Games weightlifting and will be administered by the IWF Masters Committee.

To conclude, please ensure that all Masters in your country complete the IWF Masters Entry Form also attached to this email. This form will be used to complete the Start List and produce the Competition Schedule; there is no additional fee to pay. All Masters who intend to compete must complete pages 1, 2, and 4 of the form, and page 5 (the summary) must be completed for single and multiple competitors. All forms must be mailed to the WMG before the WMG closing date, at –

COMITATO ORGANIZZATORE WORLD MASTERS GAMES (Weightlifting),
Corso Ferrucci 122, Ufficio n.37 - TORINO - 10141 - ITALY

OTHER SUBJECTS

(Please give your consideration to the two items below in the best interests of Masters weightlifting)

1. Officials

- The problem now facing the Masters is that we have fewer officials and the number of entries is on the increase.
- In some cases there are lifters who have officiated at past championships but are no longer interested in bringing their “referees uniforms” to officiate.
- Some Masters officials decide that the cost of an IWF Referees’ License is too high a price to pay to officiate at Masters events.
- It may be necessary to appoint “National” referees at Masters championships with maybe 2 IWF Cat I or Cat II refereeing with 1 National referee.

I can only ask all Masters referees to please carry your uniforms to championships and offer your services as an official.

2. Closing Banquets

- Many traditions have been built within the Masters over the years since 1989 when the World Masters Committee was elected, e.g. Closing Banquets, Hall of Fame, 400 Club, Best age Group lifters, and Grand Masters, World and Continental records.
- Every initiative needs to be resourced - Hall of Fame, 400 Club, and records all require updating and maintaining and this must be done in the correct way by people with the necessary computer skills to do this.
- **Closing Banquets** have been a feature at all our championships since 1989. They must be organised too and cost money, and this is recognized as an additional expense to Masters who already pay all their own travel and accommodation costs.
- All the Closing Banquets start with the presentation of awards for Best Age Group lifters, Grand Masters, and National Team trophies.
- More and more lifters who have won awards just do not attend the Closing Banquet to pick up their awards. Often you will see one person attempting to carry maybe 5 or 6 awards back to their own countries for lifters who are either not interested or too lazy to attend and pick up their own award.

Unless more and lifters make an effort to attend Closing Banquets there is a possibility that this function is discarded and with it there is a possibility that Best Lifter, Grand Masters, and National Team awards will also disappear. Please give some thought to this and some publicity within your own country amongst your Masters.

Yours sincerely,



Bill Barton
General Secretary - IWF Masters Weightlifting Committee

