



# **WEIGHTLIFTING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

**VI World Masters Games  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
July 21-29, 2005**

*By  
Dresdin Archibald*



**WORLD MASTERS GAMES  
EDMONTON • CANADA 05  
JEUX MONDIAUX DES MAÎTRES**



**International  
Masters Games  
Association**

# WEIGHTLIFTING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

## 2005 World Masters Games

By  
Dresdin Archibald

Now that the Games are over and things have quieted down it is time that I submitted my final report on the Games. I received many comments on how well the Games went. This is naturally flattering since I am also a long time Edmontonian and had contributed a lot of my energy in the last three years to the organization of the event. I will now, without further ado comment on all of the aspects of the meet that I was involved in, including areas that may not have gone as well as might have.

### Games Background

The city of Seville (ESP) was originally scheduled to host the 2006 World Masters Games. They eventually ran into financial difficulties that forced them to forfeit the Games. Due to the demonstrated ability of Edmonton (CAN) to host large athletic events that city was asked if they would like to take over from Seville. Edmonton agreed on one condition; that they hold them one year out of rotation in 2005. This condition was to accommodate the centennial of the province of Alberta. Funding would be a lot easier if the Games were to be a centennial project. This the IMGA agreed to. Later they saw the benefits of permanently moving to a one-year post-Olympic cycle, so the next Games will be in Sydney (AUS) in 2009.

### The Stakeholders

The reader should be familiar with the various stakeholders in the Games. Starting at the top is the **International Masters Games Committee (IMGA)**. They are the custodians of the Games in a manner similar to the **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** is with the Olympics. **International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)** President Tamas Ajan is now a member of the IMGA board as well as the IOC. In order to compete in the World Masters Games all sports must be affiliated with their IOC recognized international sport governing body.

The **International Weightlifting Federation Masters Committee (IWF Masters)** is a semi-independent committee of the **International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)** that is responsible for Masters weightlifting worldwide. Its Chairman is Walter Imahara (USA). Within the IWF Masters are the various member National Masters Committees (**NMCs**), each with their own chairpersons. Incidentally, unlike the parent IWF that does not hold a simultaneous World Championships with the Olympics the IWF Masters does combine the two in Games years. Because of that we were allowed flag displays and anthem playing in the venue.

The **2005 Edmonton World Masters Games Committee (WMGC)** is a body set up by the City of Edmonton charged with the organizing the 2005 version of the Games. A subcommittee of the WMGC was the **Weightlifting Committee**, presided over by Ms. **Roxanne Prunkl**. As such the latter functioned as the local organizing committee (**LOC**).

The **Alberta Weightlifting Association (AW/LA)** supplied many of the volunteers for the WMGC and some of the officials that worked the meet.

In a simple World Championship the IWF Masters is the only body overseeing the Games. There will be no conflicts with the LOC since they had bid on the Championships according to IWF Masters rules. In a Games things get more complicated with the addition of the IMGA and their primary contract with the WMGC. This situation carries the risk that in those places where there may be a conflict between the IWF Masters and the WMGC there is a potential for some of our rules to be compromised. That is the reason that the IWF appoints technical delegates to the various Games LOCs. There was a delegate appointed for these Games as

well although they used the name "**Weightlifting Commissioner**" (**WC**) instead. The job of the WC was to look after the interests of the IWF Masters.

### **Appointment**

I was ultimately nominated to the position of Weightlifting Commissioner by the IWF Masters at their meeting in Bordeaux, France in June of 2003. As per usual IWF practice the holder of the position was required to be an IWF Category 1 referee.

During the early days of my appointment there was some confusion as to my role in the Games. Many referred to me as the meet director, which I was not. That function belonged to Roxanne Prunkl.

My main duties were to advise the WMGC so as to ensure that the Technical Rules of the International Weightlifting Federation and especially its Rules for Master's are used in all aspects of the staging of the Games. To accomplish this I assisted the WMGC with general advice and guidance in the conduct of an international event, across all areas of competition, including but not limited to the program, officials, rules, medical, and administration, to ensure a high quality competition. To make sure that happened Walter Imahara and I met with the WMGC and toured the venue on our trip Edmonton in April 2005.

