

Dance Flame

The Official Newsletter of the Singapore DanceSport Federation

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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The 3rd Asian Indoor Games

By May Ng
(Team Manager)



At Changi Airport (Singapore)



Official Tags Used



Chef-de-Mission (CDM) Vincent Eu (SSC)
with Kelvin Toh & Tiara Zhang



Team Singapore DanceSport with CDM Vincent
Eu (4th from Left) and Helen Lee (3rd from Right)

When I was informed of my nomination as the Team Manager (TM) for the 3rd Asian Indoor Games (AIG) 2009, I thought my past experiences as TM would be adequate. Unlike previous assignments for IDSF events, my responsibilities (for multi-sports Games) began the minute the athletes were selected by the Singapore Sports Council (SSC). Of the four athletes selected by SSC, only one has represented Singapore in a previous AIG. In order to better bond with the DanceSport AIG team, I would visit their practice sessions to watch their training, and provide encouragement.

At the AIG Team Managers' briefing conducted by the SSC in early October 2009, we were informed that the DanceSport events would be held in Hanoi and the Official Hotel would be situated on the outskirts of the city, where there are no nearby convenience stores nearby. Pre-empting the lack of drinking water and in true-Singaporean "kia-su" style, our Team brought along with us one carton (12 x 1 litre bottle) mineral water. Checked-in at the airport together with our luggage. True enough, there was no convenience stores around the official hotel for athletes to buy mineral water/beverage/snacks.

Luckily for us, the Team Singapore Secretariat who was in Hanoi a week earlier, advised us (through SMS) that the Official Hotel for DanceSports had been changed, and that the logistics there might not be what we would expect. Mentally-prepared to brace hardships, we left for Hanoi on the morning of 4 November 2009. Upon arrival in Hanoi, we were warmly received by the Singapore Secretariat Officials and two liaison officers. My first priority upon arrival was to ensure that our athletes' needs were taken care of.

The responsibilities of the Team Manager were nothing short of overwhelming – I now understand and appreciate the amount of coordination and work required to ensure a smooth competition preparation for our athletes. The TM would be the first to wake up, and the last to sleep. Responsibilities also included transport arrangements, event timings, practice sessions and meetings.

Having been an Executive Committee member of the SGDF for almost 10 years, the nomination as Team Manager for a multi-sport Games have shown me a different aspect of dancesport – that is was now being considered as a serious sports, on par with other sports like soccer, table-tennis etc. It was an honour to be given this role, and it has given me a new impetus in the promotion of DanceSports.

The 3rd Asian Indoor Games were held in Vietnam from 30 October 2009 to 8 November 2009. The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) have announced that the 2009 Asian Indoor Games would be the last edition of the Games. The Asian Indoor Games & Asian Martial Arts Games will combine, becoming Asian Indoor-Martial Arts Games, and the first event will be held in Doha, Qatar in 2013

NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY'S DANCESPORT ACADEMY (NTU DSA) SCORES SEVERAL FIRSTS!



NTU DSA Members With Stefano Di Filippo and Coach Mario Palermo

NTU DSA'S WORKSHOP WITH 2008 IDSF WORLD LATIN CHAMPION STEFANO DI FILIPPO

21 November 2009 will be a day that many would envy the athletes from the NTU DSA. A Latin-American Workshop with IDSF World Latin Champion, Stefano Di Filippo was organised by the Executive Committee of the DSA for their members, the first time that an affiliate has made such a bold move to engage the services of a World Champion. Latin techniques were covered as part of the workshop. For the participants, being up-close and personal with a World Champion was a dream-come-true, and SGDF will continue to work with the affiliates to organise good quality coaching programs for their members.



NTU DSA Members Enjoying Their Lunch !!!!!

NTU DSA'S 3-DAY DANCESPORT CAMP

by Joyce Neo (NTU DSA's Public Relations Officer)

In order to foster overall team bonding, increase competitors understanding of DanceSport as well as train its' members for future competitions, the NTU DanceSport Academy (DSA) committee decided to organize a DanceSport Camp that took place from the 8th to the 10th of December 2009.

The camp began with all members participating in icebreaker games as well as a mini fashion show where participants had to create latin costumes out of tissue paper. Following that, participants gathered for a short sharing session with the seniors about past competition experiences and tips on costume and apparel for performances and competitions. This sharing session was accompanied by past dance videos of NTU DSA Alumni as well as IDSF Videos. Later in the evening, DSA then had a training session with dance instructor, Mario Palermo, from Shawn and Gladys Danceworld.



NTU DSA Members' Group Photo with Mario Palermo

To kick off the second day of the camp, the DSA seniors conducted a competition presentation skills and floor-craft session based on their previous competition experience. We then had another technique class conducted by Mario, which was followed by several hours of self-practice. To round off the night, camp participant were joined by some alumni members of DSA and a movie screening of the show "Burn The Floor" was held to inspire everyone to dance better and with more fervent passion.

On the final day of the camp, DSA Alumni member Ms Tan Wei Jing who is also a professional makeup artist, conducted a dancesport makeup workshop for all camp participants.



