

world DanceSport magazine

Official Magazine of the International DanceSport Federation Issue #2 · December 2008



Best Wishes for 2009!

At the time of my writing, the highlights in DanceSport's annual calendar are upon us. In fact, the Standard World Championships for Adult have just concluded in Vienna, Austria. They confirmed once more that our athletes are making steady progress – year after year – and that success comes to those who truly apply themselves. The level of dancing in the semi-final and final at the Vienna Stadthalle was astounding!

One of our missions as the administrators of DanceSport is to ensure that the performances are being evaluated properly at all levels of competition. As athletes improve by leaps and bounds, the IDSF Adjudicators are challenged to keep in step.

The IDSF DanceSport Academy was first presented to the delegates at our Annual General Meeting in Moscow. It aims to serve as the knowledge repository and a place of higher learning for the international community of adjudicators as well as trainers. In this issue of World DanceSport Magazine, IDSF Presidium Member Petr Odstrcil expands on the innovative concept and provides the first blueprints. The latter are to guide this federation towards implementation of the Academy from 2009 onward.

The Moscow General Meeting approved of the Presidium continuing its dialogue with several organisations with a view towards uniting all forms of dance practised as sport under a single umbrella.

It is my honour to inform the readers of a milestone development in this quest. On 14 October 2008 the President of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Sir Philip Craven, and I formalised a cooperation agreement between IPC and IDSF. Under the terms of this agreement, both organisations pledge to jointly develop Wheelchair DanceSport and to work towards establishing a single world governing body for the whole of DanceSport.

The IDSF Secretary General travelled to Minsk, Belarus, for the IPC Wheelchair DanceSport World Championships in late October. There he had the opportunity to exchange with the members of the IPC Wheelchair DanceSport Committee on topics such as the collaboration in the authoring of rules and in the officiating at competitions.

The synergies which develop from the association with IPC will benefit all athletes: they allow for Wheelchair DanceSport to be incorporated better into the competition structure for the able-bodied.

VISION 2012 – the name which has become programme for IDSF to gradually evolve into the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) – was at the core of a two-day brainstorming session held recently in Barcelona, Spain. Together with our consultants and experts, we discussed the further proceedings in making DanceSport more relevant for today's society.



The production and worldwide distribution of television coverage on IDSF events was one of the issues we dealt with. In this context, I can report that the Organiser Contracts and the Host Broadcasting Agreements for future key events are now in place. IEC in Sports, our television partner, will thus be able to produce quality highlights and sell the "Best of DanceSport 2009" series internationally.

Our long hours of deliberating the democratic and federalist structure of WDSF only confirmed that through circumspective planning and well-considered action will the future world governing body emerge. It might require time – even beyond our target of 2012 – but the rewards are bound to outweigh everything we invest in terms of effort – and of patience.

At this stage already, we receive encouragement and praise for endeavouring a true shift of paradigms.

"IDSF has taken on new challenges: the agreement with IPC to develop Wheelchair DanceSport, the adaptation to the requirements of television, new competitions ... I congratulate you on a job well done!" The words of our Ambassador at Large, HE Juan Antonio Samaranch, appear in his foreword to the programme for the World Youth Standard Championships.

Remember, the Honorary President of the International Olympic Committee was one of the catalysts for IDSF setting out on a course of action which will eventually culminate in the emergence of WDSF.

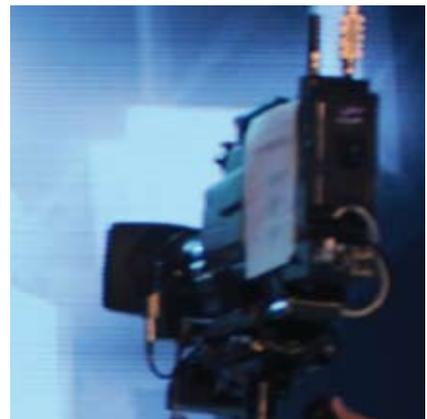
As our eyes are on Berlin (GER) and Melbourne (AUS) – with the Adult Ten Dance and Latin World Championships held in cities of great sporting tradition – we wrap up a year that featured DanceSport performed at its very best in magnificent arenas and before capacity crowds. Two of our organisers tell the readers of WDSM how they go about staging such successful events.

In this issue too, we hand over to the people who are the focus of all our efforts: the athletes. I am particularly glad that our youngest talents get their opportunity to speak up!

I wish all our readers a happy 2009 and hope that it will bring even more positive developments to DanceSport and to our Federation.

Carlos Freitag
IDSF President

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world DanceSport magazine

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EUROVISION DANCE CONTEST GLASGOW 2008



Below, horizontal: Marcin Mroczek & Edyta Herbus, POL
Bottom, vertical: Alexander Litvinenko & Tatiana Navka, RUS
Photos by Alain Douit, EBU

The second Eurovision Dance Contest (EDC) took place on 6 September in the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC) in Glasgow. The 135-minute co-production was organised by the European Broadcasting Union, hosted by its British member, the BBC, and produced by two UK production companies, Splash Media and Sunset+Vine, in association with the International DanceSport Federation (IDSF).



The programme was broadcast live across Europe – even beyond the Eurovision Network – during primetime hours and was viewed by 18 million people in 25 countries. 2.200 spectators witnessed the event close up in the 5.000 m² SECC Arena.

14 “mixed”^{**} dancing couples, each comprising an established dancer – “whose full-time activity is devoted to dancing”^{**} – and another expected to be a personality “known in a field other than dance”^{**}, represented their countries in this year’s EDC.

The 2008 EDC was viewed by 18 million people in 25 European countries.

Much thought went into the design of the routines to make them compliant with the requirement of being freestyle “containing Standard or Latin elements”^{**} and featuring “national-flavour elements in terms of music, style and costumes”^{**}. Dancers and choreographers were truly challenged to come up with the winning formula under the new contest rules.

The other new twist added to the 2008 EDC were four ISDF Adudicators bringing expert criteria to the evaluation

On the right: IDSF Adjudicators Gladys Tay (SIN), Sven Traut (GER), Barbara Nagode Ambroz (SLO), Michelle Ribas (FRA)
Center, vertical: Serhij Kostetskiy & Liliya Podkopaeva, UKR
Bottom, horizontal: Marcin Mroczek & Edyta Herbus, POL
Photos by Alain Douit, EBU



of the couples' performances. The licensed judges from non-participating countries acted as the preliminary jury at the venue. Immediately after a performance, each jury member awarded from 1 to 12 points – in accordance with the traditional Eurovision scale. After all couples had performed, and before the televoting started, the totals given by the jury were converted once more into Eurovision-style points, whereas the highest ranked couple received the jury's 12 points, the second 10 points, the third 8 points, then successively down to 1 point. Finally, the jury points were multiplied by four. Only now were the television audiences in the participating countries called upon to cast votes by phone or SMS for their favourite couples.

IDSF Adjudicators brought their expert criteria to the evaluation of the couples' performances.

The Polish couple made up of dancer Edyta Herbus and actor Marcin Mroczek won the 2008 EDC with a fusion of Rumba and Cha-Cha, and the whole performance spiced up with Michael Jackson-style moonwalking. Poland accumulated 154 points in total, Ukraine came second with 121 points, Russia came third with 119 points.

* From the Rules for the 2008 Eurovision Dance Contest



Jury vs. Popular Vote

Aside from the televoting viewership around Europe, a jury panel made up of four IDSF Adjudicators evaluated the 14 EDC performances. Gladys Tay (SIN), Barbara Nagode Ambroz (SLO), Michelle Ribas (FRA) and Sven Trout (GER) sat adjacent to the dance floor in Glasgow, holding the combined voting power of four countries. They observed each of the competing couples and applied the universally accepted judging criteria – timing and basic rhythm, body lines, foot and leg action, etc. – to their observations. Making an authoritative, and above all an unbiased, assessment of a dance routine is often the privilege of the experts.

The scoreboard which reflects only the Adjudicators' votes:

| RANK | COUNTRY | TOTAL |
|------|---------|-------|
| 1 | DEN | 48 |
| 2 | GRE | 40 |
| 3 | LTU | 32 |
| 4 | AZE | 28 |
| 5 | RUS | 24 |
| 6 | POL | 20 |
| 7 | UKR | 16 |
| 8 | FIN | 12 |
| 9 | GBR | 8 |
| 10 | SWE | 4 |
| 11 | IRE | 0 |
| 11 | POR | 0 |
| 11 | AUT | 0 |
| 11 | NED | 0 |

With the televotes included, the final scoreboard changed:

| RANK | COUNTRY | TOTAL |
|------|---------|-------|
| 1 | POL | 154 |
| 2 | RUS | 121 |
| 3 | UKR | 119 |
| 4 | LTU | 110 |
| 5 | AZE | 106 |
| 6 | DEN | 102 |
| 7 | GRE | 72 |
| 8 | POR | 61 |
| 9 | GBR | 47 |
| 10 | FIN | 44 |
| 11 | IRE | 40 |
| 12 | SWE | 38 |
| 13 | AUT | 29 |
| 14 | NED | 1 |

"The panel offered a new dimension to the show and generated much reaction from the public at the venue", said Richard Bunn, a consultant to IDSF and one of the EDC creators, about the work by the four Adjudicators. "They added to the atmosphere seen by the viewing public at home. Their expertise plus a number of references to the IDSF provided a significant promotion of DanceSport and its world governing body".

EDC 2008 Winners: Marcin Mroczek & Edyta Herbus, POL
Photo by Alain Douit, EBU



Football vs. DanceSport

The EDC is made for television. The format, the style, the pace – everything aims to make for the most compelling viewing. The success of the EDC is, therefore, measured by the standards which govern television everywhere: the ratings.

The European Broadcasting Union, the 14 participating broadcasters, the producers and IDSF have every reason to be satisfied with the viewing figures for the second EDC, which aired live in 25 European countries on 6 September 2008 (19:00 – 21:15 h UTC).

Even though the dance spectacular clashed head on with qualifying round football matches for the FIFA World Cup 2010 in many markets, it held up its own and garnered good ratings everywhere.

In the United Kingdom, nearly 4.7 million viewers, a 22% share, tuning into BBC1 made the EDC the most watched programme of the evening.

Poland was not only in first on the dance floor. The national broadcaster, NPB/TROS, reported an audience of 4.3 million and a staggering 49% share for the EDC. The top score here too!

