

DRAFT 2008 CONGRESS MINUTES

2008 IWF World Masters Congress of Nations Kefalonia, Greece, 1st October 2008

Start 17.10 hours

1. Attendance

Nations

Roll call – 34 voting nations

Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech. Rep., Denmark, Dominican Rep., Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Great Britain, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Poland, Latvia, Russia, Scotland, Sweden, Ukraine, USA, Venezuela, Uzbekistan.

Officials (non voting)

Walter Imahara (USA), Bob Hemery (AUS), Jan Hinrichsen (SWE), Les Simonton (USA), Glenn Harris (USA), Bill Barton (GBR), Kurt Rosenberger (GER), Yutaka Nakashema (JPN) Jose Postigo (DOM).

2. Minutes from 2007 Kazincbarcika, Hungary

- 2.1. Proposal for acceptance – GBR, seconded GER, only 6 votes for – not accepted..
- 2.2. No matters arising from 2007 minutes.

3. Chairman's Report

Mr. Imahara

4. Treasurer's Report (Prepared by Mr. D. Archibald and Mr. W. Imahara)

The report was presented by Mr. Glenn Harris (USA).

Mr. Harris explained the accounts in detail, explaining the revenue and expenditure details and stating that the accounts had been audited in accordance with 2007 Congress agreement.

Proposal for acceptance – USA, seconded by SCO.

Votes for 21, votes against 0 (zero), abstained 14.

Accounts passed by majority vote.

5. Record's Report – Mr. L. Simonton, Records Chairman (USA).

Les Simonton gave a thorough report and produced a printed report showing statistics of number of records by country and including the 2007 World Masters and 2008 European and Pan American Masters. Also a list of the men and women who set those records.

6. Women's Report –

Gudrun Schmidberger

In this championship there were 56 women and the lifting was very successful.

However, she felt they were let down by the equipment with no full sized discs for the small kilo weights and some women had to virtually take the bar from the floor. The scales for the weigh in and test scales were accurate which was good.

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Gudrun mentioned the absence of Anton Huber due to a broken ankle sustained only days before he was due to leave Austria for the championship. She also gave some statistics on the increase in Hall of Fame members for men and women and also explained the “400 Club” and “200 Club”.

Corinne Grotenhuis for Mrs. B. Conley

Ms. Grotenhuis read from a report produced by Mrs. B. Conley. In her report (BC) she mentioned that she has been involved with the Masters since the women were first invited to lift in 1993. Improvements like the quality of women’s lifting, increase in numbers, qualified IWF referees, and just how far women have come in a short time. She has been proud to represent the women since 1996 and thanked everyone for their support and sent her warmest regards for the future.

7. Website Report

Records Chairman, Les Simonton, said the website was www.iwfmasters.net The website is much the same as last year. It shows Competition results, schedule, start list, and a future schedule for others to contribute. Work is being done to produce a database of Master athletes and hopefully this will be finished by next year.

8. World Masters Championships Calendar Report

8.1. 2010 WMG Sydney, Australia.

See Agenda Item 10.

8.2. 2011 Poland

See Agenda Item 11.

9. 2008 IWF Masters Championship Report

Kefalonia, Greece – Mr. N. Galiatsatos (NG)

“Welcome to my island, Kefalonia, and I hope that you have no problems. I hope it will run to the end of the championship without serious problems. The closing banquet will be held in the championship venue and tickets are on sale outside. I invite any questions about this championship”.

Q? Russia. Why is there no shuttlebus?

A. NG. The opportunity was there to select accommodation in Argostoli from the website and if countries go elsewhere it is their responsibility. Please come to me and I will try to give a solution.

Q?. Belgium. Throughout the championship it has been very difficult to keep unauthorised people from the warm up room and no “policing” in place to ease the problem. Also the electronic clock does not work correctly and this has also been a problem.

A. NG. No answer.

Q?. Germany. Athletes paid €10 entry fee for the championship and expect at the very least a Certificate of Competing.

A. NG. Certificates will be given out at the banquet.

Q?. Czech Rep. What about competition results.

A. NG. They are on the website and will also be given out at the end.

Gudrun Schmidberger (GER) Stated that the website was up to date.

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Gerhard Peya (AUT) said that the logo was good but that everyone was missing the lack of transportation.

Mr. Imahara said that Mr. Galiatsatos has organised three championships but has said “never again”.

