



New Members of the Weightlifting Hall of Fame

The IWF Annual Congress in Chiang Mai, Thailand, served as the venue for the presentation of the diplomas and plaques testifying membership in the *Weightlifting Hall of Fame*.

Stefan Botev (Bulgaria) and Yurik Sarkisian (URS-ARM-AUS) were honoured for their unparalleled weightlifting careers, while Johan Erling took over the Hall of Fame relics on behalf of one of the sport's long-time sponsor, the

ELEIKO Sweden Company. The membership was handed over by Hall of Fame Chairman **Alain Lunzenfichter**, accompanied by **Dr. Tamás Aján**, IWF President and **Sam Coffa**, IWF 1st Vice President.

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Outstanding officials honoured

At the Congress, IWF Masters Chairman **Walter Imahara** (USA), Medical Committee Member **Dr. Asghar Shahabi** (IRI) and Vice President Maj. Gen. **Intarat Yodbangtoey** (THA) were awarded the IWF Gold Order for their long and invaluable services to international weightlifting. TAWA President **Mrs. Boossaba Yodbangtoey** received the IWF Award of Merit.

O B I T U A R Y

Aulis Piilonen †

A Big Man with a Big Heart – *Aulis Piilonen*, one of Finland's first and foremost international referees passed away this September.

Aulis was known as a World Championship and Olympic official, as an organiser of many events and as the engine of the Finnish Weightlifting Federation through many decades, but most people in the World's Weightlifting Family will remember him as a Great Friend who had an open heart for everybody in this sport. He used to foster friendship between Nordic and Baltic nations but could boast friends all over the world. He never saved effort, enthusiasm or personal sacrifice when it was about giving assistance to his beloved sport, weightlifting.



Aulis Piilonen with the IWF President

Rest in Peace, Aulis! We shall keep your memory.

IWF Executive Board allocated future World Championships

At its meeting in ChiangMai, after having seen very competitive candidatures, and followed by a long and difficult deliberation, the IWF Executive Board decided to give its future events to the following organisers:

2010 Junior World Championships – Plovdiv (BUL)

2011 Junior World Championships – Callao (PER)

2011 Olympic Qualification World Championships – Paris (FRA)

NEWS

