

*Dear Readers,
Dear Friends,*

We must start this Editorial with some apologies and an explanation. Why 2009/4 of **World Weightlifting** has been delayed and why we are publishing a combined issue of enlarged contents as 2009/4 & 2010/1?

Since its first appearance in 1980, for the last 30 years this magazine has been the product of the work chiefly of two people (with regular or occasional contributions from others):

Editor-in-Chief Jenő Boskovics and Senior Editor Anikó Németh-Móra -

joined in the field of design and print processing by Art Editor Marianna Gelányi. Things happen in life that sometimes we cannot prevent or can do much about. Dearly as we may wish that people who are important for us or close to us stay alive and healthy forever, Fate or the facts of life may cross our plans or desires. In this case, our Editor-in-Chief, working hard for the magazine for the last thirty years, fell fatally ill and his sickness has delayed the

appearance of the 2009/4 issue. Of course the publication of **World Weightlifting**, which is The History of weightlifting and of the IWF, must go on and solutions have to be found. And so, Dear Readers, we kindly ask you to accept, as an exception, that the 115th (!) issue of **World Weightlifting** appears herewith as a combination of last year's number 4 and this year's number 1, whereas we added pages to the usual size to accommodate more information. Thank you for your understanding..

Dear Friends,

The reminiscences of the magnificent Goyang World Championships held just five months ago are still sharp in our minds, yet our rapid world seems to keep pushing the "Fast Forward" button and we must concentrate on the tasks ahead. 2010 is another Olympic Year with the upcoming 1st Youth Olympic Games in Singapore, where



weightlifting will be present with 110 athletes aged 16-17 years. The IWF Calendar is full, including – among others – five Continental Events that offer an additional qualification opportunity to countries to earn slots to the 1st YOG. The first held was the Youth Championships for Africa, in Cairo, Egypt. Since the IWF must take direct control of these Qualification events, it gave us the idea to offer an opportunity to various IWF officials to familiarize with African weightlifting, to get first-hand information and an

insight into this Continent's problems and so to hold a joint meeting between the Weightlifting Federation of Africa (WFA) and the IWF leaders present. We can say that this meeting, the first in a series being planned, was a great success, highly educative and conclusive for all sides. The IWF has to thank and congratulate both the WFA (under President Khaled Mhalhel and General Secretary Manareddin Eshellli) and the Egyptian Weightlifting Federation (under President Mahmoud Shoukry)

editorial



on the excellent organisation of the Championships and the meeting. The IWF Council also had its first meeting in Cairo and discussed various proposals to be put on the Executive Board's table at its next meeting in Sofia. Within the framework of the IWF Education Program an Anti-Doping Seminar was held for the participants of the African Youth and Junior Championships in Cairo involving both athletes and their coaches.

A further and most important innovation in the IWF activities that we should

report on is the IWF Development Program, approved by the IWF Executive Board in Seoul, Korea in 2009 November, which was launched in February 2010.

This is a unique opportunity in 2010 since this year there is only one round for applications since the IWF's Financial Year ends in September. Later on, as of the next Financial Year, a two-phase application system will be implemented. The IWF Development Program has offered support on three levels. In addition to the 50,000 USD

IWF-support paid to each Continental Federation last year as a contribution to financing their own activities, the first scope was dedicated to the Continental and Regional Federations; the available overall funds to apply for amounted to 250.000 USD (including the support provided by the IWF for the TIS and Anti-Doping costs of the IWF Continental Youth Olympic Qualification Events). The second scope included the Regional Weightlifting Training Centers; the total frame for distribution being 125.000 USD.

The third type of Development support was available to the National Federations by application, in a total value of 200.000 USD. The decisions about the allocations are taken by the IWF Development and Education Commission. As the IWF is constitutionally the organisation of its affiliated national members, we are delighted that the NFs now have the possibility to improve their organisational, coaching, training, educational and anti-doping activities or access to funds to develop any other areas they might feel need for with the assistance of the IWF. The IWF Development Program provides the guarantees with its well-elaborated Regulation and conditions and transparent allocation procedures. We feel confident that this will prove to be one of the biggest successes in our sport.

Dr. Tamás Aján
President

Ma Wenguang
General Secretary

