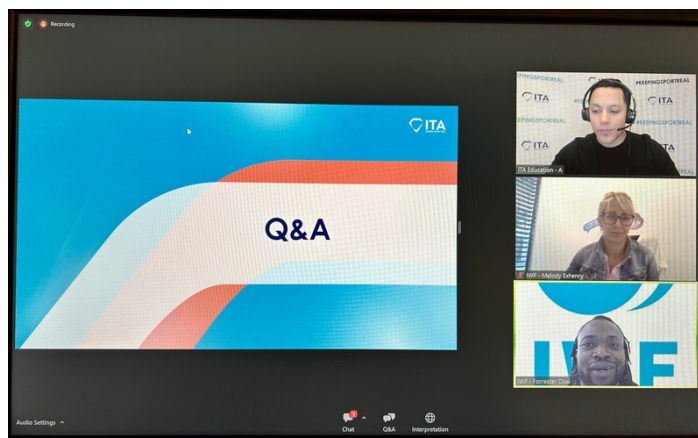


## IWF & ITA

### IWF/ITA "Clean Sport Webinar" attracts more than 260 participants



More than 260 members of the IWF family, including athletes, support personnel, and officials from National Member Federations took recently part in a "Clean Sport Webinar", jointly organised by the IWF and the International Testing Agency (ITA). In this successful initiative, participants were briefed on five important topics related to anti-doping activities: anti-doping landscape; 2023 Prohibited List; medications & supplements; risk of using anabolic agents; IWF 2023 Anti-Doping Rules – summary of changes. The webinar – held in two identical sessions taking into account time-zone differences around the world – was moderated by Armando Urban, a member of ITA's Education Team. From the IWF side, Forrester Osei, Athletes Commission Chair and Executive Board member, and Melody Exhenry, Anti-Doping manager, welcome all those who attended the webinar. "This kind of webinars is essential to properly educate our athletes and respective support personnel, thus ensuring our Sport is protected in the Olympic movement. All those taking part, in any capacity, in our Sport should know that we are doing our utmost to ensure a safe environment and fair events for everyone. I am sure that you will all find this learning time a very rewarding and fruitful one," considered Osei in his introduction.

Read more [here](#)

### IWF celebrates the ITA's fifth anniversary and renews partnership

The IWF Secretary General Antonio Urso was recently in Lausanne (SUI) to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the International Testing Agency (ITA) and to sign the yearly contract renewal between the IWF and the ITA. This partnership, in place since 2019, includes most of the activities connected with the IWF anti-doping rules, namely the athletes' testing, sample storage, scientific research, TUE procedures, education, results management, intelligence, and whereabouts submission process.

Representing already more than 30% of the IWF's annual budget, the partnership with the ITA was reinforced with more resources in three specific areas: education, intelligence and investigation, and legal support.

*"We are very happy to renew this fruitful co-operation with the ITA, our valuable partner in the anti-doping strategy. Over the last years, the IWF has decisively improved its fight against cheating in the sport and the ITA has played a pivotal role in this merciless battle. Besides the testing programmes, many other services – such as education and intelligence – are also part of the agreement between the IWF and the ITA. This is a guarantee that all aspects of the anti-doping policy are covered,"* considered Antonio Urso, after the ceremony in Lausanne.

Read more [here](#)



# WEIGHTLIFTING GETTING URBAN

## Lausanne hosts successful second Swiss Street Weightlifting

The second edition of the Swiss Street Weightlifting successfully took place on July 8-9 in Lausanne (SUI), the Olympic capital. In a very central location of the city, hundreds of adults and children had the opportunity to see weightlifting exhibitions and even to have an initiation to the sport. The organisers of the event, supported by the IWF, were “very happy with the enthusiasm around this initiative” and the “support of the Lausanne people to street weightlifting”. Competition-wise, six mixed teams of two lifters (one man, one woman) – this is one of the main “concepts” of this initiative, the possibility of having men and women competing together in the same team – made the way into the finals. For the fifth place, the battle between Team Crossfit (A. Lancry & J. Aufdenblatten) and team Switzerland (S. Meister & Y. Tschan) was won by the latter. On the fight for the bronze medal, Team France (L. Antonio & B. Ferré) was better than Team Spain (G. Anasagasti & A. Mendoza). Finally, the gold went to Team International (S. Davies & D. Certov), which defeated Team Brit-Swiss (F. Morrow & T. Verloes).

