



Dance Flame

January – March 2005

A Quarterly Newsletter : Issue 5

Glorious 2004, Moving into 2005...



Dear Readers,

Year 2004 has been an eventful year for SGDF. It has seen the debut of the Singapore Nationals Championships series, international competitions and many SGDF performances. Especially memorable was the 1st Singapore Nationals held at Hougang Community Club, where DanceSport was brought closer to the grassroots organisations. SGDF's Grand Slam Latin Championships, held jointly with the 17th Lion City DanceSport Championships, was also an outstanding success in 2004.

The SGDF Committee worked hard to promote DanceSport in Singapore, especially amongst the young. SGDF stepped up its promotional activities to raise DanceSport awareness at the tertiary institutions. One of these activities was the promotion of DanceSport at Singapore Management University's (SMU) Sports Fiesta. Our DanceSport booth attracted a lot interest from the students and our dance show, performed by our affiliate dance club, Ngee Ann DanceSport Club, received an overwhelming response from everyone at the campus. With the success from the Sports Fiesta, SGDF was invited to do a DanceSport Workshop in SMU. Encouraged by the response, we continued to cultivate the DanceSport Club in SMU.



2004 also saw the appointment of Mr Robert Ong as the Chairman, Disciplinary Commission, Asian DanceSport Federation (ADSF). Ms Hwa Mee Thoo was appointed as Chairperson, Internet Commission, ADSF. Congratulations to Robert Ong and Hwa Mee Thoo!



SGDF has in the past year has also enlarged our base pool of licensed Adjudicators by sending them to attend overseas dancesport congresses. We are proud to present an additional 4 International Adjudicators (Grade A) and 2 National Adjudicators. Congratulations to Mr. Robert Ong, Ms Sabrina Sim, Mr. Michael Lim, Ms Hwa Mee Thoo, Mr. Melvin Tan & Ms Sharon Tan for the completion of the IDSF Adjudicators' Congress.

Our Adjudicators have since been selected by the IDSF to judge at several International Dancesport Championships. Ms Sabrina Sim was invited to adjudicate in the 2004 Asian DanceSport Championships (Korea); and Mr Robert Ong adjudicated in the 2004 Malaysian Nationals. We are also very proud that Mr Robert Ong was nominated by IDSF to adjudicate in the IDSF World Junior II Latin Championships (Latvia), and the Baltic International DanceSport Championships. Indeed, this adds another milestone to the SGDF's accolade.



We would like to thank all our members and supporters who had followed our issues of Dance Flame. We hope you have enjoyed our past issues and we look forward to bring more DanceSport News to you.

Your Editor

SGDF would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Prosperous Lunar New Year! And may the coming year be fulfilling to everyone here!





SGDF Performances & Reviews



Tribute to Sports Minister



Year 2004 saw our Sports Minister, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim stepping down to take on a new portfolio. In a grand farewell dinner organised by the Singapore Sports Council, SGDF was invited

to put up a performance for the dinner event. Our top Grade A Latin athletes, Melvin Tan & Sharon Tan; and Roger Kwa & Connie Tan put up a delightful repertoire of Cha-Cha-Cha, Rumba and Jive.

PAP 50th Anniversary & Party Awards Ceremony

SGDF was honoured to be invited to perform at the PAP 50th Anniversary and Party Awards Ceremony, held at the Kallang Theatre. Performing in this event were undefeated Juvenile Champions, Deon Chan & Isabelle Tay; Juvenile athletes Xavier Lim & Riane Low; and our Grade C Champions Julian Soon & Iris Tan.



2005 New Year Count Down @ Boon Lay

Another dancesport debut at the West Coast GRC and its grassroots organizations was our participation in its 2005 New Year Countdown @ Boon Lay. Performing for the enthusiastic crowd were Juvenile Athletes Xavier Lim & Riane Low, our Grade C Champions Julian Soon & Iris Tan, and one of our top Grade A Latin Athlete Roger Kwa & Connie Tan.



Watching Top Dancers in Action, Inspirational!



