

Dance Flame

The Official Newsletter of the Singapore DanceSport Federation

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 30

APR-JUN 2011

THAILAND IDSF OPEN 2011



The very first overseas championships of the new financial year (1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012) saw the SGDF being represented in all levels at the Thailand IDSF Open 2011, on Sat 23 & Sun 24 April 2011. Lim Chong Aik & Riane Low, Yang Zheng Han & Cherie Tan, Zane Tan & Dara Tan, Timothy Ong & Pang Wan Ching, Elmer Fernando & May Ng – a total of five pairs of athletes registered to compete in events ranging from Junior through Senior. Mr Robert Ong was invited to be on the panel of overseas adjudicators.



The scrutineering system for the championships were done through a Personal Digital Assistant (or “PDA”, left) system that was developed in Germany in conjunction with the IDSF Scrutineering System. This system further enhances the integrity of the results. Another feather in the cap for the IDSF Scrutineering System.

For the competitors, it was another chance for everyone to see each other again, renewing old friendships and making new ones. For Team Singapore DanceSport, this was the first overseas international championships, and naturally nerves and anxieties were at full swing. With a mix of experience and youth, this was quickly brought under control for the Team to put in a credible effort.



Competition across all events was tough, yet the friendly rivalry was evident for all to see – different countries’ athletes were talking and enjoying each others’ company – everything done in true sportsmanship. This extended down all the way to the coaching staff from different countries where they shared different coaching techniques used in their own countries. This, is truly what sportsmanship is all about – it extends from the athletes to the coaches, to the officials – where everyone is here for one cause – DanceSport.

Our congratulations to Elmer Fernando & May Ng (left) for finishing as Champions in the Standard Senior Open (Grade A 5 Dance) event.

2011 KOREA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Exactly one week after the Thailand IDSF Open 2011 championships were the 2011 Korea Open Championships. This event was IDSF Grand Slam Standard and IDSF Open Latin Championships. This being one of the Grand Slam Standard events, spectators were fully entertained by the presence of athletes such as Benedetto Ferruggia (Germany), Emanuel Valeri & Tania Kehlet (Denmark), Simone Segatori & Annette Sudol (Germany), Dimitry Zharkov & Olga Kulikova (Russia), Glukhov Alexy & Glazunova Anastasia (Russia), Nikolay Darin & Natalia Seredina (Russia).

The IDSF Open Latin section was just as entertaining with the presence of Zoran Plohl & Tatsiana Lahvinovich (Croatia), Martino Zanibellato & Michelle Abildtrup (Denmark), Manuel Frighetto & Karin Rooba (Estonia), Sergey Gusev & Anastasia Usoltseva (Russia), Sergey Tatarenko & Viktoria Tatarenko ((Germany), Denis Popov & Daria Ryzhonina (Russia).

Singapore was represented by Lim Chong Aik & Riane Low (IDSF International Open Latin) and Ms Sabrina Sim (Adjudicator)

The Scrutineering System was similar to the one used at the 2010 Guangzhou Asian Games. Dances in the Grand Slam Standard Finals were judged individually on the new marking system. All IDSF judges were provided the necessary training on this new system of judging that is being progressively introduced into competitions around the world.



Ms Sabrina Sim using the new judging system. All judges were seated on an elevated platform to enable them to have a better view of the dancers.



Results for the individual dancers were displayed on large screens in the venue (Seoul Olympic Park, Gymnasium 1). Dancers were judged based on several criteria.



A summary of the results after the Waltz. This was acknowledged as a very transparent and efficient system by the panel of very experienced international adjudicators.



Adjudicators – IDSF Grand Slam Standard (Seoul, Korea)

THE CRYSTAL PALACE DANCESPORT CUP 2010

I don't know what makes a good competition.

To us, it is that special moment somewhere in the middle of the event, when the house is full and the dancers are on the floor, when the lights and the music make a special mix, when everything comes together and has a life of its own.

That's what Crystal Palace Cup feels like every year. From the start, the idea for this event came from the conviction that no matter if you win, or just dance a couple of rounds, the feeling should be special. This year was no exception.

Opposite Houses of Parliament, on the bank of the river Thames the new Park Plaza venue welcomed eager competitors and discerning adjudicators from 11am. With the arrival of the PDAs for the first time in England, immediate calculations were delivered by the scrutineering team.

From the first round the couples felt great. The venue, the floor, great music, lighting made dancers give their best. Audience always knows when couples are stressed, or going through the motions, or when they are having the time of their lives.