Bjørn Erichsen, the Director of Eurovision TV, expressed his satisfaction: *"With this competition, we created a fantastic new Eurovision tradition, which we are confident will last for many years to come".*

Cuore Latino · Latin Heart

Stefano Di Flippo and Anna Melnikova (ITA)

Runners-up at the 2007 IDSF World Latin Championships in Vilnius (LTU), Stefano and Anna went on a winning spree during the first eight months of 2008, taking first in the Grand Slams of Aarhus (DEN), Irvine (USA) and Stuttgart (GER). It was there that they found the time to sit down for an extensive interview with Heidi Götz, the editor of World DanceSport Magazine (WDSM).



WDSM: Stefano and Anna, thank you for being here with me! Congratulations on your tremendous success: winners of the Stuttgart Grand Slam! It was a great night and an outstanding performance. Ever since you decided to dance together, your career looked very promising. Now you are the shooting stars in Latin. Over the past two years I often had the opportunity to watch you in competition. It was great to see how the audiences reacted to your performances. You had always been their favourites, very often receiving standing ovations.

Anna: It was really a great night! We enjoyed it a lot, lot, lot ... This is a great competition.

Stefano: It was absolutely super. The audience was so good to us; we could actually feel the positive energy for us.

WDSM: You are dancing together since April 2006. How did you find each other?

S: We first met during the competitions. At the time we were dancing with different partners. Then we started to be together in our private lives. This lasted for two and a half years. I was dancing with my sister for Italy. Then Anna split with Kevin. My sister decided to retire, to stop competition. So I called Anna and asked her whether she would do a try-out with me. And from the first day we found each other.

A: Our energies proved to complement each other well. Our trainer, Caroline Smith, always said: "Your energies

together will be like a bomb!" Stefano is very vigorous on the floor: an open heart. I liked very much to dance with this man on my side. From the beginning we worked very hard. But it was difficult because Stefano came from one school, I came from another. We had been quite different in style and technique, but Caroline sorted everything out. Now we are connected, even when it comes to the technique. It was a lot of work, but we did it.

“Stefano is very vigorous on the floor:
an open heart!”

WDSM: Anna, like many dancers do nowadays, you left your home country to dance with Stefano – or with Kevin before him. How did you adjust to living in a foreign country and – more importantly – how did you feel about it emotionally?

A: It was very difficult because my family is very close to me. They always were and always will be. I was living with my parents, grandparents and sisters. When I was in England for the first year I did not think about it too much. I knew I had to dance in order to be at my best. I had to study to reach the top. However, after a certain time, I really started to miss my family. Even when I was living in England, I returned to Moscow nearly every month, maybe every other month, for three or four days to see all the familiar faces. Then I went back to England and was ready for practice again.

Now I know I dance with Stefano. I like to dance with him;



Silvia and Paolo with their coaches and choreographers: Olga and Davide. All photos are courtesy of Silvia and Paolo.

All photographs were selected by Stefano and Anna. They are from their private collection.
 Page 7: Salou, ESP
 Page 8: Blackpool, GBR
 Page 9: Stuttgart, GER

talented and she is really good for me. I am a very lucky guy to be able to dance with her. I don't think I want to change my partner in the future. If I stop with her, I have to stop dancing. I would never find as good a girl again.

“I know that Anna is one of the best dancers in the world!”

WDSM: After only a short time of dancing together you made the final in World Championships. Can you give us the reasons for success coming so soon?

A: At least for me, Stefano already was a big name and popular in the dance world. He had been successful in every age grade. In Youth he won the World Championships together with Sarah. They represented Italy. These Championships were held in Russia. From that moment onward everybody was following his career, thinking that he could make it to the top in the amateur division.

S: Before dancing with Anna I already made some of the finals. She was regularly in the semi-finals, usually in seventh or eighth place. She was among the best. If you put two people with a lot of energy and passion together, that's what I thought, it is bound to work. We went to our first competition after two months. It was in Blackpool. We made the final. If you can make the final there, you can make it everywhere.

WDSM: But did you expect to be successful immediately or was it a surprise?

A: We expected it! We wanted to be the best couple.

S: You can never be sure. But we had been very confident about us as a couple, we believed in our dancing. We even thought we had this distinctly Latin look about us. After two months we thought: “Let's go there, let's be the best looking couple, the one with the best choreography, and then everything will fall into place!”

WDSM: In the international field and on this level it is very expensive to be a dancer. You constantly have to travel; lessons are very expensive. How can you afford it all?

S: Of course, competing in DanceSport is very expensive. You have to have shoes, you have to have dresses ... You also have to have lessons to improve. But on this respect we are lucky: we have some sponsors – like Shoes Dance Naturals, Danceflash is looking after my outfits. We are fortunate and don't spend too much money on lessons.

I also like Italy a lot. So for me it is actually quite okay, it is not as difficult now. I am actually enjoying every day.

WDSM: Do you plan to stay in Italy forever?

A: I can't plan for everything. I don't know where I will be next year. For the time being it is Italy; then we shall see.

WDSM: Stefano, most experts are convinced that you are one of the most talented and charismatic dancers of your time. Being in such a position, you probably had your choice. Many women would have been happy to partner with you. What was the reason for choosing Anna? And what do you appreciate most about your partner?

S: I know that Anna is one of the best dancers in the world. Even before we were dancing together, I was watching her, following her progress. I liked her a lot because she has something special that other dancers don't seem to have. She is really young at only 22! For me she is the best dancer in the amateur division. I even see her in the top among the professionals. My reason to dance with her: she loves to dance and is doing everything for DanceSport. She left her country to dance with me. Of course, she misses her family! But she does it because she loves the internationality of DanceSport. After every competition she goes home to have a new dress made. She wants to look her best. And I am proud of this. She is extremely

We have our coach Caroline Smith; we have Richard Porter. We do around ten to twelve lessons a month and we practise a lot. Travelling the world and taking “political” lessons: we don't believe in this. We want to be on top because of our dancing and not because of certain lessons we took. You know what I mean – you know this world. Obviously we have to travel a lot, the world over, but being on this level we are invited to many competitions. So we don't have to spend much on our airfares. We win some price money and we do a lot of shows, getting even better money for them.

A: Our parents are there too. If there are problems, they are always ready to help us, to support us.

S: Until two years ago my parents paid for everything .

WDSM: Did you ever work another job or in a business?

A: I started doing nails; I am helping with the dresses. But it is not really a business! I am just helping at the moment. I never had a proper job.

S: It is the same for me: I did not have a job. I started to teach in a club when I was 15. I had almost always been teaching.

WDSM: Anna, if you compare couples from Western and Eastern Europe, what differences do you make out in terms of quality, in terms of training?

A: We were training in Russia, I remember, and Stefano was quite shocked when he saw the kids. I had been ice skating from the age of four and I was used to this way of

practising. It was very hard and rather cold. So when Stefano saw the strict training, he was shocked.

S: Sporting education in Russia is different: from the early stages they immerse you in dance. Sport in Italy is important only if it is football. There is football, football and football! We do nothing else in our schools. The Russians start with ballet in school.

A: Yes, this is tradition: every kid in the family has to do something.

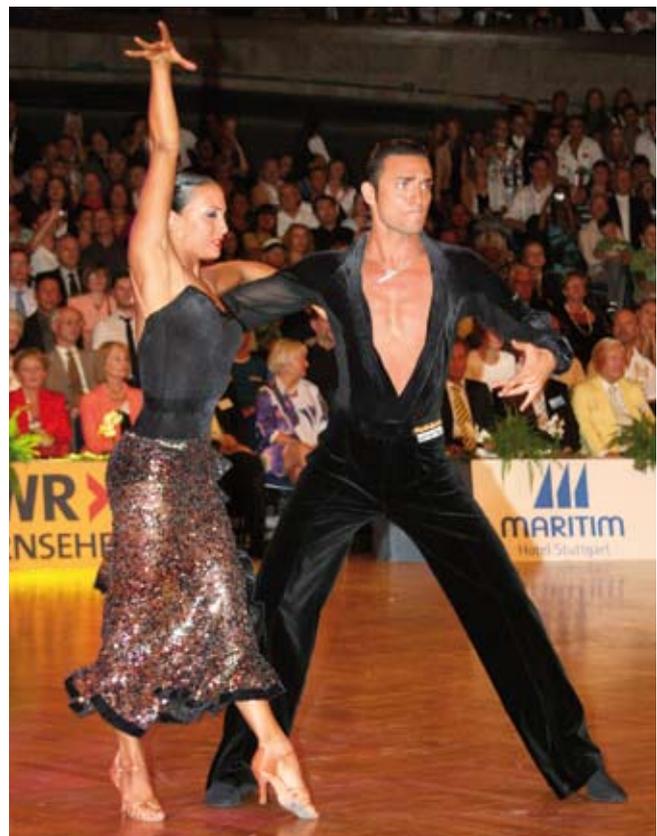
S: We are in a lucky situation, we have everything we want – we can do whatever we want. In some Russian families the situation is rather different. They know that if the children practise ... and practise ... and practise, they stand to have a better future.

（ “We want to show pure dancing.” ）

WDSM: A question to both of you! How did you get into DanceSport?

A: I was ice skating; then I tried swimming. After my family moved, I went to another school. I had a lot of friends there. They were dancing, so I tried it too. I liked it and signed up for classes. The teachers thought I was talented, but my parents hardly expected me to become a dancer at first.

S: I was on holidays with my parents: every evening there was an opportunity to dance. I liked it very much. When we came home, my parents took me to a dance school. I went there twice a week – for fun at first. After I got started ... I simply never stopped. Dancing is like a drug!



WDSM: Why did you choose Latin?

S: I preferred Latin. My results had always been better. When I was 16 I concentrated on Latin and continued with only one discipline. If you want to do Ten Dance, you have to concentrate on ten dance competitions.

WDSM: Both of you are strong personalities. How do you organise your training?

S: Now – after two and half, nearly three years – we understand each other much better. We know how we have to train. Sometimes it is better to let your partner do the talking and you listen. Sure, that can be rather difficult, but I think this is the same for every couple.

A: We have our coach! She is helping us a lot with this. She is a very strong woman.

S: On our level you must understand that you have to use your brains. That you have to be clever! Sometimes it is better to shut up.

WDSM: Are you together in private?

S: No, unfortunately we split. And our dancing is becoming better and better. I think if you are together in private life and in DanceSport, it is very difficult to keep your relationship in a proper balance.

A: If you train you can have certain feelings, sometimes you need to shout, sometimes you want to cry. It is constantly changing: up and down. I think it is virtually impossible to separate that from one's private life.



S: We concentrate on the dancing 100 % now and we can see the good results of this approach.

WDSM: What are your aims in DanceSport?

A: We want to bring back and show the feeling of a man and a woman on the dance floor. We want to show pure dancing.

