

# Dance Flame

The Official Newsletter of the Singapore DanceSport Federation

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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## 13<sup>th</sup> SGDF NATIONALS



The 13<sup>th</sup> SGDF Singapore National DanceSport Championships were held on Saturday 30 July 2011 at the Hougang Community Club. These Nationals “kicked off” the second half of the competition calendar year for 2011 – where many of our athletes from various categories will be competing in Singapore and around the region. Again, a sell-out crowd was present at these Nationals.



As part of its policy to ensure that SGDF's results remain unbiased and transparent, four foreign adjudicators were invited from Malaysia and Hong Kong to be on the same adjudication panel as our local Singapore adjudicators.

To further provide the necessary impetus to raise the competition, Vietnam was added to the list of invited foreign participation. This mix of inviting a small group of invited countries to provide competition for our athletes have long been proven to be a crowd attraction.

The 13<sup>th</sup> SGDF Nationals was an important event for our local athletes especially for the Grade As as the ranking points will form the basis of nominating our local athletes for the coming 2011 WDSF World DanceSport Championships Latin (September, Singapore), 2011 WDSF Asian Championships (September, Singapore) and 2011 WDSF Asian-Pacific Championships (December, Melbourne).

The event also saw many new faces in several of the categories, and this will auger well for the sport in the future. With the enthusiasm exhibited from the many talented athletes, the SGDF hopes it will encourage others to pick up the sport.

Congratulations to Lim Chong Aik & Riane Low, and Muhd Azri & Tan Li Fang for being the top two ranked pairs to represent Singapore at the coming WDSF World DanceSport Championships Latin on 10 September 2011.

# THAILAND “KING’S CUP”



Barely a week after the 13<sup>th</sup> SGDF Singapore National DanceSport Championships, several of our athletes were again back in competition – this time in Bangkok, Thailand at the 2<sup>nd</sup> “King’s Cup” Thailand Open 2011 on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> August 2011. Aably led by the very experienced Ms Tiara Zhang, the Team had a good competition in Bangkok. The Singapore Contingent was comprised of (photo L to R) Vince Tan, Tracy Goh, May Ng, Elmer Fernando, Tiara Zhang (Team Manager), Riane Low, Lim Chong Aik, Grace Tan, Chiu Xian Siang.

## ZhongHua 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



ZhongHua Secondary School recently celebrated it’s 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Invited to perform as part of the celebrations were SGDF athletes Timothy Ong & Pang Wan Ching. It was a great honour for this young pair of athletes as they were performing for none other than the Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Hsien Loong.

Both athletes were understandably very nervous to perform in front of such an illustrious Guest, but true to form they danced with gusto and confidence that this pair of athletes were famous for. Well done, Timothy & Wan Ching!

## 2011 WDSF WORLD LATIN

The event all Singapore dancesport supporters have been waiting for. Since the announcement at Singapore will host the 2011 WDSF World DanceSport Championships Latin in June 2010, “back room” preparations began almost immediately with sourcing of competition venue, television broadcast, floor and lighting plans – nothing was left to chance. With the world’s top dancesport athletes accompanied by their renown coaches, led by their illustrious Federation’s leader – Singapore had to ensure that we would set a standard by which all future World Championships would be measured against.

From the World DanceSport Federation, President Carlos Freitag, Sports Director Marco Sietas, Treasurer Tony Tilenni and Presidium Member Pavel Dorokhov (RUS) were in Singapore to witness this event. Guest-of-Honour for the event was Mr Chan Chun Sing, Acting Minister (MCYS).



The night before the Championships, all World Latin participants and officials were treated to a delicious spread of local food at the Poolside of the Conrad Centennial Singapore, the Official Hotel for the Championships.

Meanwhile at the Championship Secretariat, it was a hive of activity with the support team answering questions from athletes and officials. From accommodation to monetary allowances for the World Latin athletes – yes, the action was already happening before the First Round.

The Championships started promptly at 9:00am and in true Singapore style ran like clockwork. Scrutineering was done using the tried-and-proven system using the personal digital assistant (PDA), and results were announced almost instantly. Security surrounding the event was tight, and all officials were checked for valid passes; adjudicators were held in a separate room; Anti-Doping Singapore (ADS) was activated as a requirement for the World Championships.

With the participation of 90 couples representing 51 countries, the World Latin in Singapore has already broken the record of having the most number of countries represented in a World Championship. In addition, the Singapore edition was the first time that the World Latin was held in Asia. The panel of adjudicators included Sabrina Sim (SIN), Knut Saeborg (SWE), Juris Arajis (LAT), Elena Jagerska (SVK), Svetlana Gozun (MDA), Sergej Milicija (BIH), Zhang, Xiadong (CHN), Kerry Clarke (AUS), Kevin Juul (RSA). Chairman was Marco Sietas.

Leading the 90 participants in taking the Athletes' Oath was Lim Chong Aik & Riane Low (SIN). It was an exciting moment or this young pair, to lead the field of more experienced athletes in this act. Taking the oath for the Adjudicators was Ms Kerry Clarke.



(Photo L to R: Ms Sabrina Sim, President SGDF, Opening Speech; Mr Carlos Freitag; Lim Chong Aik & Riane Low)



Zoran Plohl & Tatsiana Lahvinovich (CRO) were crowned the new 2011 WDSF World Latin Champions. The prizes were given away by the Guest-of-Honour Mr Chan Chun Sing, Acting Minister (MCYS) and Mr Carlos Freitag (WDSF President).

## 2011 ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS



The 2011 Asian Championships were held in Beijing, China on 24 & 25 September 2011. Singapore was represented by Matthias Goh & Vicki Lie (Standard), Muhd Azri & Tan Li Fang (Latin), Chiu Xian Siang & Grace Tan (Latin).

Together with the Asian Championships, the WDSF held its first Freestyle Championships. The Freestyle Championships were similar to the former segue category.

## NIE DANCESPORT ELECTIVE



The National Institute of Education (NIE) has decided to include dancesport as one of their electives. A theory and practical test was held in August 2011, and the first batch of “graduates” from this elective has successfully completed this module. Many found dancesport to be challenging, fun and exciting.

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

01-02 October 2011	2011 WDSF World Youth Latin Championship	Ostrava, Czech Republic
08-09 October 2011	2011 Taipei Open DanceSport Championships	Taipei, Chinese Taipei
10-11 December 2011	2011 WDSF Asian-Pacific DanceSport Championships	Melbourne, Australia
10-11 December 2011	2011 WDSF World Senior I Latin Championships	Rouen, France
05 Feb 2012	2012 WDSF World Senior I Standard Championships	Antwerp, Belgium
21 Apr 2012	2012 WDSF World Under-21 Latin Championships	Aarhus, Denmark

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF DANCEFLAME

- SGDF Athlete Development Programme
- World Senior I Latin Championships