

# AWF MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors / State Members  
CC: Australian Sports Commission  
From: Matthew Curtain  
Date: 26 December 2007  
Re: Summary of Decisions, AWF Board Meeting – 15 December 2007

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Mermet Victorian Weightlifting Stadium (34 Linda Crescent, Hawthorn VIC 3122)

### **Attendance**

Robert Kabbas (President), Lyn Jones, Boris Kayser, Danielle Waller, Mary Macken, Bob Pavone and Matthew Curtain (Chief Executive Officer)

### **Apologies**

George Hardiman

### **By Invitation**

Simon Heffernan (Athletes' Committee)

## **Summary of Decisions**

### **Francois Etoundi – Cameroon Participation**

Having considered additional information received from the AWF Anti Doping Committee, the Board resolved to amend its previously approved resolution relating to the future AWF membership of Francois Etoundi.

While 19.10 & 19.11 of the IWF constitution is clear in its ruling, the AWF considered that as an AWF financial member, Mr. Etoundi would also be subject to the rules and regulations of the AWF's anti doping agreement with ASADA and therefore, considered his membership as a (possible) risk.

Accordingly, the Board resolved that should Mr. Etoundi continue to compete for Cameroon internationally, his participation in Australian events would be by invitation only and with permission of Cameroon Weightlifting Federation.

### **Action Items**

AWF to inform Mr. Etoundi that should he be invited to compete domestically, he will not be covered by the AWF's insurance policy.

AWF to include 'nationality declaration' on AWF athlete agreements.

### **Amanda Phillips – Fosters Funding \$3000**

With the AWF having acknowledged its administrative oversight prior to the XVIII Commonwealth Games, the CEO informed the Board that this matter would be concluded in the coming period.

### **CAS Determination – WADA appeal**

The CEO tabled correspondence from the CAS announcing that the ASADA decision on Aleksan Karapetyn had been upheld by the full bench of the CAS.

Mr. Karapetyn was suspended for two years for the use of Benzylpiperazine (BZP) at the Mermet Cup weightlifting event held in the United States on 24 – 26 June 2005.

The subject of the appeal was the decision by ASADA to backdate the suspension to the day after Mr Karapetyn last competed, resulting in the athlete retaining his gold medal won at the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

The CAS found that ASADA's decision to allow the athlete to retain his gold medal as a matter of fairness was entirely appropriate given the facts of the case. In particular, the CAS held:

*“The decision making process of ASADA in the exercise of the discretion to determine what fairness requires under Article 13.8 of the Policy was applied in good faith, without bias, error or undue influence...In such circumstances, it cannot be said that ASADA has exercised its discretion in an inappropriate manner...”*

### **Technical Official Nomination – XXIX Olympic Games**

Having received the recommendation from the AWF Technical Committee, the Board agreed to the nomination to the International Weightlifting Federation of the following technical officials:

<b>Male</b>	Pedro Sanchez (Victoria)
<b>Female</b>	Debra Keelan (Queensland)

### **HQ Staff Nomination – III Commonwealth Youth Games**

The Board agreed to nominate the following officers to the ACGA for its consideration:

<b>Administration Officer</b>	Matthew Curtain (VIC)
<b>Administration Assistant</b>	Don Mitchell (NSW)

The AWF Chief Executive Officer was not present during the discussion.

### **Section Manager – III Commonwealth Youth Games**

The Board agreed to nominate *Dr. Robert Mitchell (NSW)* to the ACGA for appointment as the Weightlifting Section Manager.

### **Australian Youth Olympic Festival 2009 & 2011**

The CEO tabled correspondence from the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) advising of its decision not to include Weightlifting as part of the 2009 & 2011 sports program.

### **Lyn Jones appointment – 2008 Olympic Games Test Event**

The CEO tabled correspondence from the IWF confirming the appointment of Lyn Jones as a Technical Official for the 2008 Olympic Games Test Event.

### **Australian Olympic Committee Annual General Meeting 2008**

The CEO presented the early advice received from the AOC tabling that its Annual General Meeting will be held in Sydney on 10 May 2008.

### **Michael Keelan – Board Leave of Absence**

The CEO tabled the previously disseminated correspondence received from Michael Keelan announcing his 'leave of absence' from the Board until such time the appointment of the AWF High Performance Manager is concluded.

### **Finance Report**

The CEO presented the AWF financial performance, as at 30 November 2007 reiterating the AWF's urgent requirement to be prudent with finance management.

### **Finance / Audit Committee**

The Board resolved to appoint the following Directors to constitute the Finance / Audit Committee:

***Danielle Waller (Chair), Robert Kabbas & George Hardiman***

Considering that funding would remain withheld until the ASC is satisfied with the Committee's financial scrutiny, the President spoke of the absolute importance of this function and announced its first meeting would be held in the imminent future.

