My Dear Friends: I trust this months newsletter finds each of you well. We’re rapidly approaching the end of the year and have one last remaining World Championship on the calendar — The Men/Women’s Open Worlds in Aurora, Colorado, USA. However, before discussing the World Open Championships in Aurora with you, I first want to reflect back on what a successful year we’ve had thus far. I’m very proud and honored to have travelled to most of the regional competitions and to all of world championships this year. Most important, I’ve been quite impressed with the hard work the administrators, athletes, coaches and referees have performed in developing our beloved sport — thank you! As everyone knows, when I ran for the office of IPF President one of my keynote promises to each of you was to be active, visible and promote and develop our sport. I’m fulfilling this promise to you. Since my election in Puerto Rico, as an organization we have improved in numerous aspects; however, we must continue to work hard, together, in one direction, step by step toward our goal of IOC Recognition. Of course, reaching the goal of IOC recognition will require more sponsors. So, I’m quite pleased to inform you that we have signed on our second VIP Sponsor — SBD. SBD has now become one of our strategic partners in our sport and a detailed report on the signed agreement can be found on the following page. My congratulations go out to SBD and I send to Emanuel Scheiber my sincere thanks for securing this agreement. Another rather important item that I would like to address is the aspect of Social Media. As everyone knows, Social Media is a constructive and useful tool in promoting our sport to many of our followers and business partners around the globe. Unfortunately, Social Media can be used negatively as well. Most recently, prior to the start of the IPF World Junior Championships in Oroszaza, some irresponsible and defamatory remarks were made by several coaches about the IPF via Social Media. I’m respectfully requesting that if you have a complaint, either send it to me or to your designated IPF EC Member, directly. We will respond. Also, as a reminder, the IPF operates by a code of professional conduct. This code of conduct will be observed an adhered too by the IPF Member Federations. This type of behaviour will not be tolerated again. Disrespectful and insulting comments serve no one and are counterproductive to our mission. Overall, please be respectful when using Social Media. Lastly, I very pleased to inform you that at the World Championships, in Aurora, Colorado, USA, our friends from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International World Games Association (IWGA) will join us at the General Assembly and at the championship. We’re excited to have the IOC and IWGA officials with us for the very first time ever, at one our championships. Please be sure to join us for this historic moment in Aurora. Thank you. Gaston Parage, President, IPF
NEW VIP SPONSOR—SBD APPAREL

The International Powerlifting Federation is honored to introduce to you our newest VIP Sponsor — SBD Apparel. The agreement with SBD was signed last week at the IPF World Masters Powerlifting Championships in Pilsen, Czech Republic.

On hand for this historic contract signing was Gaston Parage, the President of the IPF, Johnny Graham, the Vice-President of the IPF, Emanuel Scheiber, the Secretary General of the IPF, Benjamin Banks, the President and CEO of SBD Apparel and Arun Singh, business sales representative from SBD.

The strategic partnership between the IPF and the SBD has come at a pivotal time. The interest in the classic form of powerlifting has simply exploded and SBD stands ready to fulfill the needs of the classic style lifter, exclusively.

The SBD company, founded in 2012 specializes in the production of mainly classic style lifting equipment such as knee sleeves, non-supportive singlets, wrist wraps, etc. Mr. Benjamin Banks, the CEO and President of SBD and powerlifter himself prefers the classic style of lifting, so his background, experience and knowledge have been instrumental in the development of the SBD apparel line. Mr. Banks recognized the importance of creating a specialized brand product that fulfills the needs of the classic style powerlifter.

In a very short time, SBD has captured and revolutionized the classic style lifting market by producing some exceptionally constructed knee sleeves, singlets, wrist wraps, belts an apparel that compare equally to the very best products in the commercial powerlifting industry today. By signing the VIP partnership agreement with the IPF, SBD has demonstrated it’s commitment to the continued growth and ongoing development of classic lifting gear within the IPF.

Interested dealers for SBD products can reach them at: www.sbdapparel.com

Robert Keller, Editor, IPF Newsletter
The **International Powerlifting Federation** (IPF) is the governing body of powerlifting internationally. The **IPF** is comprised of member federations from 90 countries on six continents.

The **IPF** is responsible for fostering international competition by sanctioning regional and world championship events. Each year, top competitors from around the world compete in seven **IPF** World Championships - the World Men’s and Women’s Powerlifting Championships, World Junior and Sub-Junior Powerlifting Championships, World Master’s Powerlifting Championships, the World Bench Press Championships, World Master’s Bench Press Championships and the Open, Junior and Sub-Junior Classic Cup (Raw).

The **IPF** is also responsible for coordinating powerlifting's participation in the World Games. The World Games is an international multi-sports event hosted by the International World Games Association (IWGA), under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The event consists of official sports and demonstration sports selected from those not included in the Olympic Games. The Games are held every fourth year, following the year of the Summer Olympics.

EC Members and SBD delegates in Pilsen after the signing of the agreement making SBD a new IPF VIP partner.