10. 2009 WMG – Sydney, Australia

Chairman Mr. Imahara introduced Oceana Masters Chairman, Lawrie Townsend, and said that quotas will be discussed after Mr. Townsend’s comments.

Lawrie Townsend said that he will be happy to welcome everyone to Australia in 2009. The event is supported by the AWF (Australian Federation) who have successfully run many major events including Olympic Games and Commonwealth Games Weightlifting. The venue is the 2000 Olympic Games complex which caters for 9 or 10 different sports and is about 20 minutes by train from Sydney and 5 minutes from the train station to the complex. There is no catering within the venue but there are several places within the complex. Accommodation in Sydney is all close to public transport which will be free to those with accreditation.

In the venue there is 10 warm up platforms in addition to the competition platform there is 15 training platforms.

There will be **two entry forms** which are usual for the WMG. One will be returned to the WMG Organisation and the other to the IWF Masters. The closing date for entries will be 2nd June, the entry fee will be \$220 AUS and the IWF Masters fee to cover administration costs and anti doping in a “WMG Year” is \$30 USA. A form explaining all of this will be circulated with the entry form in the next few weeks and the WMG Entry Form will be mailed out and on their website.

Questions were invited.

Q?. CAN. The cost of Masters weightlifting must be affordable otherwise it will eliminate some of the poorer countries.

A. LT. The IWF Masters and the AWF have no control over the WMG entry fee.

Chairman Mr. Imahara – “Our sport is invited because Tamas Ajan asked the WMG to include it. There are 28 sports and over 25,000 Master athletes will participate. Our sport is allowed flags and anthems and this is more than other sports are allowed. The WMG is our Olympics and it is always very good and well organised. We have no control over accommodation prices or airline prices. We do have a good Commissioner in Bob Hemery who will be there and looking after the interests of the Masters in weightlifting.”

Quotas

A quota was taken from each attending nation and the quotas totalled 583 which are acceptable. In addition, new nations are allowed 3 entries each.

11. 2010 IWF World Masters Championship - Poland (Report given by Bill Barton)

Bill Barton said that he did not have any information to present to Congress. He had contacted Jerzy Zalejko for information and that information was due to be given by Felix Binkowski who, unfortunately, was not present due to illness.

The venue is **Ciechanow, Poland**, about 40 km from Warsaw and the dates are the 25th Sept. to 2nd Oct. 2010. The facility is a very modern sports facility and with a hotel attached to the venue. The facility is used by the Polish WL Federation for

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staging their National and International events and there are facilities there for other sports, e.g. swimming.

12. 2011 IWF World Masters Championship – presentation of bids.

12.1. Canada Bid – Mr. John Margolis

The bid is for Montreal at the 35th Anniversary of the Olympic Games. The venue will be the University of Montreal and a large hall with a rubber floor will be used for the weightlifting. There are 12 rooms for officials and meetings, locker rooms, showers, saunas, 2 swimming pools, 10 training platforms and 10 warm up platforms with equipment and complete electronic timing equipment. Next to the venue is a cafeteria with places for meals and the caterer will provide meals at a favourable price. Advance arrangements for 400 dormitory rooms at €80 and €35 per night. Also hotels and motels from \$60 CAN upwards. In front of the venue is a bus stop and accreditation will issue free passes for bus travel. The University is 12 minutes from the centre of Montreal and there are no problems with access by airlines.

The championship is supported by the Canadian WL Federation, government, and Masters Association. They organised the 2003 World Seniors and 10 other International events in 3 years. John Margolis the Masters Chairman will have an Organising Committee made up entirely of Master weightlifters.

12.2. Ukraine Bid – Vladyslav Lysenko (translator Angelica Lysenko), the Minister of Family & Sport, and a representative of the City of Lviv.

Ministry – Said he would like to welcome all the World Masters Weightlifting to Ukraine and the ministry will provide support for a World Masters Championship in their country. We have provided information for all Congress delegates and we hope for your support.

Lviv Representative – Everyone can see the location of Lviv on the map and we are able to cope with 70 countries and 600 athletes. Lviv is the 7th largest city in Ukraine with a population of 2.5 million and a 750 year history. It has International airport and a new road infrastructure in preparation for the 2012 European Football Nations Cup. We have a DVD showing Lviv, we will provide many translators, and the city is also famous for coffee. It borders with Poland and has a large regional railway network. Austrian Airlines are ready to give discounts on flights should the bid be successful. Hotel prices are from €10 to €15 per person per night. The venue will be the Palace of Sports with a seating capacity for 700 people. There will be Eleiko equipment with 6 warm platforms in addition to suitable training facilities. Excursions can be arranged for those interested.