SGDF Member Ms Tan Wei Jing (NTU DSA Alumni) Conducting the Makeup Workshop

Following the workshop, participants of the evening's competition then began warm up, hair, makeup and costume preparation for the 1st NTU Closed DanceSport Championships that was held at the School of Art, Design and Media's lobby. The event was an eye-opener for many of us, especially when given the opportunity to be mentored so closely to the 'backstage' workings of organising a dancesport championships. Many of us took things for granted, and only after working closely with the SGDF did we realise our mistakes. Thankfully, the SGDF were there to guide us along to make it a success.

1st NTU DSA CLOSED DANCESPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Joyce Neo (NTU DSA'S PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER)

The three-day dancesport camp culminated in the 1st NTU Closed DanceSport Championships. Held on 10 December 2009, this was the first time that an affiliate has taken the initiative to organise a closed dancesport championships, under the guidance of the SGDF. The Chief Adjudicator was Ms Sabrina Sim, an IDSF-Licensed Adjudicator and ADSF-Licensed Coach, who is much sought after in the region for her technical analysis of athletes.

The Adjudicators were Ms Sabrina Sim, Mr Michael Lim and Mr Joshua Low. Scrutineer for the event was Ms Hwa Mee Thoo.

An exciting Latin Show by the reigning Singapore National Latin DanceSport Champions and 2009 Asian Youth Latin Champions Lim Chong Aik & Riane Low kept the audiences' feet tapping, and hands clapping.

To culminate the entire competition and camp, a short talk and feedback session was conducted by the Singapore Dancesport Federation about organising a championships, understanding of the scrutineering program and its results, and valuable feedback on our dancing.

Thank you, SGDF for your support and guidance!



NTU DSA's President Mr Ethan Ow Giving the Opening Address



Chairman of Adjudicators Ms Sabrina Sim with the Finalists of the Latin Grade E (C) Finalists

LOCAL NEWS SNIPPETS

23 October 2009 – Sports@SG

Singapore's very own Lim Chong Aik & Riane Low was again featured on MediaCorp's Sports@SG programme. This time, the programme dedicated some 15 minutes of air-time showcasing both Chong Aik and Riane away from the stress and glamour of the dance floor, in the comforts of their own home. Feedback from the Producer? Fantastic !

11 November 2009 – Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Dinner

Timothy Ong & Pang Wan Ching were invited to perform at the APEC Dinner at the Capella Hotel (Sentosa). Their performance was to showcase Singapore's Youth in Sports (as a buildup to next year's Youth Olympic Games) and was enthusiastically received by the VIPs attending the dinner. Unfortunately security was extremely tight, hence neither SGDF nor the Organisers were able to provide any photographs of this memorable event.

18 November 2009 – Asia's Wonder Kids on Channel NewsAsia

Asia's Wonder Kids is a 4-part series that talks about the multi-talents of Asian children. From singing, dancing and just about everything, these kids know it all. Both Timothy Ong & Pang Wan Ching were featured on this programme, showing what makes them special in a very niche and glamorous sport. The programme featured the kids at practice, at play and at home with family, pets and also a day at the animal shelter for these young pet lovers.

IDSF UPDATES

IDSF To Implement Registration And Licencing System (RLS) For Athletes

WEF 1st January 2010, all athletes not registered under the IDSF Registration & Licencing System (RLS) for athletes will not be permitted to participate in any IDSF competitions. All National Federations are obliged to ensure that their athletes are all registered under the IDSF RLS database. With this system in place, IDSF is able to comply to WADA Anti-Doping obligations, as well as to ensure that only IDSF RLS-registered athletes participate in IDSF events.

1st KULAI OPEN DANCESPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Kulai? Where’s that?” was the first questions asked when members found out about an Open DanceSport Championships. “It’s about 45-minutes away from the 2nd Link to Malaysia”, described Mr George Tan, one of the Organisers of the event.

Then came 12 December 2009, a strong contingent of 45 Singaporeans comprising 32 athletes and 13 supporters, officials, scrutineers, adjudicator and guests traveled to Kulai, Johore for the 1st Kulai Open DanceSport Championships. The SGDF chartered two buses and promptly set off at 10:00am. Unfortunately, due to heavy traffic, Team Singapore DanceSport only arrived at the Tea Garden Hotel (Official Hotel) slightly after 12:00pm. Spirits were still high, athletes and officials bonded like old friends. The only major shopping area there was a 20-minute walk to Tesco Supermarket. The gung-ho SGDF athletes and everyone else made do with whatever awaited them – everyone found their way to Tesco – in little groups, bumping into one another there.

The competition venue was a short 6 minutes walk away from the hotel. With a largely junior competitive team, everyone cheered for one another – as long as it was a Singaporean on the dancefloor. The competition proceeded smoothly, and Singapore returned with 2 Gold, 3 Silver and 2 Bronze medals. Well done Team Singapore!!



Friends off and on the dancefloor! The Spirit of SGDF



Team Singapore DanceSport Athletes / Supporters



Team Singapore DanceSport in Kulai