S: I started out with my coach, Caroline Smith, and she taught me to become a champion without any politics. I grew up with this. I am very grateful and would like to thank her for giving me this advice. Because nowadays everybody wants to be successful in the shortest time possible.

In the beginning I was happy to make the 48, then the 24. Sometimes I saw me little bit better than they placed me. But I trusted my coach and worked hard. In the end I realised that you can be first without the politics. This gives me the energy to go forward. I can also see that the audiences like us.

“Obviously we feel we are part of a serious sport.”

WDSM: You are very successful. Do you feel that other people could be jealous because of your success?

S: It should never be a priority for these couples to be jealous of us. They should train more in order to beat us. But then, I don't think that couples are really jealous. This was the older generation: they were fighting each other. In today's DanceSport, we are really friends with everyone.

WDSM: There is a continuous discussion about DanceSport. If you ask ten people you will likely get twenty answers. Is dancing a sport or is it art?

S: For me it is sport! We train and work out like would in any other sport. We are watching our diets, we work on our stamina, and we go to the gym. Things all athletes do. Maybe it does go beyond sport: we have to think about the way we look and dress. In that respect, we have to do even more than most other athletes.

A: Before we complete a single competition we do five dances in each of the three or four rounds. We are required to undergo anti-doping tests. Obviously we feel we are part of a serious sport.

WDSM: On 14 December you look to cap a highly successful year at the World Latin Championships in Melbourne. We wish you all the best, good luck!

All photographs were selected by Stefano and Anna. They are from their private collection. Page 10: Team Italy in Salou, ESP – Stefano and Anna together with Aniello Langella and Natalija Midiuk

Tale of Two Organisers

IDSF World Standard Championships 2008 Vienna



DanceSport heads for home as the waltz is performed in the city where Johann Strauss II composed BLUE DANUBE – and where the splendours of ballrooms and formal attire mark society like nowhere else. “Waltzing Vienna” takes on a whole new meaning, and a distinctly international spirit, when the world of dance meets to determine the best in Standard. Hermann Götz, the President of the Austrian DanceSport Federation, writes about all the efforts involved in organising IDSF World DanceSport Championships.

The Austrian DanceSport Federation (ADF) celebrates its fiftieth anniversary during 2008. For many years already, hosting great DanceSport events in Austria is an established tradition. The team built around the ADF Presidium makes every effort to promote DanceSport and to provide the best conditions for the competitors, adjudicators and guests. Combining professional organisation with the most memorable atmospheres proved to be crucial in the running of such big events.

The first ever Austrian Open Championship took place in November 2003 in the Vienna Stadthalle. Since then, it has developed into one of the leading events in Central Europe. The organising team is working year round, starting with the evaluation meeting one week after an Open concludes. In early January the categories are finalised, the detailed schedules for the event are drawn up, and the promotion gets started. Updated information is provided regularly through our website, www.austrianopen.at. The whole thing has developed into a continuous and never-ending collaboration between enthusiastic volunteers. Members of the ADF Presidium act as ambassadors for the Austrian Open. They travel around the world, from one event to the other, promoting our own festival.

Vienna, in the heart of Europe, can easily be reached by the couples: there are excellent flight and other travel connections. Hence the Austrian Open is steadily growing. This year we expect more than 2.200 couples. We want to make them feel welcome, comfortable, and eager to return next year.



We are particularly grateful that the International DanceSport Federation has granted ADF the right to host the 2008 World Standard Championships within this year's Open. We are pleased to welcome more than 70 couples in this, the most important and prestigious competition. The World Championships are supported by the Austrian Government and televised by our national broadcaster ORF.

Vienna photo by Thomas Binderhofer
DanceSport photo by Austrian Open

IDSF World Latin Championships



The Formula One Grand Prix, the Australian Tennis Open, the Melbourne Cup – billed as the thoroughbred horse race that stops a nation – the Aussie sports capital’s calendar is loaded with annually recurring highlights. The Commonwealth Games, the Cricket Super Series, the Rugby World Cup, Cycling and Swimming World Championships ... One could go on forever listing the high-calibre events which have been, and which will be, hosted by the City of Melbourne. DanceSport World Championships have also become a regular fixture: Ten Dance in 2004, Latin in December 2008. Margaret Lonsdale, the Event Director of the Tattersall’s IDSF World Latin Championships, provides WDSM with her views on DanceSport and the WORLD EVENT CITY.

“Only a few more days to go until the largest DanceSport event ever conducted in Australia will take place in beautiful Melbourne, my home,” says Margaret. “We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone down under”.

Yes, Melbourne appears to be in a league of its own when it comes to organising successful sporting events. The city has the infrastructure, first rate facilities located close to the city centre and serviced by public transport, and it has the crowds: 3.8 million people whose enthusiasm for sports is huge. But there must be some other factors weighing in as well.

“It is necessary for all events, not only world championships, to plan ahead,” Margaret reports on a long journey. “Since winning the right to host these Latin World Championships in June 2006 – in Wels, Austria – I have been working almost full-time on the project”.

“We are most fortunate to have the support of the Victorian Government and the Victorian Major Events Company. But to get this support, one must have a developed product – in this case an event – that benefits the State of Victoria economically”.

“The event must have the ability to attract corporate sponsorship. It needs television coverage. It requires strong marketing and publicity campaigns. It must have a capable management team.

“Australian DanceSport Championships, organised annually by the Australian Dancing Society Ltd., developed the main ingredients for such an event over the past 25 years and anchored our drive to meet the state government’s criteria. Absolute belief, commitment to the task at hand and a good team were the most decisive factors in this process”.



2008 Melbourne



"A special purpose company was established in 2004 for the IDSF World Ten Dance Championships. We now changed its name and structure to the IDSF World Latin Championship Pty. Ltd. – with two Directors: one from the Australian Dancing Society Ltd. and the other from DanceSport Australia. This moved the event away from politics and allowed the Event Director to focus on the task. For such a structure to work properly, however, there must be eagerness and trust from both parties to collaborate".

Once the corporate and financial foundations were in place, Margaret and her team toured the world to secure the broadest international goodwill for the 2008 World Championships.

"Because Australia is geographically disadvantaged, a lot of my energy went into marketing the event internationally," reports Margaret. "We have turned what is a negative into a positive with our visits to the IDSF Annual General Meetings. Each time we brought a DVD! I must thank the Presidium for allowing me to entertain the IDSF Members with my short promotional presentations. But it has worked! We have 50 countries competing in our World Championships: 198 competitors, I believe.

"Perhaps it is the appeal of visiting Australia? Perhaps it is the steady flow of positive news about the Australian DanceSport Championships? Maybe the reverberating praise for the successful IDSF World Ten Dance Championships in 2004 encourages athletes and officials to come and see how we do things in Melbourne, Australia?"

What they will they perceive as distinctly Melbournian in Margaret's approach to staging successful 2008 Latin World Championships is revealing about the city's sporting spirit.

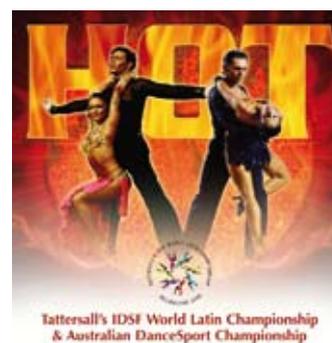
"Here we compete with the popularity of Australian Rules football, tennis, surfing, swimming, running, netball, basketball, etc.," Margaret points out. "Over the past 25 years, with

the assistance of my team, I have developed a showcase that portrays the sport of dance in an artistic setting. We have a great team: professional people – lighting and staging specialists – and exceptionally motivated volunteers. Everyone should easily recognise the benefits of having an outstanding showcase to demonstrate to the general public just how fit athletes in DanceSport are.

"Every competitor, every official, every VIP will be met at the airport and transferred either by car or coach to their accommodation. Free shuttle buses will run them to and from the venue, host studios or clubs have been organised to allow the couples to train. Athletes' villages have been established in three of our hotels. All athletes competing in the World Championship will get accommodation for four nights and 350 Australian dollars allowance; plus their breakfast will be provided. They will get a welcome gift, an official shirt, etc. We are proud and delighted to be hosting these important IDSF World Championships."

For those contemplating to travel to Melbourne to take in Margaret's EVENT at the 11,000-capacity Hisense Arena on 14 December, here's her advice:

"It is not too late to pack your bags and give yourself the treat of a lifetime. There is a fair amount of doom and gloom in the world today, my resolution is not to watch it. You cannot be positive if you take in negative energy. Come on down!"



Panorama: Melbourne skyline from the Yarras Edge
Photo by David Iliff

Page 12: 2008 Tattersall's IDSF World Latin Championships by DanceSport photo.net

Page 13: 2008 Tattersall's IDSF World Latin Championships

Wheelchair DanceSport World Championships 2008

The last weekend in October saw a very eager group of athletes compete on the most elite of levels at the 2008 International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Wheelchair DanceSport World Championships in the capital of Belarus.



Kaminski and Katrzyna Bloch and Pawel Karpinski and Joanna Reda (POL) were awarded the bronze medal in this event. They added a silver medal to their record in the Duo Latin (class 2) event. The gold medal was awarded to Ukrainian dancers Ivan Sivak and Nadiia Verbytska, the bronze medal was awarded to Andrey Antonov and Alexandra Berdnik from Russia.

Marcin Blazejewski and Iwona Wydra from Poland won the Combi Latin (class 1) event, followed by Peter Vidacic and Helena Kasicka (SVK) and Valeriy Bevzyuk and Olena Iaremenko (UKR). The Slovakian couple won another medal in the Combi Standard (class 1) competition. This time they came in third place, leaving the gold medal to Oleksandr Ivanov and Illona Slugovina (UKR) and the silver medal to Aliaksei Zukhtsikau and Veranika Kasach (BLR). Polish dancer Kamil Kuran together with his partner Nadine Kinczel won the gold medal in the Combi Latin

Beginning with a very colourful opening ceremony, which had all the athletes included in an extravagant parade, the festivities of the first day enlivened the audience. Following the parade, the traditional raising of the Paralympic Flag, the sounds of the Paralympic Anthem, and the various dance presentations brought not only the spectators, but all athletes and officials to an appreciative silence. Many of the countries have reported that this was the best Wheelchair Dance Sport World Championships that they have ever experienced.

The eight events that took place included the Duo Standard (Class 1 and 2), Duo Latin (Class 1 and 2), Combi Standard (Class 1 and 2) and Combi Latin (Class 1 and 2). The competition, which was staged inside the Football Hall of Minsk, had a total of 137 athletes from 17 countries around the world.