These introductions were followed by a short DVD displaying the sights and interests of Lviv.

12.3. USA Bid – Michael Cohen for Georgia, USA.

Mike introduced a DVD display to support his bid application.

Mike said that there are 8 people on the Organising Committee including Murray Levin as Protocol Director. They have top individuals with 180 years total experience in the sport. The area is 45 minutes from the ocean and beautiful countryside. Special

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hotels 300 metres from the venue and selected because they will support the Masters. Prices €30 to €60 per person per night.

The venue is Hinesville, Georgia, and the Shuman Recreation Centre with 10 warm up platforms and all the correct bars and bumper discs with 25 full sets for the competition plus a timing and lighting system. The entry fee will be €100 and the banquet fee €30 with a buffet and beer and wines. Hospitality will be provided for all officials and food and drinks available in the hall for all athletes.

After Congress all delegates will be invited to a barbecue at the Shuman Centre. For all awards ceremonies the flags will be shown and anthems played and medals carried by Southern Belles.

Tours to the beach, Disney World Orlando, and cruises, can be arranged.

Mr. Imahara raised some questions after each bid and the questions were answered satisfactory.

12.4. Voting on the two bids

Result –

16 votes for Canada..

11 votes for Ukraine.

7 votes for USA.

The 2011 IWF World Masters WL Championship will be in Canada.

13. 2012 IWF World Masters Championship – bids but no voting until 2009.

1. France – near Dunkirk.
2. Austria – Western Austria near Switzerland.

14. Continental Chairman's Report

14.1. Asian Masters Federation – Mr. Yutaka Nakashima

“I am Asian Masters Chairman and I am sorry I have nothing new to report. In Japan the number of Master lifters continues to increase. It is still proving difficult to arrange an Asian/Oceania Meeting but I am hoping it will progress and I will try to organise this with Lawrie Townsend at the 2009 WMG”.

14.2. European Masters WL Championship, Bohumin, Czech Republic – Mr. Bill Barton

“The championship was very successfully organised by Karel Prohl and with 480 entries. Lots of new European records were made and at Congress elections one vice chairman was replaced.

Doping control was carried out with 30 tests taken by the Czech NADA and all sent to the WADA approved laboratory in Prague Three men and two women were initiated into the European Masters Hall of Fame. Thank you.”

14.3. Oceania Masters – Mr. Lawrie Townsend`

“The Oceania region consists of Australia, New Zealand, and 26 islands and weightlifting is in the early stages of development. The Oceania Chairman is Paul

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Coffa who is taking weightlifting to the islands. It is hoped that we can develop an Oceana Masters Championship in the future and maybe within the WMG in Sydney 2009.

14.4. Pan Am Masters – Mr. Jose Postego

“At this year’s championship we were assisted by the USA and Canada and 13 countries took part. There were 68 records broken at this championship. Next year’s championship will be held in Venezuela. The thrust is to increase participation of athletes and countries”.

15. Congress Actions – Executive Board Recommendations – Mr. Bob Hemery

15.1. Proposal to make the Women’s Spokesperson a member of the IWF Masters Executive Board.

Mr. Bob Hemery spoke briefly about the fact that this job had been done in the past by Barbara Conley (USA) who was a Vice Chair on the Board and would be missed as she was not standing for election. The Board recommend this proposal to Congress.

16. Changes for the 2009 IWF Masters Rulebook

16.1. Addition of Women’s Chairperson to the Executive Board.

Mr. Bob Hemery asked for acceptance of this proposal recommended by the Board.

Voting -

Proposed acceptance by Canada, seconded by GBR.

Proposal accepted by 29 votes for and 5 abstained.

16.2. TUE Form – Stella Herrick (USA)

Mrs. Herrick said that the Masters must have their own TUE. The World Organisation in charge of anti doping world wide is WADA. The WADA form has been modified for the Masters and is to take to your doctor to verify the form. It does not give you the authority to take steroids. The main problem is a diuretic medicine for high blood pressure. The form is not for athletes who are taking no medicines on the banned list.

