

## ACGA FUNDING HELPS NEXT GENERATION OF AUSTRALIAN LIFTERS

The future for the next generation of Australian Weightlifters has received a major boost, thanks to the generous support of the Australian Commonwealth Games Association.

The Association, through its NextGEN AUSComGames Squad program, has once again agreed to help fund nine of the Australian Weightlifting Federation's most promising juniors.

AWF High Performance Co-Ordinator, Jacquie White, said the NextGEN AUSComGames funding is very welcome for the sport.

"For most of our juniors, the cost of competing at the highest level is substantial," Ms White said.

"But they need to get that international experience if they are one day going to represent Australia, hopefully as early as 2018 on the Gold Coast.

"The generous ACGA funding will help some of our most promising athletes compete at the biggest international junior weightlifting events in 2015."

The NextGEN AUSComGames Squad (formerly known as the Australian Junior Commonwealth Games Squad) program has been running for several years, with the aim of giving potential future Commonwealth Games athletes valuable experience competing in major international events.

The Australian Weightlifting Federation has earmarked the Youth World Championships in Peru, the Junior World Championships in Poland, the Oceania Junior and Youth Championships in Papua New Guinea, and the Commonwealth Junior and Youth Championships in India as events where Australian lifters will compete.

The nominated NextGEN AUSComGames 2015 Squad members are:

### **MEN**

Leo Lark	QLD
Aydan McMahon	NSW
James Norman	QLD
Shane Wagner	QLD

### **WOMEN**

Kiana Elliott	NSW
Hailee Jarrett	NSW
Rachel Goodman	VIC
Sabah Chamoun	NSW
Charrae Myers	TAS

"I expect that we will see several of the squad members competing on the Gold Coast in 2018" Ms White said.

"They are all athletes that we will be looking at for the 2022 Commonwealth Games team."