

### Referee Clinic

There is a question as to whether or not all of our referees will be able to fulfil the requirement that they attend a clinic in conjunction with International championships within a four year period 2007 - 2011 e.g. there are referees who may not be selected by their Nations.

Although the main purpose of the clinics being held at International Meets is to swell the number of officials sadly lacking at some, this does not appear to be working, therefore, a suggestion that this facility be extended to National Events where referees must at least officiate at four Powerlifting Nationals within the four year period has been accepted by both the Executive Committee and Technical Committee and has been added to the rules.

Referees should make themselves available for all of the Internationals they can possibly attend. There is little point in becoming an International Referee if one isn't prepared to travel, but to just sit in on the occasional World Record attempt at a home National Competition. It is appreciated that time and no doubt expenses are the two biggest considerations. It is known that some Nations do include their referees where travel and accommodation is provided for the team. These are the lucky ones!

### Page 35 (item 31) TECHNICAL RULES

A clinic will be held every year at each **National**, World and Regional Powerlifting Championships. Every International Referee must participate in one clinic within the four year period for re-registration.

It was not felt that this simple addition was in need of Congress approval. It is a common sense approach benefiting all. T.C. Members from each region have been asked to administer the clinics.

### Powerlifting Raw (Un-equipped)

A feeler has been circulated by the E.C. in regard to how much interest Nations have in raw competitions and which Nations currently organise them.

To adopt raw lifting competitively within the IPF would be something for the member Nations to decide. It has often been heard said that the supportive gear was one reason given that our sport has not been "fully" accepted by the IOC, but ex-president Norbert Wallauch after conferring with the IOC confirmed that this was not so.

Some may say that raw lifting will fractionalise powerlifting and perhaps cause dispute with our manufacturers. I feel that it would be unwise for the Technical Committee to make any comment that may be taken "as read".

### Shoes or Boots

(c) The underside must be uniform on both sides. This detail was put into the rule after it was discovered that lifters were doctoring footwear (raising the outside, wedging) as added purchase when performing the bench press. It is quite specific and it does not take into account other abnormalities. The proposal is to change item (c) to read The underside must be **flat, no projections, normal no "doctoring"**.

### Bench Shirts

Recently, a request to accept a new bench shirt was refused as per the proposal - Congress 2007 - indefinite restraint on new shirts. A suggestion has been put forward that a four year intermission apply before we once again accept new construction.

### World Games (Referees)

Referees for the World Games to be held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan in July have all been appointed. They are all of Cat 1 status and represent the Nations whose lifters have been nominated to partake at this most prestigious event on the IPF calendar.

John Stephenson  
Chairman IPF Technical Committee