Russian dancers Aleksey Fotin and Ruzanna Kazaryan won the gold medal in the Duo Standard (class 1) event, followed by Eduardo Nunez Medellin and Maria Antonia Pena Anguiano from Mexico and Andrei Tsibulski and Hanna Siratsiuk from Belarus. Those three couples also dominated the Duo Latin (class 1) event and took home the medals in the same order. In class 2 of the Duo Standard event European Champions Konstantin Sosunov and Elena Shilyaeva from Russia took home the gold medal. The silver medal was won by Polish couple Norbert





(class 2) event, followed by Ihar Kisialiou and Hanna Charchakova from Belarus and Maxim Sedakov and Svetlana Kukushkina from Russia. Kisialiou and Charchakova also managed to win the only gold medal for the host country, by winning the Combi Standard (class 2) event. Alexander Lyapin and Irina Gordeeva (RUS) won silver and Rafal Skiera and Monika Chojnacka (POL) won bronze.

Grethe Andersen, IPC Wheelchair DanceSport Technical Committee Chairperson, was impressed with the work of the Local Organising Committee, which consisted of the Belarusian Federation of Wheelchair DanceSport and the Rhythmic Sport Gymnastics. She said that with the support of the Belarusian Ministry of Sports and Tourism and the National Paralympic Committee of Belarus, an exceptional event had taken place.

"The sixth IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World Championships were successfully staged with so many well-trained athletes," Andersen said. "Minsk welcomed the dancers and the officials with open arms and now has a legacy of its own. Without the help of all respective parties and especially all the volunteers, this would not have been possible."

Following the pledge for closer co-operation between the IPC and the International DanceSport Federation (IDSF), ISDF Secretary General Marco Sietas attended the World Championships as well as the Wheelchair DanceSport Fo-

rum on 26 October. The forum had participating National Paralympic Committees and the IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Technical Committee discuss the current governance and the future of Wheelchair DanceSport.

Wheelchair DanceSport involves athletes with a physical disability that affects the lower limbs. Wheelchair dancers may participate in "combi"-style dancing with an able-bodied (standing) partner or duo-dance for two wheelchair users together. Standard dances include the Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Quickstep. Latin-American dances include the Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha, Rumba, Paso Doble and Jive. There are also formation dances for four, six or eight couples dancing in formation.

All photographs are courtesy of the International Paralympic Committee and its Wheelchair DanceSport Technical Committee.

World Class DanceSport in Stuttgart

Heidi Estler, Press Commissioner for the German DanceSport Association (DTV), reports on the DanceSport competition that stands in a league of its own: the German Open Championships (GOC). The 22nd edition of the 5-day event made history. Again!

It was already the fifth time for the world's best dancers to meet at the Stuttgart Culture and Congress Centre Liederhalle (KKL). Once more, the organisers GOC GmbH (made up of TSC Astoria Stuttgart, TSZ Stuttgart-Feuerbach, TBW and DTV) could be proud of having exceeded the benchmark of 5.000 accredited athletes. With over 2.200 couples from 46 nations participating in the run for the many titles, the German Open Championships may rightfully claim to be the world's largest DanceSport competition. The programme covered the whole spectrum: from juveniles up to seniors, from Standard over Latin to Boogie Woogie, from amateurs to professionals, showing world class DanceSport in the halls of KKL over five days. Indisputably, the highlights were the two Grand Slam competitions in Standard and Latin, with all top dancers entered, as well as the World Championships of the Boogie Woogie Oldie Class and the Boogie Woogie Main Class World Cup.

A total of 66 adjudicators from 32 nations in six teams handed down over 80.000 marks, almost around the clock. Five chairmen, six masters of ceremony and seven associates were supervising the events. 353 volunteers and up to 175 other staff members per day were working in shifts on the ample compound. For all those who fulfilled any tasks during the five GOC days there was a catering service, providing 80 cans of coffee per day, and distributing a total of 2.000 sandwiches, all in all using 100 kg of cold meat and 50 kg cheese, as well as 800 pretzels, 600 pieces of cake, and 8.000 bottles of water and soft drinks. Apart from that, another 80 cans of coffee were on their way to the different halls every day, since not only the volunteers but also all the athletes and the adjudicators were kept alive by the kitchen team. The 900 meals for the athletes were being distributed almost casually in the meantime.

A total of 79 journalists from eleven countries (Germany, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Netherlands, Russia, Spain, the Czech Republic, Hungary and USA) were accredited with the press centre. The TV channel SWR was on location with three teams; in addition to that there were the local broadcasters, the Moldavian TV and the IPTV service DanceSport TV. As highlight on the last day of the GOC, the SWR reported live in a 90-minute broadcast on the Grand Slam Standard and the World Cup Boogie Woogie.



The press and Internet team, present almost 24 hours a day, registered about 8 million hits from 60 nations onto the GOC homepage, with 5.200 newsletter subscribers served everyday, and with 12.000 pictures brought online. That implies that one picture was shot every eight seconds on average!

The DTV Meeting Point was the central place for everyone to come together: for conversations of all kinds, as a retreat for the adjudicators on their tightly scheduled coffee and tea breaks, but also for coaches and couples. Alongside the largest DanceSport competition the largest trade show was also taking place at the KKL. 34 exhibitors in five halls had everything on offer which makes a dancer's heart beat faster.

DTV President Franz Allert made a very satisfied impression as he spoke at the GOC closing press conference: *"All in all, the event was a great success"*, was the plaudit from high up. *"GOC is still the most attractive and biggest DanceSport event in the world"*. An opinion which is obviously shared by the fans as well! *"The ticket sales went quite well this year; we even had an increase as compared to the previous year,"* said the GOC Chief Executive Officer, Wilfried Scheible, and added that he was satisfied with the total attendance of more than 20.000 at the 22nd GOC, the global DanceSport highlight at the KKL.

"After the GOC is before the GOC!" is the essential and also self-explanatory statement for the Organising Committee: the preparations for the 23rd German Open Championships from 18 to 22 August 2009 are already in full swing.

Page 16: Concordia Statue (1863) in Stuttgart
Photo by Andreas Praefcke

Page 17: Benedetto Ferruggia – Claudia Köhler, GER
Photo by GOC



World Team Cup Youth

With a great deal of promotional activities DanceSport's younger generation had made people very much aware of the World Team Cup Youth: not a single empty chair was available in the hall. Contemplatively, and with the always well received combination of Slow Fox and Rumba, the Latvian couples opened the presentation series. Whereas the Polish played off the "Grease" soundtrack, the Moldavian team was relying on Tango. The Russians walked in with the flag of the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games and then pretended to dive into an imaginary pool for synchronised swimming and other fun. The German couples presented a particularly vibrant show with dots, wigs, a lot of hair spray and a lot of movement. Just as last year, the Russian team convinced with their creativity and precision. With 60.5 points, the Russians won clearly ahead of the also very impressive German team (79.0 points).

Virtually no participants were registered for the freestyle competition: team presentations with no dancing afterwards. Hence the Russian youth couples were allowed another jump into the pool – to the delight of a big audience – before the Germans entered for their thoroughly prepared performance.

Remember When ...?

DanceSport legends from the past led today's top ladies onto the floor. Most of the legends had even rifled through their private collections of dresses. German National Coach Oliver Wessel-Therhorn, who had come up with the idea and incited the others to be game as well, opened the dances with Blanca Ribas Turón and a furious Quickstep, which he claimed he had practiced with her in his hotel

room. Rudi Trautz presented Motsi Mabuse wearing a dress of his former partner Mechthild. Ralf Lepehne danced in a Latin suit from his active time with Anna Kravchenko. Werner Führer was leading Annette Sudol onto the floor. And Karl Breuer, the senior among the "ancestors", was dancing with Claudia Köhler. For the younger readers of WDSM: all of these gentlemen were at least once World Champions – between the sixties and the eighties of the past century. With standing ovations the audience gave their thanks for the marvellous interlude. Even hours later, the applause flared up again whenever one of the protagonists entered the VIP room.

IDSF Grand Slam Latin

Andrea Pfautsch and Florencio Garcia Lopez provide the couple-by-couple commentaries on the six finalists for WDSM:

There were 339 couples entered in the first round of the Grand Slam Latin at the KKL. Among them 36 couples who qualified directly for the second round due to their results in 2007.

We were able to witness a tremendous level of dancing already in the round of the last 99. It featured excellent speed, energy and dynamics. Many of the couples showed very good technique and expressive choreographies as well. It made for hard decisions for the panel of 11 top-class Adjudicators. Who were they to mark for the following rounds?

Valentin Chmerkovskiy and Valeriya Kozharinova were the only couple that reached the semi-final after having



Jurij Batagelj – Jagoda Strukelj, SLO
Photo by GOC



Sergei Konovaltsev – Olga Konovaltseva, RUS
Photo by GOC

danced from the very first round. In the end, they ended up a successful, but also, seventh.

What was necessary to make the final? An uncompromising will to win, an exceptional sense for the music, personality, ... youthful unconcern? Each of the six couples in the final embodied at least one of these criteria to absolute perfection.

Stefano Di Filippo – Anna Melnikova (ITA):

True champions! They were placed first by each adjudicator in all five dances. The audience honoured their performances and their beautiful individual dancing with several standing ovations. They showed the highest level of technique. A fine couple dancing!

Alexey Silde – Anna Firstova (RUS):

Unchallenged runners-up! They are a well shaped an athletic couple. In each of the five dances Anna offered Alexey enough space to act out his dominant male role. In the Cha Cha Cha there are maybe too many intended shoulder and head actions by Alexey.

Andrey Zaytsev – Anna Kuzminskaya (RUS):

They also caught a perfect day. Very harmonic and impressive dancing with both partners at the same high level – and with a great sense for the music! Above all Anna has a very good leg and foot technique. An elegant couple!

Jurij Batagelj – Jagoda Strukelj (SLO):

Probably a disappointing result for them – but also a justifiable one on that particular evening! Very athletic style of dancing with the lady actually being the active partner!

Zoran Plohl – Tatsiana Lahvinovich (CRO):

They truly deserved being in the final, but unfortunately they were not as sparkling as in Blackpool this year. Always in a good shape!