It was an honour to be selected to represent Singapore in the 2004 IDSF Asian DanceSport Championships held in Seoul, Korea. As we had not been to Korea before, it was also our pleasure. Sunshine and blue skies greeted the day of the championship. Thank goodness for that! It rained, rather heavily, the day before. We did not fancy walking from the coach to the championship venue, the Olympic Table Tennis Gymnasium, in the rain. The place was abuzz with activities and we could feel the excitement of the championship as we walked into the gymnasium.

The championship was well organised, with a lot of people helping out. There were other events besides the Asian Championships. By participating in this championship, we gained invaluable experience. Such exposure would help us hone our skills and techniques. We also benefited from watching some of the best Asian dancers in action. They have inspired us to learn and improve our level and quality of dancing.

By being there, we were able to meet up with old friends. We also invariably made new friends. Both the welcome and farewell dinners were wonderful opportunities to strengthen ties with friends and to forge new friendships.

Aside from dancing, we also managed to indulge in Singapore's favourite pastimes – shopping and eating. On the whole, it had been a memorable trip.

Chan Huang Seng & Lillian Lim

IDSF World Latin Championships, Leipzig, Germany, 9 October 2004

IDSF World Latin Championships is where only the top 2 couples of any member IDSF country are invited to participate. This year, we are proud to nominate Melvin Tan & Sharon Tan to represent Singapore in this World Latin Championships. "We are very happy to be able to participate in the World Latin Championships successively for the 2nd year. Competing overseas is an extremely valuable experience for us as you get to pit skills against the best in the world." quoted Sharon Tan.





Overseas Competitions Experience!



Taipei IDSF International Open Championships Taipei, Chinese Taipei, 23 / 24 October 2003



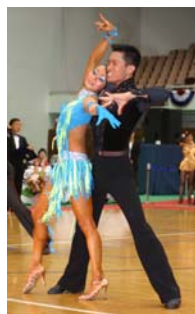
SGDF sent 2 of our top-ranked couples to participate in this event. The Standard Category was represented by Richard Tan & Jenny Tong, and Latin, represented by Roger Kwa & Connie Tan. Our couples performed very well, especially in the Latin Category. Congratulations to Roger Kwa and Connie Tan for making the IDSF Semi-finals after several rounds of fierce competitions.

IDSF World Youth Standard Championships Shanghai, China, 6 November 2004

SGDF is also very proud to have Vasily Chuply & Priscilla Kwa to represent Singapore at the IDSF World Youth Standard Championships. Our junior couple, Ng Wey Keen & Edna Lee performed extremely well in the IDSF Junior Latin Championships, attaining 4th placing.

IDSF Asian Pacific Championships Christchurch, New Zealand, 20 November 2004

The 2004 IDSF Asian Pacific Championships this year was held in Christchurch, New Zealand. Our representatives were Richard Tan & Jenny Tong in the Standard Category and Roger Kwa & Connie Tan in the Latin Category. Congratulations to Roger Kwa & Connie for attaining 8th in the Asian Pacific Championships and 7th in the IDSF International Open Championships.



IDSF World 10 Dance Championships Melbourne, Australia, 12 December 2004

Representing Singapore in the IDSF World Ten Dance was Melvin Tan & Sharon Tan.

IDSF World Junior II Latin Championships Riga, Latvia, 18 December 2004

When we knew that we had to represent Singapore to participate in the World Junior II event in Riga, Latvia in December, we were very apprehensive as we had only about 4-5 months to prepare for this event. We were worried as to how we had to manage school activities, and yet find time to attend dance lessons and practice.



However, with the strong support from both our parents and encouragement from our national coaches, we soon found ourselves embarking on this challenge. We trained very hard and were practicing 4 to 5 times a week. Initially, we found it tough-going but we were able to persevere with the enduring support, motivation and positive assurance from our parents.



To assess our readiness for the world event, we participated in IDSF Junior Open event in Shanghai and came in 4th. This achievement gave us a great boost in our confidence in the world stage.