### **Committee**

The WMGC was set up by the City of Edmonton, the main funders of the Games. At first City employee **Nicole Poirier** spearheaded the Weightlifting Committee. She soon was joined by a Sport Liaison person for weightlifting by another city employee named **April Zucker**. She served as the connection between the sport and the Games organizers and since I was the main contact between the IWF Masters and the Games she was the main contact that I had to deal with. Both women were in paid positions. The next step was to appoint an unpaid volunteer to the position of Sport Chair for Weightlifting. An MBA management consultant Roxanne Prunkl was eventually appointed to this position. She soon started filling out her committee with a fine team that handle the various specific duties. Among this group **Ed Fergusson** (bronze winner at the Games) handled the equipment duties, **Patrick Cadieux** was in charge of volunteers, **Peter Windel** took over protocol and **Jenn Roggeveen** organized the banquet. This group held regular meetings of which I was kept informed. Due to my living in the high Arctic I could not attend many but I did make many submissions was given reports of all meetings.

I want to say that I was very pleased with the way Nicole, April and Roxanne organized the competition. Some people expressed concern that there were no weightlifting people at the top of the sport committee but I did not think that this would be a problem if they were well organized and they were willing to consult those in the sport if need be. This is what happened and a fine Games was the result.

### **HOSTING**

Accreditation procedures were held in the Shaw Conference Centre in downtown Edmonton. They were quick and easy as the athletes and officials were presented with the usual items and free souvenir goods. Other non-sport related services were well taken care of by Nicole and April.

The WMGC handled all hotel assignments after receipt of the entry forms. As per our request most weightlifters were put up in the Best Western Hotel which right next to the venue. It was actually connected by an umbilical device. The only problem with the hotel was the rather irritating elevator which had to go to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor before it would go to the 3<sup>rd</sup>. I guess it is something that the hotel has been fighting with for some time. Most of the overflow was directed to the Ramada Inn a half mile or so away.



**Best Western Hotel**



**Ramada Inn**

Food was the responsibility of the participants except for those officials that were working and could not leave the premises. Meal vouchers were used that were cashable in the complex's food bar. Food choices were very good here, with little junk food. The hotel restaurant was also available for more relaxed dining.

Transportation was only an issue for those coming to and from the accreditation centre and those in other hotels. All others stayed in the attached hotel and needed no transportation. A schedule was published and worked reasonably well with only a few stops daily. One problem occurred when a driver was erroneously told not to stop at the Ramada Inn. This caused a few problems. The Ramada was fairly close but still a long walk from Millennium, especially after a full day of competition. This was ironed out but was still maddening to us all.

A help desk was set up at the venue to answer questions and give direction. This feature was invaluable and should be repeated at all international meets. Patrick Cadieux had bi-lingual volunteers acting as unofficial interpreters in a number of languages (Patrick himself saved the day for me and a French couple, although he was not sure how well his Quebecois French would be understood).

## **TECHNICAL**

### **Entries**

The qualification and entry procedure went something like this:

- Qualifying totals, national quotas and the qualifying period (Sept. 26, 2004 – April 15, 2005) were set by the IWF Masters a year ahead of time.

- Entry forms were formulated in September 2004 and after a number of adjustments were finally sent out in October 2004. Once this occurred it was a six month waiting game as the athletes went about qualifying in various contests.
- In the spring the competitors submitted their completed registration form, waiver and full payment [CAN\$185 for Games entry plus CAN\$49 for the IWF Masters levy) to their NMC by April 15, 2005. In the end there were 390 athletes entered.
- The NMC then had until April 22, 2005 to endorse their competitors' entries and forward the paperwork and money to the WMGC.
- Competitors were verified by the IWF Masters by May 20, 2005. The WMGC Inputs Registration by June 3, 2005
- An Entry List was posted on July 1, 2005. The NMC was expected to contact competitors and provide Entry List information. At the same time the WMGC posted the Entry List and of Event Schedule on the Games' web site.

With a system like this there were the usual extenuating circumstances with some teams but all were eventually accommodated. With our level of organization coupled with having another organization to deal with (the Games) and the usual language and other communication problems there will inevitably be times when delays and interruptions will occur. However, this is a key part of competition organization so these duties must be taken up by well trained and experienced persons and then closely monitored.

### Venue

The venue of the competition was Millennium Place in the bedroom community of Sherwood Park. All meetings, testing, training, warm-up, etc., etc. were accommodated there with no need for further travel. It is a nearly new multi-use facility attached to the hotel and accessed by an underground walkway. The competition hall was set up inside one indoor soccer field. There were stands up one side and plenty of space on the empty pitch surface. The warm up room was located at one end and extended to approximately one quarter of the area. The rest of the surface will be for a platform along one side with seating in front. There was some seating on a second level overlooking the venue.