The day started with Latin events, including Under 21 convincingly won by Nikolay Mikadze & Yana Novikova from Russia. Their Under 21 Standard counterparts were Dominykas Grankas & Kotryna Petrociute (Lithuania).



Evening performance saw a full house, with tables sold out and tiered seating full of cheering fans. The Germans Tasillo & Sabine Lax deservedly dominated Senior 1 Standard category. IDSF International Open titles truly lived up to the name, both in Standard & Latin, with participants from 28 countries taking part.

Outstanding performances from Nikita Brovko & Anastasia Melnikova (Russia) brought them a well-deserved first position. While Standard was won by Benedetto Ferrugia & Claudia Kohler, who danced an absolute blinder of a competition, leaving the audience in no doubt why the World Championship title belongs to them and no-one else.

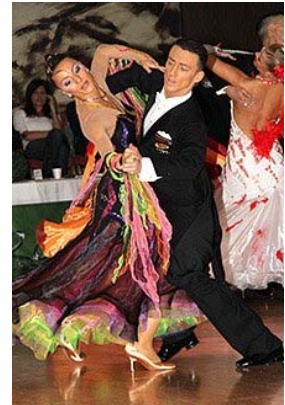
As far as Nick & Olga are concerned, it has always been our motto to go forward, to create, to stay positive, to love what you do, make no excuses and take no prisoners. What a night that was!

The above narration was done by Ms Olga Komarova, organiser of the event.



The Crystal Palace DanceSport Cup 2010 was held on Sunday 22 May 2011, in London (UK). The venue was The Ballroom, Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel. The hotel is located in central London on the south side of the River Thames, near the Waterloo and Vauxhall stations.

It is within walking distance of some of London's most visited attractions, including the London Eye, the Houses of Parliament, the Tate Britain and Buckingham Palace.



B Ferruggia & C Kohler (GER)



Lim CA and R Low (SIN)



M Hermann & S Toppel (Ger)

SGDF LAUNCHES SGDF LAB



Always wanted to pick up dancesport? Watched “*Dancing With The Stars*” and itching to move? **SGDF Lab** is here to help. A series of fun and low-cost easy-to-follow lessons is being run for you to experience partner-dancing. Come and join us.

SGDF Lab is an initiative by the Singapore Dancesport Federation (SGDF) to encourage members of the public to participate and understand more about Dancesport. DanceSport is dancing to a wide range of music as a sport, and is suitable for all ages.

Each of our "sessions" come in bit-sized sets of 4 lessons, each focusing on 1 dance - and you can attend any one you like! Lessons are on Saturdays, 4-5pm (Latin session) and 5-6pm (standard session).

Venue is THE SUBSTATION DANCE STUDIO, 45 Armenian Street (within walking distance from City Hall MRT).

Apart from dancesport, there will also be technique sessions, grooming sessions, nutrition talks, stamina training and even Pilates (by a certified Pilates instructor).

The cost? Enjoy a promotional rate of \$5 per lesson for everyone! (Regular rate: \$8 for adults; \$5 concession)

Anyone can join! Dancesport can be enjoyed with your family, friends, and partners! Email us at education@dancesport.org.sg, or visit us at <http://dancesport.org.sg/education.htm> (internet) or on Facebook (links through SGDF website at <http://www.dancesport.org.sg>)

SGDF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 20th SGDF Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Sunday 26 June 2011 at the Grand Mercure Hotel, Roxy 3 (4th Floor) @ 3:30pm. Members are strongly encouraged to attend the AGM as new and exciting initiatives will be rolled out. Do join us then .

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2-3 July 2011	2011 China Chengdu International DanceSport Championships	Chengdu, China
30 July 2011	13 th SGDF Singapore National DanceSport Championships	Singapore
6-7 August 2011	The 2 nd “Kings Cup” Thailand Open Championships 2011	Bangkok, Thailand
16-20 August 2011	2011 German Open	Stuttgart, Germany
10 September 2011	2011 IDSF World DanceSport Championships Latin	Singapore
24 September 2011	2011 IDSF Asian DanceSport Championship	Beijing, China
24 September 2011	2011 IDSF International Open DanceSport Championships	Christchurch, NZ
10-11 December 2011	2011 IDSF Asian-Pacific DanceSport Championships	Melbourne, Australia

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF DANCEFLAME

- 13th SGDF Singapore National DanceSport Championships
- 2011 IDSF World DanceSport Championships Latin