Aniello Langella – Natalija Maidiuk (ITA):

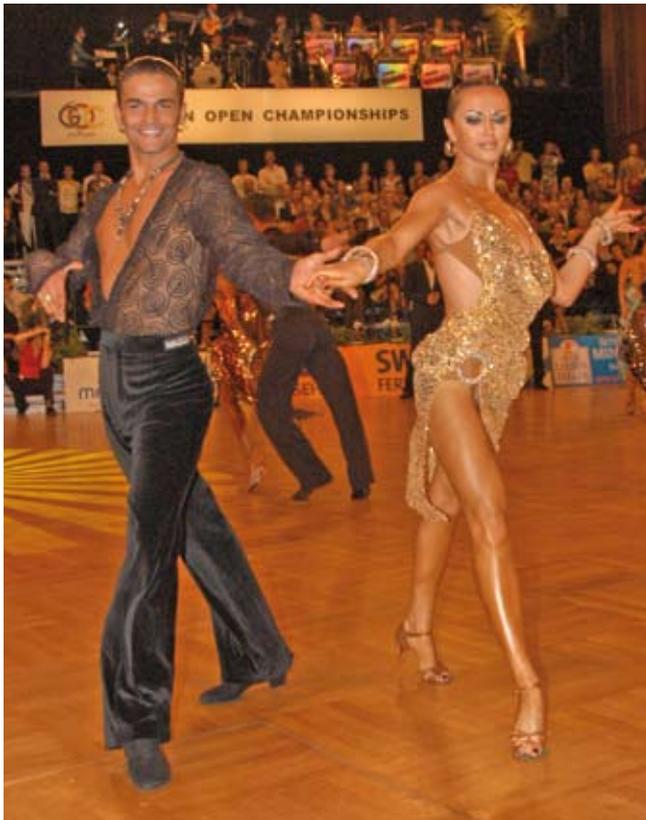
Clearly a couple for the future! Due to their expenditure of energy in the semi-final they seemed to have little problems with their stamina.

Altogether a terrific competition with performances sweeping the audience off their chairs! A fantastic evening!

IDSF Grand Slam Standard

Couple-by-couple commentaries on the Grand Slam Standard finalists are provided by Asis Khadjeh-Nouri.

Thousands of dancers flocked to the annual Grand Slam Standard in Stuttgart and turned the GOC into one of the most prestigious festivals in the world. The great musicality and the ability of today's competitors to accurately use their body weight explain the improvement of all dancers in comparison to the past. The couples have visibly established their understanding of footwork as well as intelligent muscular power, linked with clever choreography and enthusiastic energy.



Nino Langella – Nataliya Maidiuk, ITA
Photo by GOC



Andrei Zaitsev – Anna Kuzminskaja, RUS
Photo by GOC

Winners of the highly coveted Grand Slam title were Benedetto Ferruggia - Claudia Köhler (GER). With their great personality, and by being a free-moving couple, they were eminently visible on the dance floor. During all the rounds I enjoyed their Waltz, which – in my opinion – was very well presented and equally elegant due to the great control of their body, weight and shapes. My congratulations to them!

This year's runners-up were the couple Marat Gimaev - Alina Basyuk (RUS). They provided an impressively dominant posture combined with powerful movement. I believe coming in second was an excellent result for the talented couple, reflecting their notable improvement over the past year.

Third were Simone Sigatori – Annette Sudol (GER). The congenial couple was totally settled, very steady and supremely focused while simultaneously showing excitement. They have the ability to provide an attractive contrast in their interpretation of each dance – their particularly sharp Tango and, on the other hand, their charismatic appeal in the other four dances. It was the best performance I have ever seen of them. They really challenged the other couples striving for a higher placing, and they were amazingly supported by the audience.

Fourth were Sergey Konovaltsev - Olga Konovaltseva (RUS). The lively and charismatic dancers kept a steady shape throughout all dances as well as great energy until the last beat of the Quickstep. Especially their Tango was effectively compact and well-grounded. Hence, the young couple clearly deserved their place in the final.

Fifth were the Polish champions Wiktor Kiszka - Malgorzata Garlicka. The couple provided clarity in their bodyline, control of their swing as well as great musical expression. Their appearance on the dance floor was great. In all rounds, they got everything together. In my opinion both dancers are talented and have the potential for placing even higher in the future.

Sixth were Federico di Toro - Genny Favero (ITA). The elegant and musical couple showed high discipline in all dances. They produced soft, natural and elegant action. It is always a pleasure to watch them dance.

I can honestly say that this Grand Slam Standard at the German Open Championships 2008 was an unbelievable event with plenty of highlights that caught one's eye - for all the right and wrong reasons.

For sure hundreds of dancers will recur to participate in this incredible festival in the years to come.

Applause for the Lecturers

“Staying awake was not a problem”, Heidi Estler sums up the IDSF Adjudicators’ Congress in Stuttgart. Post-German Open Championships blues? Far from it!



“How are we going to survive today?” This seemed to be the central question for most of the adjudicators, who had spent five days marking the performances by the 5.000 athletes in Stuttgart. Hours and hours of DanceSport were on the programme from Tuesday through Saturday – with one highlight after the other. Now they convened on Sunday, the infamous day six of the GOC, for the IDSF Adjudicators’ Congress at the KKL. The lack of sleep was visible in some of the faces. However, now was the time to pay close attention to the lectures of Simona Francello and Oliver Wessel-Therhorn. The two succeeded in mesmerising all 251 participants of the Congress with their contents and presentations. They received standing ovations at the end of each lecture.

Simona Francello, who used to dance very successfully with Fabio Selmi, kicked off the presentations with Michele Bonsignori and Monica Baldasseroni showing different ways of how to walk in and out. She explained that already at the early stages of a competition it should become evident how good or bad a couple really is. An important aspect if the latter looks to win the championship title, she added. For all dances she demonstrated together with the Italian top couple which sources for errors can lead to total failure being perceived by the adjudicators. During the lecture Simona participated actively and even convinced William Pino to get onto the dais to illustrate her ideas: *“If he is here, we simply have to use him!”* Pino changed his sneakers against dancing shoes and demonstrated a skilful and perfect contra check.

Oliver Wessel-Therhorn brought Grand Slam winners Stefano Di Filippo - Anna Melnikova as well as the German Champions Jesper Birkehoj - Anna Kravchenko along for

his lecture. *“Both couples work along the same principles: their dancing is based on their character!”* Oliver began his address by explaining what he, personally, does not like about the current trends in Latin. It is the *“faster, higher, stronger”*, plus the *“doing tricks”*, which he could do without. He does not insist on an artificial and too mannered Latin, but he demands certain dancing action of the man and of the woman. Both to fit each other as well as the music! Together with Anna Melnikova he demonstrated different types of *“action - reaction”* complementing each other well. And others which do not! *“What we hear and what we see must be coherent. Only a change in the music dictates energy and dynamics”*, he stressed upon the adjudicators.

A fantastic Rumba by Birkehoj – Kravchenko and a brilliant Jive by Di Filippo – Melnikova brought the lecture to a conclusion. Well, not quite: as the absolute climax, Oliver took the floor himself and danced with both Annas: Melnikova and Kravchenko. The audience jumped off their seats. Applause! Final curtain!



Top: Stefano Di Filippo, Anna Melnikova, Oliver Wessel-Therhorn, Anna Kravchenko, Jesper Birkehoj – photo by GOC

Bottom: Simona Francello and Michele Bonsignori – photo by Heidi Estler

On Course for Expansion



IDSF Secretary General Marco Sietas chairs the Membership Commission. Here he informs about the latest campaigns aiming to bring new national member organisations to the world governing body – and to develop DanceSport globally.

The IDSF Membership Commission (MC) is tasked with promoting and developing DanceSport worldwide. South American and African countries are the commission's current priority. A number of countries there are keenly interested to become members of our steadily growing family. At this moment, IDSF has a total of 86 National Members, 62 of them are recognised by their National Olympic Committees. Over the course of 2007, several countries have become IDSF Provisional Members: Madagascar, Indonesia, Ecuador and Namibia. Our latest incorporation – at the beginning of October 2008 – has been Trinidad and Tobago. It is our first Member from the Caribbean, and we hope to have others from this area joining IDSF in the future.

Several countries are in advanced stages of their application process and should become Provisional Members in early 2009: Uruguay, Peru, Venezuela and Guam. Furthermore, the MC provides know-how and trainers in order to develop and promote DanceSport in different countries:

ARGENTINA

For a period of six years already, Anastasia Maximova, an internationally renowned trainer, is lecturing and training in Argentina. She participated in the first Latin American Championships, held on 25 August 2008 in Tigre, ARG, as a judge. 35 couples representing different IDSF Members competed in this important competition.

It was an outstanding success for the Argentine DanceSport Association (AABD) and, of course, for the whole of DanceSport in South America. We would like to congratulate the AABD President, Estela Arcos, for his excellent work.

URUGUAY

For the first time ever, the MC has sent a trainer to Uruguay. We started off with a Congress attended by 25 people. They will be the first holders of a Trainer License issued by their country in the upcoming months. Their foremost aim is to promote DanceSport in Uruguay further.

The MC would like to thank our primary contacts in Uruguay, Yukie Ohno and Miguel Angel Romero, for their support. We also thank the government authorities for their continuous help and support to DanceSport.

CHILE

The MC sent a trainer to Chile for the sixth time already. By now, there are many National Trainers who are working under the umbrella of the well organised Chilean Federation, directed by its President José Luis Tejo. In 2008 they started with granting Trainer B licenses. They will soon organise a Training Camp open to couples from Argentina, Uruguay and Mexico.

COLOMBIA

The well known Spanish trainer Joan Cayuela lectured at two Trainer Congresses in Colombia. He taught DanceSport principles, technique and the syllabus figures to the attendees.

A start-up organisation is working hard to obtain the recognition of the Colombian sports authorities – and of the political institutions – with the aim to become an official Sport Federation as soon as possible.

ECUADOR

The Ecuadorian Federation, recently accepted as a Provisional Member, is developing steadily. The National Olympic Committee and the governmental sports authorities give the young organisation maximum support. Its leaders, President Jorge Gutierrez and all his Presidium Members, must be congratulated.

They organised their very first DanceSport competition and had over 50 couples entered in the different categories and age grades. Representatives of the National Olympic Committee of Ecuador attended as guests of honour.

BRAZIL

Three years ago, the MC started dispatching trainers to assist Brazil in the development of DanceSport. Eva Angües, six-time World Senior Latin Champion, took on the responsibility for conducting the Trainer Congress in Sao Paulo. She had the opportunity to get in contact with some of the professionals from Rio de Janeiro and from northern Brazil.

The MC will continue to support our well organised Member in Brazil. We hope that we will be able to integrate the thousands of dancers in Brazil further, converting them into true DanceSport athletes.

AFRICA

The MC plans to organise a Trainer Congress in Namibia in July 2009. It will be open for several African countries. The very first Ranking Championships are currently being organised in South Africa. The IDSF World Ten Dance Cup will be held in Cape Town, RSA, on 26 September 2009!