### Equipment

The supply and set up of the  **barbells**  and other related equipment was the work of WMGC personnel and Alberta Weightlifting Association member Ed Fergusson and his squad of assistants. Ed has been handling equipment chores at Alberta's big meets for about 30 years. This will be his last as he will retire to Vancouver Island soon after the meet. Most of the Eleiko barbells were obtained from the surplus Vancouver 2003 Senior Worlds inventory. A fancy competition set was used on the  **platform**  while more mundane training versions were used on the seven  **warm-up room platforms** . The training room used a promiscuous mixture of makes borrowed from the AW/LA. For the women's competition a full  **seven 15kg bars**  were placed on the warm-up platforms, much to distaff delight.

One problem that surfaced was in underestimating the need for full sized 2.5kg plates. Ultimately this affected only a few athletes but it was still an unfortunate oversight. Due to the May 1st implementation of the "1kg" rule there was a need for some of the new small plates.

These were obtained for the platform set but none were ordered for the warm-up room. The old 1.25s were used in the warm-up room where Ed and company did not feel the need for supplying any small plates. Later we still got some queries as to why there were no small plates in the warm-up room. I was able to answer given that:

- #1 - They are still hard to get
- #2 - They are expensive
- #4 - Every gym wants a set
- #4 - They are small and easy to hide

I then asked the question – “*Now, how many do you think would still be on the platforms by the time the meet was over?*” I hope that everyone understands now.

An **overhead projector** was used for the Excel based scoreboard. The only problem was that it was too small to be effective. We were also plagued by a high venue ceiling which made light adjustment in the large building much more difficult. So the small screen was also more difficult to see. Another projector was used in the warm-up room. In there those problems were not present.

We had planned to start the meet with one set of **referee lights** but the visible/audible “Down” signal was found to be inoperative. Fortunately we were able to replace these with a back-up set first used in the 1978 Commonwealth Games. They still worked perfectly but did not have the jury boxes now required by the rules (neither did the other set). We had some of the usual problems with slow referees causing no lights to come on since the old set also did not have the “hurry-up” beep now required.

We were able to use the arena’s time clock. There was only one display but it was high on the wall so that everyone anywhere in the venue, either front area or warm-up room, could see it easily. It was not a thing of beauty but it worked.

#### **Recommendation**

***I would like to suggest that all future World and Continental Championships have an Equipment Manager that would work with the IWF Masters to determine the equipment that would be used at the Championships. The goal would be to obtain the best desirable but if compromises have to be made that the national chairpersons are made aware of such situations as soon as possible.***

***This position should be recruited from the local weightlifting community. They will work as part of the LOC but will also be closely working with the IWF Masters. Ideally they should be an experienced coach with perhaps some local refereeing credentials.***

#### **Protocol**

A Protocol Director was appointed to look after medal ceremonies. This person would work with the WMGC. I had suggested **Peter Windel**, former Alberta Weightlifting Association president. He accepted and eventually recruited in turn formula guru **Dr. Roy Sinclair** to assist him. Up almost to the time of the meet Peter was not sure of his duties since the WMGC seemed to have much of the ceremony plans well in hand. I reassured him that his main duties would start only with the Games, that he would be much needed then.

A short opening ceremony for weightlifting only was held on the evening of July 21. The usual parade of nations was held. Some countries had a placard bearer and those that didn’t had local committee stand-ins. The usual speeches were made. Some local entertainment was featured when **Linda Windel**, better half of Peter, sang for the audience.

The medals were quite nice, as usual. The Games had a place where one could get them engraved with a personalized message. Peter had to keep close control over the number of medals transferred to him. No extras were available anywhere, much to the disappointment of several national federations. The idea was to keep the value of a medal high so no extras were made available.

What more can be said about **David Meltzer**? Many claimed that his singing sounded better than ever. **Tamas Ajan** had never heard him before and was pleasantly shocked at what he heard. He was equally shocked to hear that David new a full 130 anthems, all in their national language. Or should I say languages. He was careful to sing "O Canada" in French when the winner was a francophone. There is talk of him being invited to the Senior Worlds to sing there. With only fifteen medal ceremonies and not having to lift himself (unless he trains VERY hard) that would be an easy week for him. There were times when David was unavailable. In those cases a CD was used in place of his baritone. CDs were also used for march-in music as well as "just to pass the time" music. The latter situation is something that is becoming more and more important at our meets as well as in many other public events. I can see where policies will someday have to be in place to determine when and what kind of background music can be played.