Voting –

Proposed acceptance by Greece seconded by Cyprus.

Proposal accepted by 26 votes for and 8 abstained.

17. Election of IWF Masters Officers.

Mr. Imahara stated that details of all the candidates had been mailed out.

The nominations were introduced to Congress –

Chairman – Bob Hemery (AUS)

Vice Chairs (to select 3 from 5 nominations) –

Mr. Jan Hinrichsen (SWE)

Mr. Kurt Rosenberger (GER)

Mr. Nikolaos Galiatsatos (GRE)

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Mrs. Sandra Smith-Vokroj (GBR)

Mr. Johan Anglberger (AUT)

Secretary (to select 1 from 2)

Mr. Gerhard Peya (AUT)

Mr. Bill Barton (GBR)

Treasurer – Mr. Glenn Harris (USA), Mr. Barry Allen (AUS)

Records – Mr. Les Simonton (USA)

Women's Spokesperson (to select 1 from 2)

Ms. Corinne Grotenhuis (USA)

Ms. Caroline Charles (GBR)

The voting was carried out by secret ballot, each nation was called and given one ballot paper to take away and select their nominations. The ballot papers were returned and placed in a box. Counting was carried out by Mr. David Meltzer (USA), Mr. Hans Kunz (GER), and Mr. Michel Vereecke (BEL).

It was announced that the Congress was adjourned and the election results would be announced and posted the following day.

18. Chairman's Comments

Mr. Walter Imahara (USA) – departing Chairman.

“This is my last job and my last year, I have done the job for 19 years. Sometimes we disagree but you have a good group of people on the committee. It is time for new people and new ideas and next year's WMG 2009 is a big challenge but don't miss it.

I am not responsible for the World Masters, not the medical and not the financial, I also have a good General Secretary, I take no credit, you will have a new Board and there will be changes.

In 1989 in Alborg, Denmark, I was asked to do the job and asked to try it and in almost 20 years I have met many people in many countries. Many big decisions have been made and sometimes there have been big fights but eventually we all manage to agree.

In 1992 I needed a Chief Referee, I asked Kurt Rosenberger, he agreed, and he has done this job ever since. Gudrun Schmidberger has taken over from Anton Huber for the Hall of Fame and at short notice because Anton broke his ankle just before he was due to come to Kefalonia. Gudrun has done a good job. Lawrie Townsend has just taken over from Bob Hemery as Oceana Chairman and he is doing a good job. The same with Jose Postego for the Pan American and Mr. Nakashima for Asia and Japan.

I recommended Bob Hemery for the position of Chairman because he understands the “big picture”. Bill Barton and I had a big fight, it ended, he's my buddy, he does a great job as European Masters Chairman dealing with many countries and many different languages. Jan Hinrichsen, he's my bodyguard, he always works hard and is the Weightlifting Commissioner for this championship and here to look after all the athletes. Glenn Harris is from Louisiana and is very good at finance. Les Simonton is also from the USA and he is always at the venue all day and very important because he is a computer expert.”

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Mr. Bob Hemery (AUS) - New Chairman elect.

“I promise to do my best and I will be happy to work with the newly elected committee. I hope that you will give me your support in the next four years. Walter is the Chairman until the end of this Championship and this is my opportunity to thank him for his help and his guidance to enable me to take on this job and I am sure I will have been well trained.

I would now like to make a presentation to Mr. Imahara”.

******* Presentation of Plaque*******

Mr. Walter Imahara (USA)

IWF Masters Chairman 1989 - 2008

“In recognition of your exceptional contribution to the development of Masters Weightlifting. Presented at the IWF Masters Congress, Kefalonia, Greece. On 1st October 2008”.

19. IWF Report – Mr. M. John (IWF)

Not present

20. Old Business

None

21. New Business

None

Meeting ended 20.35 hours

Minutes –

Bill Barton

IWF Masters Secretary

16th October 2008

CONGRESS RESULTS

The new IWF Masters Executive Board

Chairman – Bob Hemery (AUS)

Vice Chairs

Mr. Jan Hinrichsen (SWE)

Mrs. Sandra Smith-Vokroj (GBR)

Mr. Kurt Rosenberger (GER)

Secretary

Mr. Bill Barton (GBR)

Treasurer – Mr. Glenn Harris (USA)

Records – Mr. Les Simonton (USA)

Women’s Spokesperson

Ms. Caroline Charles (GBR)