The DanceSport Academy

The International DanceSport Federation (IDSF) oversees a comprehensive competition structure. The vast majority of competitions in DanceSport are controlled directly by the world governing body or indirectly through IDSF member organisations. In the recent past IDSF has entered into alliances with even more organisations – such as the International Professional DanceSport Council and the International Paralympic Committee – has started to align certain development goals with its partners, and has pledged close cooperation in attaining these goals. For a number of different organisations to work together towards the future development of DanceSport, one needs to assume the lead and coordinate the efforts. With its five decades of experience, its expertise and credentials, IDSF is willing to take on such responsibility. The DanceSport Academy could become the first true development project. IDSF Presidium Member Petr Odstrcil presents the innovative concept developed by his working group.

Weaknesses

A unified education system for trainers and judges does not exist in competitive DanceSport. Traditional congresses, seminars and workshops are too fragmented and tend to focus only on parts of the mosaic which constitutes modern DanceSport. New and updated information on methodology are not readily available. Technical publications are old; many of them were authored over 50 years ago. New ideas and concepts are presented only on the rarest of occasions. Hardly anybody is currently working on the theoretical base and the sporting principles of DanceSport.

Opportunities

It is a strong – but wrong – belief among the community that the bulk of know-how in DanceSport lies firmly in the hands of the glorified professionals. While that might have been true in the twentieth century, the situation has changed radically by now. The dancers formerly known as amateurs have more than caught up. The lion's share of competition-related information is generated and managed by IDSF. As a consequence, the world governing body must play an active role in the continued development of DanceSport. The DanceSport Academy (DSA) is the IDSF initiative aiming to establish and maintain defined standards in education and training. It is to reinforce the existing educational systems at all levels. The DSA becomes the brain and the heart of DanceSport.

Actions

The ambitious DSA project was first presented to the 2008 IDSF Annual General Meeting in June. Shortly thereafter, the IDSF Managing Committee appointed a Working Group consisting of Petr Odstrcil, Natasa Ambroz, Drago Sulek and Peter Loja to develop the concept even further and to get it ready for implementation from 2009.

Structures

The main structure of the DSA is envisioned as follows:

The **KNOW-HOW CENTRE** includes above all the board of supremely qualified lecturers.

- Renowned specialists are persuaded to collaborate in the DSA.
- The new generation of pedagogues gets its training at the DSA.

The **PRODUCTION CENTRE** is responsible for all output which is essential to the dissemination of information. The output:

- A magazine published on the Internet which provides information to licensed trainers and adjudicators.
- Technical books, videos, music, etc. which are authored by the faculty.
- Television programmes on DanceSport and other promotional materials which are produced under the control of the Academy.

This output is financed with revenues generated through a certification system for DanceSport equipment and through industry support.

The **EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTRE** is in charge of educating:

- Trainers and adjudicators for countries without existing educational systems
- Lecturers for the existing national educational systems
- Top-level/international trainers and adjudicators

The Education and Research Centre conducts research into:

- Dances
- Human abilities and skills related to dancing
- Methodology
- History

The **LICENSING CENTRE** handles the certification of the national educational and licensing systems. Furthermore, it grants and administrates all licences for:

- Top-level/international trainers and adjudicators
- Chairpersons, scrutineers and masters of ceremony for top-level/international competitions
- Member countries without their own licensing system



Qualifications

In DanceSport, as in all other sports, a number of people work around and for the athletes: they are generally expected to be experts.

These experts work in different positions and at every level. Some of them may even work in more than one capacity and at several levels. They are either amateurs or professionals.

Knowing who the true experts are – and being able to assess precisely where their competences lie – is paramount to deploy them properly. A licensing system is therefore needed. Different licences clearly identify experts specialised to work in fields such as

- Lecturing – educating other experts such as tutors, instructors, etc.
- Training – trainers, coaches, teachers, etc.
- Evaluating performances – adjudicators, judges

Through the respective licences, the key officials required to oversee the evaluation process in a competition are appointed for the

- Enforcing of rules – chairpersons
- Running of competitions – masters of ceremony
- Compiling of results – scrutineers

Top: Midshipmen rejoicing in having received a quality education at the US Naval Academy in Minneapolis, MD – photo by Cherie Thurlby, USDD

Educational Systems

A national educational system is accredited and certified by DSA depending on the quality of education it is capable of administering. The standards of education may vary somewhat. The highest standard is the academic: university/college.

The DSA evaluates each national system and determines which ones are acceptable. The DSA expects an educational system to adhere to the established licensing system – or to implement its own, as long as it is fully compatible with that of the DSA.

The national educational systems should cover the

- **INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**, which – for the specialisation of adjudicators – should be divided further into sublevels:
 - **Championship level**
 - **International level**
- **NATIONAL LEVEL**, which should ideally be structured as follows:
 - **National championship level**, which corresponds to the international level if the national system is certified by the DSA
 - **Advanced level** – advanced techniques and popular variations
 - **Beginner level** – level of syllabus

| | | Competitors | Trainers | Adjudicators | Officials | | |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|---------------------|
| | | | | | Chairs | Scrutineers | Masters of Ceremony |
| IDSF Level | World Championships | C-I | T-C | A-C | H-C | S-C | M-C |
| | International | | T-I | A-I | H-I(1) | S-I(1) | M-I(1) |
| National Level | National Championships | C-N | T-2 | A-2 | H-2 | S-2 | M-2 |
| | Advanced | | T-3 | A-3 | | | |
| | Beginner | | | | | | |



Lecturers

IDSF designates the board of lecturers for the DSA. The lecturers are experts: specialists in one or more subjects and at specific levels. They are designated by an IDSF body made up of minimum three senior lecturers. The designated lecturers must be able to teach their subjects competently, to write lecture notes and quality papers on their subjects, and publish these on the IDSF website or in other IDSF publications. The latter is compulsory to maintain the status as designated lecturer.

The DSA lecturers seek:

- To provide education to all applicants for IDSF licences: adjudicators, trainers and officials.
- To provide education to select couples – to certain athletes – in order to test and verify the lecturers' concepts and procedures.
- To certify national education systems (NES) as well as independent educational systems (IES), i.e. different types of private/corporate schools in DanceSport.
- To substitute for missing national education systems.
- To provide the continuing DanceSport education (CDE).

The use of qualified lecturers is one of the conditions for the certification of a national educational system. A hierarchy among the lecturers should be established at the national level too.

Organisation Principles

The traditional concept of an academy – of an educational system – would require classrooms, offices and people working in them. To eventually build such a system, lots of time, money and, of course, many PEOPLE are needed. At this time, all these resources are rather limited for the world governing body of DanceSport.

But IDSF is an organisation for the young in mind – for progressive people. Therefore, the DSA should be organised following modern principles, adhering to updated strategies, using state-of-the art technologies and communications. The guiding principles are flexibility and connectivity! The basis to the imminent launch of the DSA is the latest communications technology – the Internet and everything associated with it – and the DSA is to become a virtual school. Connected to the real life!



Future Visions

We will all work from our own homes and offices. IDSF will merely provide the connections – the Internet and modern communications software – plus some administrative support through our IDSF Office in Sant Cugat. It exists already!

We will have no dance floors. We use floors in different countries, cities ... Wherever our students need them! Our lecturers will be organised as flying teams. It is cheaper for a small group of experts to fly/travel than it is for a bigger group of students.

True, people need to meet sometimes: to get to know each other better, to discuss certain issues face to face ... and to build an even better community. Hence we organise annual congresses.

We won't be able to produce everything ourselves. Nor can we directly control all outside productions in DanceSport. But what we can do is create standards – and the procedures to maintain them. Through licences, certifications and grants!

The DSA should ultimately be working as the worldwide coordinator of education in DanceSport. It is only appropriate that its managing body becomes the Board of Co-

ordinators (BC). The BC consists of the chair – who is responsible for running the DSA – and of four coordinators who are responsible for each of the DSA centres.

In some ways, IDSF has long embarked on the mission of the DSA. It has produced quality papers:

- Education of judges and licences (White Paper, 2002)
- Compilation of information on the national education systems (N. Ambroz, 2004)

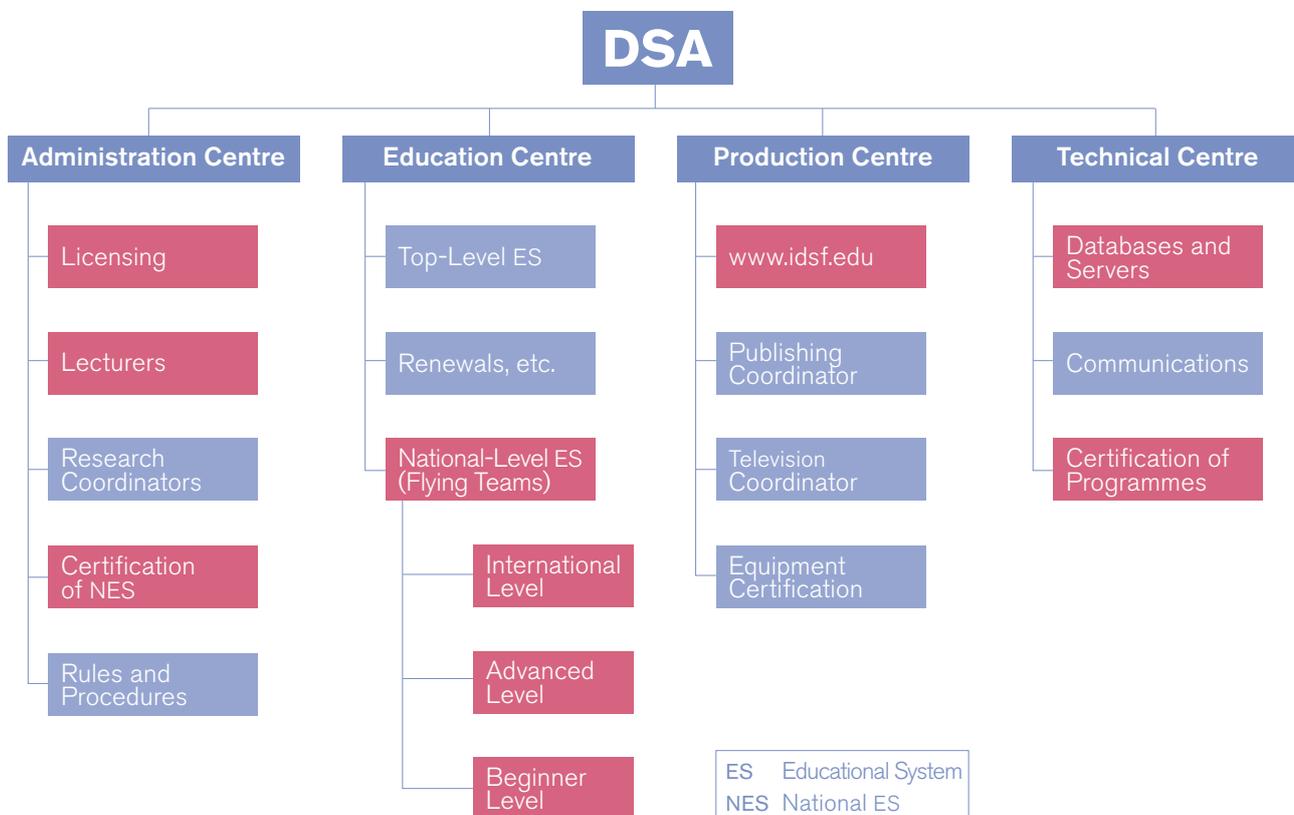
And it has imparted knowledge and skills through its commissions and charges.:

- Training Camps for Teachers and Coaches (Membership Commission)
- Adjudicators' Congresses (Technical Commission)
- Chairpersons' Congresses (Technical Commission)
- "Open" Congresses (Education Department)

The next step towards a full implementation should be to update and to validate the existing documents – and to integrate some of these missions (marked red in the organisational chart) into the DSA structure.