The business of flags and their display is evolving rapidly. I had taken note in Savannah two years ago how much easier, quicker, and neater electronic flags were than real ones. I then asked Les to do something similar in Edmonton after I sent him the appropriate flag files. He was able to put together an appropriate display with the three winners' flags and names displayed as well as the IWF Masters and Edmonton Games logos.

The loaders of the session in question served as medal bearers, thus preventing the need for some to stand around all day waiting to work for a few brief minutes. **Walter Imahara**, as IWF Masters Chairman takes his medal presentation duties seriously. He was always ready with his choices for the presenters being sure to use high profile persons like Dr. Ajan and **Tommy Kono**. In addition he also tried to have someone from the medal winners' nations doing the presentation to their own athletes. Walter, the Protocol duo and the TCs were good at getting the winners together for each ceremony.

The final banquet might be an area where we need to improve. This is the last event of the competition and all too often it is put together too quickly by persons who are busy with many other details. This is a result of it being at the end on a long week when everyone is tired and just wants to get at their roast beef and then get ready to go home. In future the local protocol team should be given a standardized agenda which they can take over and organize without constantly having to attend to other duties. The banquet in Edmonton was organized by Jenn Roggeveen and was enjoyed by all.

#### **Recommendation**

***I would like to suggest that all future World and Continental championships have a chairperson appointed to oversee the following duties***

- ***Opening ceremony programme direction***
- ***Medals – procurement and custody***
- ***National anthems and other music – procurement and playing***
- ***Flags – procurement and displaying***
- ***Victory ceremony procedures - collection of medal winners and presenters prior to each ceremony***
- ***Banquet programme direction***

***This position should be recruited from the local weightlifting community. They will work as part of the LOC but will also be closely working with the IWF Masters. This should not be a one person job. A committee of three or four would probably be best. Ideally they should have some standing as an international referee but experience with event planning, catering or something similar might be more practical. Conversely, anyone with aspirations of being a top international referee would be wise to get some experience working with protocol. All of these things become very important at the big international meets.***

#### **Referee Assignment**

**Kurt Rosenberger** did his usual fine job here in scheduling the many referees into all of the refereeing and TC positions over the 33 sessions. I have done this for many 7-8 session

national championships and it is a tough job even there. But with 33 sessions this is not a job to envy. It is high stress and all too often thankless. As per usual filling the assigned slots was easy early in the week but got more difficult as time went on as many potential referees went home or decided to go see the Rocky Mountains. Below we see two hard working men in blue.



Chairman Walter Imahara



Dresdin Archibald



Canadian VP Don Buchanan

#### **Officials Assignment**

As I have observed in the 2003 Senior Worlds and other meets the non-IWF assigned officials are becoming more and more important at the international meets. These positions include the **Chief Marshal**, the **Timekeeper**, the **Speaker**, the **Manual Scorekeeper**, the **Computer Data Clerk** and the **Technical Operator** (computerized score-keeping or “competition management system”). These jobs are normally filled by local qualified officials international or otherwise, and often supplemented by the visiting referees. In the Games they generally worked under the direction of **Les Simonton**. We had a large number of persons working over the week. Some sessions were not always fully manned until too late but for the most part the proper personnel were available.

#### **Recommendation**

***I would like to suggest that all future World and Continental championships have an Officials Chairperson appointed to oversee the selection, training and assignment of the following positions***

- ***Chief Marshals (must be International referee)***
- ***Timekeepers (must be National referee)***
- ***Speakers***
- ***Manual Scorekeepers***
- ***Computer Data Clerks***
- ***Technical Operator***

***This position should be recruited from the local weightlifting community. They will work as part of the LOC but will also be closely working with the IWF Masters via the Competition Director (see below). They must be an International referee (Category 1 or 2). Experience as chairperson or at any of the above positions will be written up in the referee's international book.***

#### **Competition Director/Secretary**

The IWF Rules now insist that for the major meets a Competition Director be appointed. This is different from what we have traditionally referred to as a competition director. This position is responsible for lot draws and assigning athletes to the various sessions (we had 33), in short, the program of the competition. These duties are normally a duty of the Competition Secretary in smaller meets but at the Junior and Senior Worlds this is assigned to IWF personnel, namely the General Secretary or his designate. In order to be true to this analogy **Bill Barton**, our Masters General Secretary, was assigned to this position. Also at the Senior Worlds there are a number of Competition Secretaries that rotate among the sessions, handling weigh-ins, competition sequencing and registering records. At the Games we did not

appoint any Competition Secretaries in that sense. The duties of the Competition Secretaries were split. The referees handled the weigh-in; the speaker ran the competition while record chairman Les Simonton handled the 330 Games Record and 79 World Record certificates. With this arrangement it was still possible to cover all of the CS duties, although in future it may be desirable to have one person assigned the CD/CS duties in order to concentrate the decision making and to avoid any confusion.

