

IWF COMPETITIONS

IWF World Youth Championships
Durres (ALB) - March 25-April 1, 2023

World Youths success for Turkey, Kazakhstan and Thailand “shows we have good future” says IWF President Jalood

When Tuana Suren (TUR) won the final women’s contest of the 2023 IWF World Youth Championships in Durres, Albania on April 1 she made sure that Turkey would finish top of the medals table.

Of the 57 nations that sent athletes to Durres, 30 had athletes on the podium. They included table-topping Turkey, plus the nations with the best female and male individual performers, Thailand and Kazakhstan. Armenia won 15 medals, and both Egypt and Vietnam had world record breakers among their champions.

Read more [here](#)



IWF WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023

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Jet lag, some solitude, but still a medal!

After the successful organisation of the 2022 edition of the IWF World Youth Championships in Leon, it was expectable that Mexico could send a multi-athlete delegation to this year’s event, taking place in Durres (ALB). In the end, one single competitor was entered, Cristian Jesus Grijalva Bojorquez. He competed in the men’s 102kg category. And despite this solitary presence, Cristian’s performance was fruitful, getting one bronze medal in the snatch, with a lift of 137kg. At home, less than one year ago, he was also third (but with 133kg), doing 161kg (fourth in C&J) and 294 (also fourth) in total. In Albania, he was slightly worse in the two-movement attempt (160kg) and finished with 297kg, also the first lifter outside the podium area.

Read more [here](#)

**Pan-American Championships
Bariloche (ARG) - March 27-April 1, 2023**



PAN-AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023

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Bariloche, Final Day: US team gets three continental titles

USA and Ecuador shared the medals at stake in the sixth and last day of the Pan-American Championships, organised in Bariloche (ARG). In the four last finals of the event, the new continental champions were Dayana Mina Torres (ECU) in the women's 87kg, and then US Mary Theisen-Lappen in the women's +87kg, Wesley Kitts in the men's 109kg and Alejandro Medina in the men +109kg.

Torres' win was clear, after a 100kg snatch and a 133kg clean and jerk, for a total of 233kg. The silver linings also went to the same athlete, Mexico's Laura Jimenez Cazares, with 97-121-218.

Read more [here](#)

IWF NEWS

**Executive Board Meeting
Durrës (ALB) - March 30, 2023**

Under the leadership of the IWF President Mohammed Jalood, a hybrid IWF Executive Board meeting took place on March 30, 2023, with most of its members attending the IWF World Youth Championships in Durrës (ALB).

The main decisions taken by the IWF Executive Board include:

- Approval of the IWF Development Programme for 2023, with a total of US\$650,000 being distributed by National Federations across the five continents. Special attention was given to three members recently affected by natural disasters: Ecuador, Turkey, and Syria;
- Validation of the applications received for the constitution of an IWF Refugee Team – seven athletes (four women and three men) were accepted to be part of the programme. Moreover, six coaches have shown interest in being the technical responsible for the team;
- Acknowledgement of the excellent partnership with ITA (International Testing Agency), the independent body in charge of all anti-doping operations on behalf of the IWF. The Executive Board reiterates that this is a fundamental integrity topic and that a significant part of the IWF annual budget (around 35%) is allocated to the fight against cheating in our sport.

Moreover, the IWF recognises that the number of cases was dramatically reduced, thus proving the efficiency and extent of the IWF/ITA cooperation;

- Following the recent IOC recommendation related to the eventual participation of Russia and Belarus at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, the Executive Board states:

"The IWF stands in solidarity with Ukraine and supports the continued IOC sanctions against Russia and Belarus.

We have taken note of the recommendation by the IOC Executive Board that sets out strict conditions under which athletes with Russian or Belorussian passports may be permitted to compete on an individual, neutral basis in competitions governed by International Federations. We will take time to review the guidance closely in order to determine whether and how it can be applied to weightlifting. The IWF Executive Board will provide an update once the recommendation has been fully considered. In the meantime, the protective measures introduced last year remain in place at this time."

Read more [here](#)



IWF/ITA Seminar: A step further in anti-doping education

In a packed room, the IWF, in co-operation with the International Testing Agency (ITA), organised on March 27 an Anti-Doping Education Seminar, at the start of the third day of competition at the IWF World Youth Championships in Durres (ALB). ITA Ambassador Toby Atkins was in charge of briefing the participants (athletes and coaches taking place in the event) about the anti-doping procedures, namely the whereabouts, the list of prohibited substances, and the global rights and responsibilities related to this topic. Among the attendees was Violeta Shqevi, Head of the Anti-Doping Education department at the Albanian NADO (National Anti-Doping Organisation).