Page 23 – top: Simona Francello, Michele Bonsignori and Monica Baldasseroni at the Stuttgart Congress – photo by Heidi Estler

Page 23 – bottom: Dancing Art



Universal & Multidisciplinary

A Random Round-Up

IDSF World Cup Latin

Shanghai, CHN

The 2008 IDSF World Cup Latin took place at the Luwan Arena in Shanghai, China, on 20 July. A total of 27 nations were represented in this prestigious event which ran over two days. On day one, the top athletes performed a short Samba routine to thrill the crowd during the Opening Ceremony: it was the perfect prelude to their class acts on day two.

Officials from the Shanghai Sports Department and the China DanceSport Federation (CDSF) worked closely with IDSF – through Presidium Member Shawn Tay – to promote and develop this premier DanceSport festival.

The arena was packed with enthusiastic spectators and supporters. Their applause and cheers spurred the athletes to perform at their absolute best.



- | | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Stefano Di Filippo - Anna Melnikova | ITA |
| 2 | Alexey Silde - Anna Firstova | RUS |
| 3 | Martino Zanibellato - Michelle Abildtrup | DEN |
| 4 | Jesper Birkehoj - Anna Kravchenko | GER |
| 5 | Jevgenijs Suvorovs - Andrea Zelinkova | LAT |
| 6 | Mirko Sciolan - Nuria Santalucia | AUS |

World Rock 'n' Roll Confederation Championships

The top international Rock 'n' Roll competitions take part between October and December every year. The Boogie Woogie dancers had their highlight with the World Championships in Varberg, Sweden, on 11 October and the European Championships in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, on 15 November.

It proved to be the perfect year for French couple Maeva Truntzer and William Mauvias, they were crowned World as well as European Boogie Woogie Champions in 2008. In Sweden, the runners-up were one of the most successful couples in the recent past: Sarah Montalban and Remy Kouakou Kouame (FRA); Johanna Johansson and Rikard Ekstrand (SWE) took third. In Switzerland, second place went to Frida Borg and Marcus Rosendal (SWE); the Italians Sonia Salsedo and Marco Larosa finished third.

The Rock 'n' Roll Formations contested their titles in Croatia and Russia. The Rock'n'Roll Dream Team (GER) was able to win the title as World Champions for the second year running. In the European Championships the surprise came from Poland: the Mega Dance Team convinced the judges with their extremely difficult acrobatics. Some minor mistakes by the Germans were enough to drop them into second.

The Rock 'n' Roll World Championships for the Main Class were held in Graz, AUT, on 6 December. The final Masters event took place in Lyon, FRA, on 22 November.

World Boogie Woogie – Main Class

Varberg, SWE, 11/10

- | | | |
|---|---|-----|
| 1 | William MAUVAIS - Maeva TRUNTZER | FRA |
| 2 | Remy KOUAKOU KOUAME - Sarah MONTALBAN | FRA |
| 3 | Rikard EKSTRAND - Johanna JOHANSSON | SWE |
| 4 | Y. MORTREUIL-HENRY - S. MORTREUIL-HENRY | FRA |
| 5 | Nicolas DENIAU - Melanie DENIAU | FRA |
| 6 | Masi SAURÉN - Matleena KORTESALMI | FIN |
| 7 | Espen HARTVIKSEN - Tina MONSEN-NYHEIM | NOR |

World RR Formations – Main Class

St. Petersburg, RUS, 20/09

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Rock 'n' Roll Dream Team | GER |
| 2 | Kontine | RUS |
| 3 | Rock Comets | RUS |
| 4 | The Rockets | GER |
| 5 | Route 66 | SUI |



Juvenile Champions: Open as well as National!

Sergey Rozhkov – Marina Zakharova (RUS)



Sergey, born in Moscow on 13 May 1996, and Marina, born in Moscow on 26 February 1997, are the stand-outs among the new generation of motivated Russian athletes breaking onto the international DanceSport scene. WDSM editor Heidi Götz interviews the youngsters during the German Open Championships in Stuttgart. She tries to find out what keeps the two focused on becoming World Champions one day.

WDSM: It is a pleasure for me to be with you here today, presenting both of you to the WDSM readers. I also welcome Pavel Dorokhov, President of the Russian DanceSport Federation. Thank you for joining us and being our very own interpreter. Marina and Sergey, I watched you in competition here at the Culture and Congress Centre. You danced in Junior I, the age grade for the 12 to 13-year old athletes, winning the Latin and placing third in Ten Dance. I particularly remember you at the awards presentation draped in a Russian flag. You are a promising couple from a country which produces champions by the dozens. Tell us more, please!

Sergey: Our families live in Moscow, in different parts of Moscow.

WDSM: And – I assume – you go to school there?

S: Yes, I am now in seventh grade of secondary school. Marina is also in secondary school, in sixth grade.

WDSM: Do you have plans for your future when it comes to your scholastic career?

S: I don't think about which school I will attend in the future. For the time being, I am learning a lot and I am busy with my dancing.

WDSM: You have to do your homework and you have to train. How can you combine the two?

S: The learning and the dancing take place under the same roof, in my school. In the morning I attend my classes downstairs, in the afternoon I go upstairs for my training on the dance floor. Marina lives in a different part of Moscow, she has to come to my school for our training. That is not so easy for her.

WDSM: When did you take up dancing?

S: I started to dance when I was four years old; Marina when she was five. We started to dance together in November 2007. I was looking for a partner. Marina came to our club and we had a tryout for a few hours. Immediately my trainer thought that she would be the best partner for me.

WDSM: What are your interests and hobbies aside from dancing?

S: I like to play football. After I have done all my homework, I like to go out for a match. Near my house there is a pitch where I play with my friends. I enjoy that very much. My second hobby is to speak English. I learn it at school. It was not a compulsory course, but I decided to take it anyhow.

Marina: I enjoy walking around, playing computer games and painting.

WDSM: How did you get in contact with dancing?

S: My brother began with DanceSport when he was ten years old. My parents brought me along to the studio. I had to watch my brother on the floor and, all of a sudden, I decided to give it a try myself. I liked it very much!



M: I did rhythmic gymnastic when I was three years old. I also tried figure skating. My parents introduced me to all these sports. But in the end I decided on my own to concentrate on DanceSport. I like dancing very much. Whenever I listened to music, I started to move and to dance. My parents looked for the nearest studio. That is how I met Sergey!

WDSM: What do you enjoy most in DanceSport. Is it the training or the competing?

S: I like to train – very much – but I also like to compare with other couples, to compete against them. I guess I like both.

M: It is the same for me; I like competition as well as practice.

WDSM: Pavel, why does the Russian Federation organise championships for children from the earliest stages?

Pavel Dorokhov: First, because it is permissible in our country. Second, we have many children dancing in Russia. They have to train a lot; and competitions tend to make their training more interesting. Without competitions, the kids would eventually lose interest. That is why we have national competitions in Juvenile I, for children born 1999 or later, and the National Championships in Juvenile II, for those aged ten or eleven. In all these contests, the young couples do six dances – in both styles. We do not allow that the organisers separate Standard and Latin.

WDSM: As I watch Sergey and Marina, they have bright eyes and smiling faces whenever they talk about DanceSport and competition. In other countries parents are often afraid of putting too much pressure on their sons and daughters. They prefer a different approach – more like those we know from recent motion pictures such as “Take the Lead”. Everything should remain fun: no pressure, no rankings!

PD: There are psychologists who say that you have to be careful, sensitive, especially with very young people. But there are other experts as well! They suggest that the sooner you start teaching children how to deal with a competitive situation the better. The children will become stronger. They learn to enjoy victory... but also to deal with defeat.

WDSM: Which competitions do you like best and which is your most important success?

S: I like two competitions particularly well: the German and the Russian Open Championships. I like them both and I am very proud that we could win them.

PD: And the Russian National Championship is not important for you? After all, you are the reigning Russian National Champion!

S: Yes, of course, that would be another favourite competition. You are right: there are three important competitions for us!

M: For me it is the same! The German and the Russian Open Championships!

WDSM: What are you dreaming of in terms of your DanceSport careers? I think I know your answers already.

S: I am dreaming of becoming World Champion in Junior II, first of all!

M: Winning the World Championship, of course!

WDSM: As I said, I knew what you were going to answer.

WDSM: We often hear about the stern training discipline in the Eastern countries. Is it that the case as many people think? How do practise?

S: We train close to six hours every day, five days per week. On weekends we go to the competitions. Maybe two or three times every month!

WDSM: Do you practise only your dancing or is there something else you do for your training? Maybe you do ballet or gymnastics?

S: It is mainly the dancing; we do some stretching once a week.

WDSM: Do you train on your own or is there always a coach with you?

S: Half of the time the trainer is watching us; then she works with the other couples. We have to practise on our own.

WDSM: Is this only your own coach or are there others as well?

S: There are some other coaches too. We go to another studio for lessons: we occasionally work with Carol McCrauld, Tommy Shaughnessy, Graham Oswick and Ton Greten.

M: I also had lessons with Alexey Silde when I was dancing with my former partner.

WDSM: Have you travelled to many different countries?

S: We were in Germany, England, Ireland and Turkey.

M: I had also been in Latvia, Estonia and Ukraine!

WDSM: Pavel, have you ever been concerned about pushing DanceSport for juveniles too much in Russia? Having it possibly cause health problems for the young athletes?