**Recommendation:**

***In all future World Masters Championships a Competition Director shall be appointed under the following conditions:***

- ***This person should be a member of the IWF Masters Committee so as to underscore the idea that the IWF ultimately has responsibility for the competition.***
- ***The CD, plus any delegated others, shall be responsible for all of the duties of the CD/CS as outlined in the IWF Rules.***
- ***The CD/CS shall supervise the Technical Operator and his/her assistants.***
- ***The CD/CS shall supervise the Speakers and the Chief Marshals.***
- ***The CD/CS shall supervise the Timekeepers.***
- ***The CD/CS shall work closely with the locally appointed Officials Chairman who will ensure that a sufficient number of qualified persons shall be recruited and appointed for all of the above positions. (See recommendation above).***

**Technical Operator**

In the last very few number of years technology has greatly changed the operation of our competitions. Gone are the unwieldy manual scoreboards and their high manpower requirements. Also gone are their huge and complex electronic versions. Nowadays data-based programs keep score and produce all necessary forms and reports with only a few persons needed to run a huge competition. Originally Dr. Ajan offered to lend the IWF's equipment and personnel to Games. This turned out to be beyond the Games' budget. But more fundamentally it was determined that the adjustments needed for a masters competition would not be available. So we had to go to Plan B, which turned out to be very satisfactory. In Baden last year I was able to compare the competition management systems used by the Austrians as well as that developed by Les Simonton (USA). After some deliberation I asked Les if he would be willing to take the position of Technical Operator, as it is now known in the IWF Rules. Fortunately for us Les agreed. It turned out to be one of the best decisions I made. I was even able to come up with some suggestions for improvements. Les oversaw the operations but also had a number of assistants (local **Melissa Fox** was busiest) who did the data input and the manual scorekeeping. Walter Imahara was really impressed.

**Speaker**

I must thank Bill Barton for so ably acting as speaker for most of the competition. He is indeed a worthy successor to his late countryman **Oscar State**. Bill also had a lot to do with the great improvement seen on the first day of competition. Since this is when the women lift it had become a "women's issue" to some. **Barb Conley** argued that it was more of a "first session" issue since that is where the glitches will occur. Because of this we were very concerned that the first sessions go well. I believe we accomplished our goal for the most part due to the efforts of Bill Barton and Les Simonton.

**Volunteers**

Every competition of this size requires a large number of citizen volunteers, most of who neither have nor need to have any experience with the sport. They are needed as loaders (some experience will be helpful here), runners, scorekeepers, data input, information tables and many other unsung duties. In Edmonton this job was performed by Mr. Pierre Cadieux.

**MEDICAL**

**Drug Testing**

After considerable discussions with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport the IWF Masters decided to go ahead with their own testing program. The main reason was cost. It would cost over \$300 for the CCES to test while we could get them done for a lot less. That made up our minds. **Dr. Richard Herrick**, assisted by better half Stella did all of the testing.

### **Temporary Medical Licenses**

In 1999 Winnipeg hosted the Pan-American Games, to which Dr. Richard Herrick was assigned as a Doctor-on-Duty. No one then imagined that there would be a jurisdictional dispute with the Manitoba physicians, with the ultimate result being that foreign doctors were not allowed to practice at the competition. This was embarrassing for me as the host country president even though I could do little about it. With that memory I was determined that we not have a repeat of this situation in Edmonton. Early on in my appointment I consulted with the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons on this matter. Later Heather Callahan was appointed as medical liaison officer for the WMGC so this duty was handed off to her. The result was that the Games ultimately used an arrangement similar to that at the Vancouver Worlds. A satisfactory accreditation process was put in place allowing temporary medical licensing for foreigners.

### **Medical Team**

We were lucky to have an experienced medical team headed up by **Dr. Mark Lavallee** of South Bend, Indiana, USA. He had several residency students with him who handled not only all of the weightlifting injuries but some of the audience and volunteer members as well. Mark and his teams have worked at the last two World Masters plus the Vancouver Senior Worlds. Mark issued one of the most comprehensive medical reports I have ever seen, outlining all sorts of statistics on all who were treated.

### **THE EXTRAS**

#### **Meetings**

The usual Technical, Executive and Congress meetings were held alongside the competition. These important events will be reported on by others.