Read more [here](#)



## Memorable urban weightlifting event at the EYOF in Maribor (SLO)

Following the second edition of the “Swiss Street Weightlifting”, held in early July in the Olympic capital Lausanne (SUI), the urban version of the sport was again in evidence at the start of the European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF), running from July 23-29 in the historical Slovenian city of Maribor. Besides the 11 official sports on the programme, weightlifting made a very successful demonstration event, gathering 16 athletes from seven nations, in a mixed-gender international team and individual competition format. Each team was composed from one boy and one girl from different countries.

This initiative generated a lot of success and enthusiasm among the participants and certainly constitutes an important step forward in the implementation of new popular events within the weightlifting programme. Speaking to *Inside the Games*, Antonio Conflitti, President of the European Weightlifting Federation and IWF Executive Board member, was a happy man with the event: “People would say they could just stop by and watch for five minutes, but they ended up staying for one and a half hours and they really enjoyed it. We told the athletes, ‘we are writing a new chapter of weightlifting history and you are the protagonists – enjoy the moment’. They did that, and some of them said they were so relaxed in the environment they had better results than at the European Youth Championships in Moldova two weeks ago.”

The IWF’s Vice-President Attila Adamfi was also in Maribor and praised the organisation of this urban weightlifting demonstration: “Since the IWF organised the first international Street Weightlifting event in Lausanne, in 2022, more and more such events are held around the world. Recently, Lausanne organised the second edition already, a demonstration was held in June in Havana, Cuba, and now this superb event in Slovenia. Jamaica and the European Weightlifting Federation in Olympia (GRE) are also planning to host urban weightlifting events where our sport is delivered to the spectators in a new format.”

Read more [here](#)



# IWF: LOOKING AHEAD

## IWF conducts broadest-ever stakeholder consultation to shape new Strategic Plan

More than 250 members and stakeholders of the global weightlifting family have so far been consulted as part of a process to develop a first-ever Strategic Plan for the IWF.

It represents the largest and widest consultation in the federation's history and comes a year after the election of a new IWF Executive Board with a mandate to unify the global sport and reform its culture and governance.

The plan will include a new IWF vision, mission and values alongside current situation analysis and a framework comprising strategic pillars and priority actions.

A final version is set to be presented for approval by the IWF Congress in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in September on the sidelines of the IWF World Championships 2023.

When complete, the document will provide a central roadmap for weightlifting's global development as the IWF looks to shape a new future as a clean, athlete-centred and well-governed modern sport.

Those consulted as part of the project represent a broad cross-section of weightlifting's international community, which spans 194 countries across every continent. They range from continental associations and member federations to athletes, commercial partners and barbell suppliers.

Beginning in May this year, consultation exercises have included a Member Federation survey seeking views on the sport's priorities and road-testing of drafts with internal committees and commercial partner representatives. Key stakeholders from outside weightlifting will also be offered the chance to review and input in a future phase.

The IWF Strategic Plan project is being overseen by a nine-person steering committee chaired by IWF Communications Manager Pedro Adrega. It includes the Chair and Vice Chair of the IWF Athletes Commission, Forrester Osei (GHA) and Olympic Champion Hidilyn Diaz (PHI), who is among the sport's biggest current names. The IWF Executive Board is also represented by Vice-President Attila Adamfi, while Antonio Conflitti, President of the European Weightlifting Federation is the voice of the IWF continental associations.