Read more [here](#)

2024 IWF Worlds: five preliminary candidates from three continents

At the end of the first deadline (March 1, 2023) to express interest in hosting the IWF World Championships 2024, five preliminary candidates from three continents sent their application to the IWF: Albania, Armenia, Bahrain, Peru and Venezuela.

After this initial step, the IWF may conduct Evaluation Visits to the Candidate Cities, while a detailed questionnaire on the organisation of the IWF showcase is to be completed by each bidder. In order to further strengthen their candidature, interested Member Federations are also invited to send letters from national authorities (Government or City), sport (NOC) and commercial (sponsors) entities.

After the candidates' formal presentation to the IWF Executive Board, a vote of its members decides on the winning city. Finally, a Host City Agreement is signed and the corresponding event fee is transferred to the IWF.

Read more [here](#)

IWF and EWF launch international Coaches Licence programme

Coaches will not be able to work in the sport without a licence when a new programme comes into operation after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games and will be held more responsible for doping violations.

National Federations will also be required to sign up to the programme, which was launched on a pilot basis in Sweden and will be used for the first time at the European Championships in Armenia.

Mohammed Jalood, the IWF President, told a gathering of more than 70 international coaches in Halmstad, via a video link, "Coaches must understand that in future if there is a problem with doping they will be punished too, not only the athlete.

Read more [here](#)

The IWF Refugee Team is now ready to work!

After the deadline for applications (March 25) and the recent approval by the Executive Board, the IWF has the pleasure to announce that its Refugee Team will be constituted of four women and three men, as well as a designated coach. The female representatives of the team are: Parisa Jahanfekrian, originally from Iran, but now residing in Germany, Clementine Meukeugni Noubissi (Cameroon/France), Aline de Souza (Brazil/USA), and Monique Lima de Araujo (Brazil/USA).

Among men, Addriel Garcia (Cuba/Italy), Fawaz Mohammed Saleh Hussein (Yemen/Saudi Arabia), and Reza Rouhi (Iran/Great Britain) will complete the Refugee Team.

Read more [here](#)



IWF ATHLETES

Mattie Rogers (USA): “Nothing replaces competing at the Olympics!”



“Always a bridesmaid, never a bride”. The expression is self-explanatory and is used by US lifter Mattie Rogers to describe her past performances at the IWF World Championships: 13 medals, including nine silver and four bronze. The so-awaited gold may be reserved for 2023, at the global showcase in Riyadh (KSA), in September. “I don’t know... I have always been on silver, I would love a gold, but it’s going to be my first time in this super competitive 81kg category... It’s going to be hard!” she admits, laughing. Last December, in Bogota (COL), she was second (overall: 247kg) in the 76kg category, after three previous silver linings in 2021 (243kg), 2019 (240kg), and 2017 (235kg).

Read more [here](#)

Tenishia Thornton (MLT): “This sport makes you more mature”

Read interview [here](#)

NATIONAL FEDERATIONS NEWS

From March 14-16, the Punta Arenas weightlifting association together with the **Chilean Weightlifting Federation** and its associated clubs participated in a theoretical and practical clinic given by the national coach Georgi Panchev and the athlete María Fernanda Valdez, who traveled from Santiago to the southernmost city in the world, the Magallanes and Chilean Antarctic Region to help disseminating of our sport.

This activity included a theoretical training, visits to schools in the city and a demonstration training carried out by María Fernanda in a local gym.

The association, its leaders and athletes were very satisfied with the activity, which was supported by the Sports Foundation of the municipality of Punta Arenas This entity was decisive in the financing of the courses and we are thankful to its Executive Director Johnny Mansilla, who managed to carry out this training with great success

Finally, the president of the Punta Arenas weightlifting association appreciates the great willingness of the head coach and María Fernanda to make this activity possible in the region.

News sent by the Chilean Weightlifting Federation



NF Elections

CHI - Chile

President: Rodrigo F. Callejas Covarrubias

KAZ - Kazakhstan

President: Zhanat Tussupbekov

ROU - Romania

President: Alessandru Padure