#### **Banquet**

A banquet was held after the end of competition where the usual awards and recognition were handed out. Our thanks go to **Ms. Jenn Roggeveen** for her being able to organize this event for us, especially when the guest list was growing daily. About 150 were served prime Alberta beef while a disco topped off the evening.

#### **Entertainment**

A western barbeque was held at Fort Edmonton Park, a large outdoor museum. The next night a street party was held downtown for those who wanted to get a feel of the local happenings.

#### **Games Opening Ceremony**

The opening ceremonies for the whole Games were held in the 60,000 seat Commonwealth Stadium. With a talent that only a man experienced in Athenian traffic can muster **Nikolas Galiatsatos** (GRE) was still able to find a parking place right across from the stadium just minutes before the start. Former "Guess Who" and "BTO" guitarist **Randy Bachman**, himself a masters' age rock-and-roller was the featured entertainer.

#### **Post Competition**

The morning after the meet ended I was required to direct Walter Imahara (USA), **Pedro Serrano** (PUR) and **Anton Huber** (AUT) to the road out of town that would get them to Jasper and their long awaited trip through the Canadian Rockies. From Jasper they continued on to Banff and Calgary. I met them in Calgary where we spent one last evening together touring the city and reviewing the week's events before we all returned home.

#### **Guests**

Due to this being a Games there were a number of prominent persons in attendance. The guest of honour was Tommy Kono (USA), eight time World Champion and twice Olympic gold medalist. Tommy served on the Jury for much of the meet plus the medal ceremonies as well as gamely posing for innumerable pictures. I'm sure the Japanese team alone wore out several cameras on him. This was all a delightful surprise to most who attended since his presence was not pre-announced. The other prominent guest was IWF President Tamas Ajan, who also serves on the board of the IMGA. This dual positioning will be of tremendous

significance to the masters' movement in the years to come as greater importance is given to lifelong sport. **Myrddin John** of Wales is the current Chairman of the IWF Scientific and Research Committee and has now also been given the duty of being the IWF Executive Committee liaison to the Masters Committee. He was also at his first Masters. I first met Myrddin 27 years previously at the Edmonton Commonwealth Games.

There were a lot of reunions of old friends as usual. One of the more interesting was that between **Mihaly Huzska** (HUN) and former local great **Fred Ketterer**. As young men both trained under Hungary's great coach Sandor Gere. Gere's teams, with athletes named Huzska, Nagy, Foldi, Veres, Toth, Nemessanyi and Escer would later be the talk of Europe in the late 1950s and early 1960s. One lifter destined not to join them was Fred Ketterer. In 1956 he had taken exception to the harsh Soviet rule of his once proud Danube nation. After running afoul of the Communists he decided that it would be best to do his future lifting elsewhere. He first went to Vienna where he worked with 1950s heavyweight Franz Hobl. He eventually made his way to Edmonton where he resumed his lifting career as the perennial Alberta super-heavy champ. I am now pleased to say that I was able to broker the first meeting in 49 years between these two old team-mates. When I last saw them they were going on in Hungarian about people and days long past. The Hungarian team was later invited out to Fred's home for Frau Ketterer's famous goulash.

The big star of the meet was Canada's **Suzanne Dandenaault** (shown at right) who has just recently graduated to the Masters as well as to matrimony. She won the best female lifter while completely shattering the record book. I believe her lifts were the highest ever made by a masters woman. She is a former Canadian champ in the throwing events as well. I'm not sure if she competed in those events but she probably would have done well if had. She may be a master but she is still a mainstay on the Canadian senior team and also is president of the Manitoba Weightlifting Association so I'm sure she will be kept very busy in the years to come.



At this point I would now like to close my report of the 2005 World Masters Games. I know it has been long but I believe that in order to fulfil my mandate to the IWF I must report fully on everything as their local representative. My thanks go to Nicole Poirier, April Zucker, Heather Callahan and Roxanne Prunkl for all of their hard work in organizing the event and making it the success that it was. They were great to work with as well. I'd also like to thank all of my fellow IWF Masters Executive members, especially Walter Imahara and Bob Hemery, whose experience at the last Games was very helpful to me. Thanks also go to all of their volunteers as well as our colleagues around the world and at home.

I hope to see all of you in Bordeaux for the 2006 Worlds and in Sydney for the 2009 Games.

Respectively submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dresdin Archibald'.

**Dresdin Archibald**  
**Weightlifting Commissioner**  
**2005 World Masters Games**