Come 18 December 2004, with much nervousness and excitement we competed in the World Junior II Latin Championship with a total strength of 64 couples. We were duly prepared and determined to do our very best on the floor. Our tension showed during the first round with the intense competition but we soon overcame the anxiety. We were then able to execute our dance moves better and showed more confidence during next round and were pleased to finish off with a 45th placing at this event.

This experience has indeed taught us much. We witnessed discipline, resilience and determination exuded from the competitors. All the competitors showed their prowess in their dancing and we have learnt that we should not be complacent and to keep finding ways to improve our own skills in the international arena. With the exposure we had, and understanding of world standards, we endeavour to do better in the future and never fear tough competition as it only motivated us to be better.

Ng Wey Keen & Edna Lee



Upcoming DanceSport Events

SGDF Registered Local Competitions (January to April 2004)*

12 March	3 rd Singapore Nationals	Singapore
3 April	Singapore Millennium 2005 DanceSport Championships	Singapore

IDSF Competitions (January to April 2004)*

16 January	IDSF International Open Standard	England, Weston-Super-mare
22 January	IDSF International Open Standard	Byelorussia, Vitebsk
29 January	IDSF International Open Latin	Germany, Pforzheim
29 January	IDSF International Open Standard	France, Paris
05/06 February	IDSF International Open Standard & Latin	Belgium, Antwerpen
05 February	IDSF World Youth Ten Dance	Belgium, Antwerpen
11/12 February	IDSF International Open Standard & Latin	Canada, Vancouver
12 February	IDSF International Open Standard	Italy, Bassano
19/20 February	IDSF International Open Standard & Latin	Denmark, Copenhagen
26/27 February	IDSF International Open Standard & Latin	Ireland, Tralee
05/06 March	IDSF International Open Standard & Latin	Switzerland, Chiasso
05/06 March	IDSF Youth Open Standard & Latin	Switzerland, Chiasso
12 March	IDSF Grand Slam Standard	Italy, Rimini
12 March	IDSF Grand Slam Latin	China, Shanghai
3/19/2005	IDSF International Open Standard	France, Marseille
19/20 March	IDSF International Open Standard & Latin	Russia, Moscow
20 March	IDSF International Open Latin	Japan, Tokyo
20 March	IDSF Grand Slam Standard	Japan, Tokyo
19/20 March	IDSF International Open Standard & Latin	Romania, Bucharest
26/27 March	IDSF Youth Open Standard & Latin	Lithuania, Vilnius
3/26/2005	IDSF International Open Standard	Ukraine, Kyiv
02 April	IDSF International Open Latin	France, Evry
02 April	IDSF Junior I Open Standard & Latin	Czech Republic, Brno
02 April	IDSF Junior II Open Standard & Latin	Czech Republic, Brno
02/03 April	IDSF Youth Open Standard & Latin	Czech Republic, Brno
02/03 April	IDSF International Open Standard & Latin	Czech Republic, Brno
09 April	IDSF Youth Open Latin	Latvia, Riga
10 April	IDSF World Cup Standard	Russia, Moscow
10 April	IDSF International Open Latin	Russia, Moscow
16 April	IDSF World Cup Latin	Austria, Baden
16 April	IDSF International Open Latin	Luxembourg, Esch-Alzette
16/17 April	IDSF International Open Latin	Croatia, Bjelovar
16/17 April	IDSF Youth Open Standard & Latin	Croatia, Bjelovar
16/17 April	IDSF Junior II Open Standard & Latin	Croatia, Bjelovar
16/17 April	IDSF Junior I Open Standard & Latin	Croatia, Bjelovar
16/17 April	IDSF Juvenile Open Standard & Latin	Croatia, Bjelovar

SGDF competitors who wish to participate in the above events kindly inform the Secretary by Fax at least 4 weeks in advance. Nominations for IDSF Championships will be made through selections based on the SGDF National Ranking Lists and the Asian Ranking Lists. All other DanceSport competitors in Singapore who are not yet members of SGDF are reminded to join the Federation immediately to be eligible for participation in the above events.

*This list is correct at the time of publication. Members are advised to check and confirm the dates and other details either from the IDSF website or with the SGDF Personnel.