### **Reports**

#### **Strategic Plan**

As part of the strategic plan, the President asked the Board to consider a possible *Patron* for the Federation.

#### **World Cup 2007 (incorporating the Commonwealth & Oceania Championships)**

As prepared by Robert Kabbas (Team Manager), the report relating to Australia's participation at the 2007 World Cup was received.

#### **Erika Yamasaki**

As the AWF had previously determined to release Erika Yamasaki to Olympic Weightlifting New Zealand, the Board questioned the 'comeback' process should Ms. Yamasaki choose to return to AWF at a later stage.

Given Ms. Yamasaki would not be a member of the AWF's Registered Testing Pool (RTP), the Board requested the anti doping committee to determine (via ASADA) whether the athlete would still need to comply with the ant doping policy given however, she would not have officially retired.

#### **Coach Development**

Lyn Jones reported verbally that three courses had been delivered since 27 October 2007 (Brisbane, Melbourne & Adelaide). In addition, he announced the CDAG was planning to host the first 'National' level course early in 2008.

#### **CDAG / AWF Contract of Services**

Lyn Jones reported that a draft contract of services had been supplied to Boris Kayser for consideration and review.

#### **High Performance**

The Board approved the recommendations, as presented by the High Performance Management Committee (HPMC) from its meeting held on 14 December 2007.

## **2008 Oceania Senior & Junior Championships (Olympic Qualifying Event)**

Qualifying Period: 15 September 2007 to 24 February 2008

- Given the importance of the event, the Board resolved to automatically select those athletes that achieve 100% of the Senior International qualifying standard and to thereafter select those athletes who achieve the highest percentage from the qualifying standard.
- With written confirmation from the host national federation, the AWF agreed to accept results from Australian athletes competing abroad in domestic events.
- The AWF resolved not to enter a team for the Oceania Junior Championships.

## **2008 World Junior Championships**

Qualifying Period: 01 January 2008 to 04 May 2008

## **III Commonwealth Youth Games**

Qualifying Period: 01 May 2008 to XX July 2008 (to be confirmed by the ACGA)

- Subject to available funding, the Board approved of a pre-Games training camp for the CYG shadow squad (to be held June / July 2008).

## **Commonwealth Senior & Junior Championships**

Qualifying Period: 12 June 2008 to 12 October 2008

- The AWF has deferred its decision on whether it will send a senior team to this event.

## **AWF Selection Criteria**

The Board agreed for the HPMC to customise the existing selection criteria to reflect the AOC nomination template.

## **AWF Clubs Tournament – 15 March 2008**

The Board allocated the delivery of the 2008 Australian Clubs Tournament to the NSW Weightlifting Association. The event will be held on 15 March 2008.

As a 'pilot' competition, the AWF confirmed its financial responsible for medals and trophies only.

## **Athlete / Coach Incentive Payments**

Given the suspension of ASC funding, the Board resolved to delay the commencement of the incentive program until such time it was financially viable.

## **Athlete Agreements**

Approved – pending the inclusion of a 'nationality declaration'

## **High Performance Manager Role – update**

The CEO informed the Board that 5 applicants had been short-listed (from 20) for the role with preliminary interviews to be held in Brisbane on 19 December 2007.

The Board resolved the interview panel to include the officers: Robert Kabbas (AWF President), Matthew Curtain (AWF CEO), David Crocker (ASC) and Claudia Fatone (Sport Employment Australia).

### **Olympic Team Nomination Criteria**

The CEO reported the Olympic Nomination Criteria had been approved and that the 'Shadow squad' would be announced shortly.

### **Board Vacancy**

As per the strategic plan, the President spoke of the requirement to increase the AWF's marketing profile and therefore asked the Board to consider any possible future officers who could fulfill this role.

### **CEO Review Committee**

In accordance with the governance and management policy, the Board requested the AWF President to establish the CEO review committee by the next Board of Directors meeting.

### **Australian Masters Championships 2008 (Launceston – 14 June 2008)**

The President reported that the 2008 Australian Masters Championships would be held in Launceston on 14 June 2008.

### **Australian U16 & U18 Championships 2008 (05 – 07 December)**

The AWF received two applications from state members wishing to host this event (New South Wales & Victoria).

Accordingly, the Board, in its majority, voted in favour of Victoria's application.

Due to the real and/or perceived conflict of interest, Mr. Robert Kabbas & Mr. Boris Kayser did not partake in this discussion or vote.

### **AWF name change to Weightlifting Australia**

With a two thirds majority by special resolution from the state members, the CEO briefed the Board that the AWF could change its name to Weightlifting Australia by email.