Read more [here](#)

## IWF announces the 10 lifters benefitting from the Athletes Direct Support Programme

Following the announcement of the project on April 21, the IWF is pleased to announce that it has selected the 10 lifters to be included in the IWF Athletes Direct Support Programme, as follows: Rachel ENOCK (KEN); Davis NIYOYITA (UGA); Park HYEJEONG (KOR); Reza DEHDAR (IRI); Tham NQUYEN (IRL); Yusuf GENC (TUR); Maria Luz CASADEVALL (ARG); Omarie MEARS (JAM); Dika Loa TOUA (PNG); David LITI (NZL).

This programme aims at assisting 10 international elite athletes with Olympic potential in their preparation for the Paris 2024 Games. These lifters were chosen by a selection panel composed of one member of the IWF Executive Board, two members from the IWF Athletes' Commission (AC), and one independent member.

In its decision, the panel applied the eligibility criteria and requirements set out by the IWF AC and at the same time was attentive to select lifters who have a real possibility to be in the Olympics, do not receive a scholarship as part of the IOC Olympic Solidarity Plan and have never been sanctioned for an anti-doping rule violation.



David Liti (NZL)

In doing so, the selection panel took special care to allocate the funding to athletes coming from countries which do not have a well-developed support system and, at the same time, to ensure the selected athletes meet the geographic diversity requirements set out by the IWF. In this respect, and considering the number, background and weight categories of the applicants, the selection panel took particular aim at awarding the grant to aid the athletes with the greatest needs of it.

Read more [here](#)

For more information on this programme, please check: [IWF AC Direct Support Program 2023](#)

## IWF leadership meets ASOIF President in Lausanne



The IWF President Mohammed Jalood and General Secretary Antonio Urso held a working meeting in Lausanne (SUI) with the ASOIF President Francesco Ricci Bitti. The discussions focused on enhancing the already excellent co-operation between the two entities, the progress made by the IWF since the election of its new Executive Board in the summer of 2022, and topics related to preparation for the Olympic Games Paris 2024. The IWF highlighted its recent decision concerning the participation of Individual Neutral Athletes in weightlifting events, following the previous recommendations of the IOC on the complex matter.

### Executive Board reconfirms Policy for AIN participation at IWF events

Following its decision on May 12, 2023 the IWF Executive Board reconfirmed on July 19, 2023 its policy concerning the participation of Individual Neutral Athletes (AIN) at the IWF events. If the decision taken in May only included athletes and respective support personnel, the latest IWF deliberation also concerns the Technical Officials with Russian and Belarussian passports. The principle of the policy remains unaltered, as participants under this status must observe a strict neutrality during their participation in those events.

*Read more [here](#)*

Relevant documents:

[IWF Policy](#) | [Declaration & Undertaking](#)

Mr Jalood and Mr Urso also emphasised the significant efforts that the IWF is making in anti-doping, specifically the important partnership with the International Testing Agency (ITA), the increased resources and results in the IWF's fight against doping cheats and the federation's full determination to deliver a clean sport for the benefit of all IWF athletes.

Other subjects addressed in the meeting included the strengthening of good governance principles within the IWF, the mandate for wide-reaching positive reform, and the further development of the IWF's headquarters in Lausanne. A tangible example of this spirit of reform is the creation of the first-ever IWF Strategic Plan (covering the period 2024-2032), to be approved in September.

Finally, the IWF was also happy to report that the qualification for the upcoming Olympic Games is proceeding without major problems and that hundreds of very motivated lifters around the world are doing their best to be amongst the 120 athletes that can compete next year in Paris. The next qualification event will be the IWF showcase, its World Championships, taking place from September 4-17 in Riyadh (KSA).

*Read more [here](#)*

### IWF updates its TCRR as of July 26, 2023

The IWF sent to all its National Member Federations a communication on the new, updated version of the IWF Technical and Competition Rules and Regulations (TCRR). This new document, valid as of July 26, 2023 is accompanied by an Annex explaining the main changes compared to the previous version

The changes to the IWF TCRR were proposed by the Technical Committee and approved by both the IWF Executive Board and Athletes Commission.

*Read more [here](#)*

Relevant documents:

[IWF TCRR 2023](#)

[Annex - IWF TCRR Modifications](#)