



# Happy Birthday, Mr. President!

Our President Dr. Tamás Aján is celebrating his 75 years of birthday. On this occasion I sincerely wish him Happy Birthday! And also wish him in traditional Chinese saying: May your happiness be as boundless as the Eastern Seas and your life as long as the long lasting Southern Mountains.

In his seventy five years of life, he devoted nearly fifty years to the sport of weightlifting. Weightlifting has become his whole life and his beloved one, flowing in his blood.

Under President Aján's leadership in the period of nearly forty years, the sport of weightlifting has achieved great progress and maintained strong status and high prestige in sport world. Five continental federations were founded and have played an important role in developing weightlifting.

Member federations have grown greatly in numbers and in all five continents. Because of its development and popularity, the IOC has elevated weightlifting from Category D to Category C among 28 Olympic sports.

In 2001 I became the President of the Chinese Weightlifting Association and I led the National Team to the World Championships held in Turkey. During competitions I visited President Aján, who warmly extended his hand to me. The moment I held his hand I remembered the time dated back to the year of 1977 when



I met him and shook hands with him during the World Championships in Germany. He was as dignified and amiable as before. Working hard with his hands he greatly contributed to weightlifting. Meeting with him made me determined to devote all my life to weightlifting. With the support of the IWF, Chinese weightlifting has made rapid progress. In 2005 I became the IWF Vice President and later in 2009 I became the General Secretary. Working together with President Aján, I realized that he is a well-experienced sport leader, who listens carefully to colleagues and friends and who always progresses forward with reforms and innovations, leading weightlifting well in trend. We are living in a time when world sport is facing vigorous reform and challenge. As the IWF General Secretary, I sincerely request all the IWF member federations and Continental Federations to work even harder, and the progress and achievement we make is the true congratulation for President Aján's 75th birthday.

MA WENQUANG  
IWF General Secretary

Happy Birthday,  
Mr. President!



Dear Tamás,  
Dear Mr. President,

Please allow me to join your family and the many, many mutual friends to express my sincere and best wishes for a

happy 75th birthday which I hope you have enjoyed with your loved ones in happiness and in perfect good health.

You and I go back a few years now and I say with much pride that we have enjoyed a genuine friendship. I have been with you through some magnificent personal achievements and I have suffered with you the lows which the burden of office at some stages has placed on your shoulders and I can tell the whole world no one on earth could have managed, could have dealt with circumstances which would have completely destroyed normal human beings.

You have been a rock! You have been superb! You are a superhero to me and to all of us associated with you! You are not a man of superficial character;

you are a man with an impeccable character. Sincerity, candour, conviction, the sense of duty and having strong moral principles, honesty and decency are the things which place you over and above anyone else I know.

You are a leader par excellence and a man I admire so much. Your legacy to our Sport and to the world of Sport will outlive us all for ever.

My dear friend, a very happy birthday and I wish you all the very best of health and happiness and may you live to lead us for another quarter of a century

SAM COFFA  
Vice President  
Chairman Technical Committee



Greetings  
to Dr. Tamás Aján

On the occasion of Dr. Tamas Aján's 75th birthday I would like to send my warmest wishes to a man who encompasses all the remarkable qualities a noteworthy leader should possess.

The most powerful man in weightlifting has given inspiration to athletes, coaches

and officials alike and continues to demonstrate that with great fortitude and an immense love for the sport anything can be achieved.

At the helm of a sport where balance should never be underestimated he has managed to show a true balance of determination, patience, passion and love for our magnificent sport.

Happy Birthday to a man from whom we have all undoubtedly learnt a thing or two and who will forever remain as one of the greatest individuals in weightlifting.

NICU VLAD  
1st Vice President

Happy Birthday,  
Mr. President!