PD: We are collaborating closely with our experts and we are sure that they are very strict in what they are suggesting. We don't want to transgress on physical or – this is even more important – on psychological limitations. We do train our coaches. Every year we hold a congress in Moscow, over three days, and one of the most important topics is DanceSport for youth. It covers all aspects: from physiology to training routines. Experts from the Pedagogic Academy are the lecturers.

WDSM: What is your motivation for training and working that much?

M: I like this sport, I like it as dancing. I simply love it!

PD: I often ask the parents whether they have to put pressure on their children. What is required to motivate them for training? All our parents tell us that their children like to dance. They merely have to go along with, support it. The families stay involved; they travel together and help their kids.

WDSM: For the other athletes in your age grade you are starting to be come idols. I am sure many of them would like to dance you. Can you give them any advice?

S: I believe that they must train a lot and like our sport as much as we do.

WDSM: Wrapping up our interview, I thank Pavel Dorokhov for helping us as an interpreter and an expert on youth in DanceSport. I can tell that he is very proud of the young Russian couples. I wish you, Marina and Sergey, great success and a lot of fun in your careers. I am sure we will meet again at other competitions. Who knows? I will then congratulate you on being IDSF World Champions.

IDSF World and European DanceSport Championships

World Senior II Standard

Liege, BEL, 20/10

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1 | Michael Lindner - Beate Lindner | GER |
| 2 | Walter Valenta - Irmtraud Maurer | AUT |
| 3 | Bernd Farwick - Petra Voosholz | GER |
| 4 | Luciano Mannello - Patrizia Presti | ITA |
| 5 | Raymund Reimann - Antje Schulz | GER |
| 6 | Lonny Tsang - Susie Tsang | USA |
| 7 | Giampaolo Diotallevi - Christiana Marini | ITA |
| 8 | Maurizio Lanno - Maria Parisi | ITA |
| 9 | Claus Halfmeier - Britta Halfmeier | GER |
| 10 | Bruno Lazzareschi - Ida Zotta | ITA |
| 11 | James Barron - Rachel Barron | GBR |
| 12 | Massimo Schiano - Antonella D'Itri | ITA |

World Adult Standard

Vienna, AUT, 15/11

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1 | Paolo Bosco - Silvia Pitton | ITA |
| 2 | Benedetto Ferruggia - Claudia Köhler | GER |
| 3 | Andrea Ghigiarelli - Sara Andracchio | ITA |
| 4 | Marat Gimaev - Alina Basyuk | RUS |
| 5 | Simone Segatori - Annette Sudol | GER |
| 6 | Emanuel Valeri - Tania Kehlet | DEN |
| 7 | Sergey Konovaltsev - Olga Konovaltseva | RUS |
| 8 | Luca Bussoletti - Tjasa Vulic | SLO |
| 9 | Marco Cavallaro - Joanne Clifton | GBR |
| 10 | Wiktor Kiszka - Malgorzata Garlicka | POL |
| 11 | Donatas Vezelis - Lina Chatkeviciute | LTU |
| 12 | Angelo Madonia - Jelena Samuilova | LAT |

World Junior II Ten Dance

Minsk, BLR, 8 – 9/11

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1 | Kuzin, Evgeny / Agikyan, Valeriya | RUS |
| 2 | Akhmetshin, Andrey / Grigorenko, Anastasia | BLR |
| 3 | Gunnarsson, Alex Freyr / Nissen, Katrine | DEN |
| 4 | Lipowski, Jakub / Duranska, Kamila | POÑ |
| 5 | Iori, Giorgio / Galli, Valentina | ITA |
| 6 | Nuzhdov, Oleksiy / Kozma, Katerina | UKR |
| 7 | Liepnieks, Valts / Diure, Daniela | LAT |
| 7 | Sosunov, Maxim / Kazarina, Evgeniya | GER |
| 9 | Skuhravy, Jan / Bergmannova, Dominika | CZE |
| 10 | Manukian, David / Fedotova, Alina | ARM |
| 11 | Ganev, Georgi / Gadzheva, Veronika | BUL |
| 12 | Tam, Winson / Kus, Anna Nina | CAN |

World Adult Ten Dance

Berlin, GER, 29/11

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1 | Kies, Christoph / Turón, Blanca Ribas Turón | GER |
| 2 | Cigoj, Miša / Malai, Alexandra | SLO |
| 3 | Zaytsev, Andrey / Kuzminskaya, Anna | RUS |
| 4 | Bitsch, Björn / Williamson, Ashli | DEN |
| 5 | Cannizzaro, Domenico / Junkure, Agnese | ITA |
| 6 | László, Csaba / Mikes, Anna | HUN |
| 7 | Dvorak, Martin / Silhanova, Zuzana | CZE |
| 8 | Gilin, Alan / Trutneva, Anastasia | CAN |
| 9 | Hirvonen, Markus / Hirvonen, Mariia | FIN |
| 10 | Kravchuk, Oleksandr / Getsko, Olesya | UKR |
| 11 | Kashkovskyy, Yevgen / Matus, Ana | MDA |
| 12 | Gaudet, Steeve / Colmard, Laure | FRA |

World Formation Latin

Wiener Neustadt, AUT, 29/11

| | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Klaipeda University DSC "ZUVEDRA" A | LTU |
| 2 | Grün-Gold-Club Bremen | GER |
| 3 | TSZ Velbert | GER |
| 4 | Vera Tjumen | RUS |
| 5 | HSV Zwölfaxing | AUT |
| 6 | Klaipeda University DSC "ZUVEDRA" B | LTU |
| 7 | DSC Tsveta Radugi | RUS |
| 8-12 | DC Mara Minsk | BLR |
| 8-12 | Valcer Dance Studio | HUN |
| 8-12 | Dance East Oldenzaal | NED |
| 8-12 | KS Kamion Dance Warsaw | POL |
| 8-12 | Dance Club Aurora | SRB |

World Youth Standard

Salou, ESP, 06/12

| | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 1 | Ulanov, Danil / Glazanova, Anastasia | RUS |
| 2 | Galuppo, Francesco / Pacini, Debora | ITA |
| 3 | Jeschke, Jacek / Wior, Wiktoria | POL |
| 4 | Skuratov, Anton / Uehlin, Alena | GER |
| 5 | Novikov, Pavel / Iwanowicz, Karolina | POL |
| 6 | Azanov, Anton / Isakovich, Ekaterina | RUS |
| 7 | Vinokurov, Evgeny / Luft, Christina | GER |
| 8/9 | Balestra, Luca / Balestra, Krizia | ITA |
| 8/9 | Coropceanu, Serghei / Cheptiene, Marioara | MDA |
| 10 | Kitsun, Andrey / Krepchuk, Yuliya | BLR |
| 11 | Linis, Edgars / Anacane, Eliza | LAT |
| 12 | Gorodilov, Konstantin / Koger, Emma/Leena | EST |
| 13 | Abols, Ronalds / Vitenberga, Santa | LAT |
| 14 | Krasnoshlyk, Sergiy / Schapina, Darya | UKR |



European Youth Ten Dance

Schladming, AUT, 21/06

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1 | Yury Simachev - Angelina Sibaeva | RUS |
| 2 | Evgeny Vinokurov - Christina Luft | GER |
| 3 | Pavel Novikov - Karolina Iwanowicz | POL |
| 4 | Konstantin Gorodilov - Emma-Leena Koger | EST |
| 5 | Earle Williamson - Tara James | DEN |
| 6 | Andrei Kitsun - Yuliya Krepchuk | BLR |
| 7 | Matteo Lumetta - Carlotta Liardi | ITA |
| 8 | David Odstrcil - Beata Koblizkova | CZE |
| 9 | Edgars Linis - Eliza Ancane | LAT |
| 10 | Cristian Radvan - Tatiana Seliverstova | MDA |
| 11 | Joel Gonzales - Ariadna Gil | ESP |
| 12 | Andrej Mesojedec - Lea Perovsek | SLO |

European Cup Adult Standard

Sofia, BUL, 18/10

| | | |
|-------|--|-----|
| 1 | Sergey Konovaltsev - Olga Konovaltseva | RUS |
| 2 | Luca Bussoletti - Tiasa Vulic | SLO |
| 3 | Salvatore Todaro - Violeta Yaneva | BUL |
| 4 | Guerra Rosario - Eleonora Grazia | ITA |
| 5 | Oliver Rehder - Jasmin Rehder | GER |
| 6 | Kaspars Banders - Vita Jaroscuka | LAT |
| 7 | Christoph Santner - Maria Santner | AUT |
| 8 | Elimantas Kalinauskas - Greta Laurinaityte | LTU |
| 9 | Olexandr Kravchuk - Ilesya Getsko | UKR |
| 10-12 | Alari Lukk - Dina Soritsa | EST |
| 10-12 | Romian Leal - Chloe Leal | FRA |
| 10-12 | Tomas Uvacek - Martina Reiterova | SVK |
| 13 | Pawel Szajda - Karina Hoffman | POL |

European Cup Adult Ten Dance

Lappeenranta, FIN, 27/09

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1 | Misa Cigoj - Alexandra Malai | SLO |
| 2 | Timur Imametdinov - Ekaterina Nikolaeva | RUS |
| 3 | Andrej Mosejcuk - Izabela Janachowska | POL |
| 4 | Valentin Lusin - Renata Busheeva | GER |
| 5 | Volodymyr Lyatov - Veronika Myshko | UKR |
| 6 | Markus Hirvonen - Mariia Hirvonen | FIN |
| 7 | Vladimir Slon - Bianka Zubrowska | AUT |
| 8 | Valerijus Osadcenko - Olga Osadcenko | LTU |
| 9 | Alari Lukk - Dina Soritsa | EST |
| 10 | Evgeny Selin - Hanna Oladottir | ISL |
| 11 | Steve Gaudet - Laure Colmard | FRA |
| 12 | Sergei Kiselev - Ekaterina Popova | BLR |

European Formation Standard

Moscow, RUS, 25/10

| | | |
|------|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Vera Tyumen | RUS |
| 2 | Kodreanka Chisinau | MDA |
| 3 | TK Ludwigsburg | GER |
| 4 | Lotos-Jantar Elblag | POL |
| 5 | Braunschweiger TSC | GER |
| 6 | Impulse Chelyabinsk | RUS |
| 7-10 | Krok Hradec Kralove | CZE |
| 7-10 | Szilver TSE Szentese/ | HUN |
| 7-10 | DSV Voetisch s Hertogenbosch | NED |
| 7-10 | KTS Interklub Madit Bratislava | SLO |

World Formation Standard

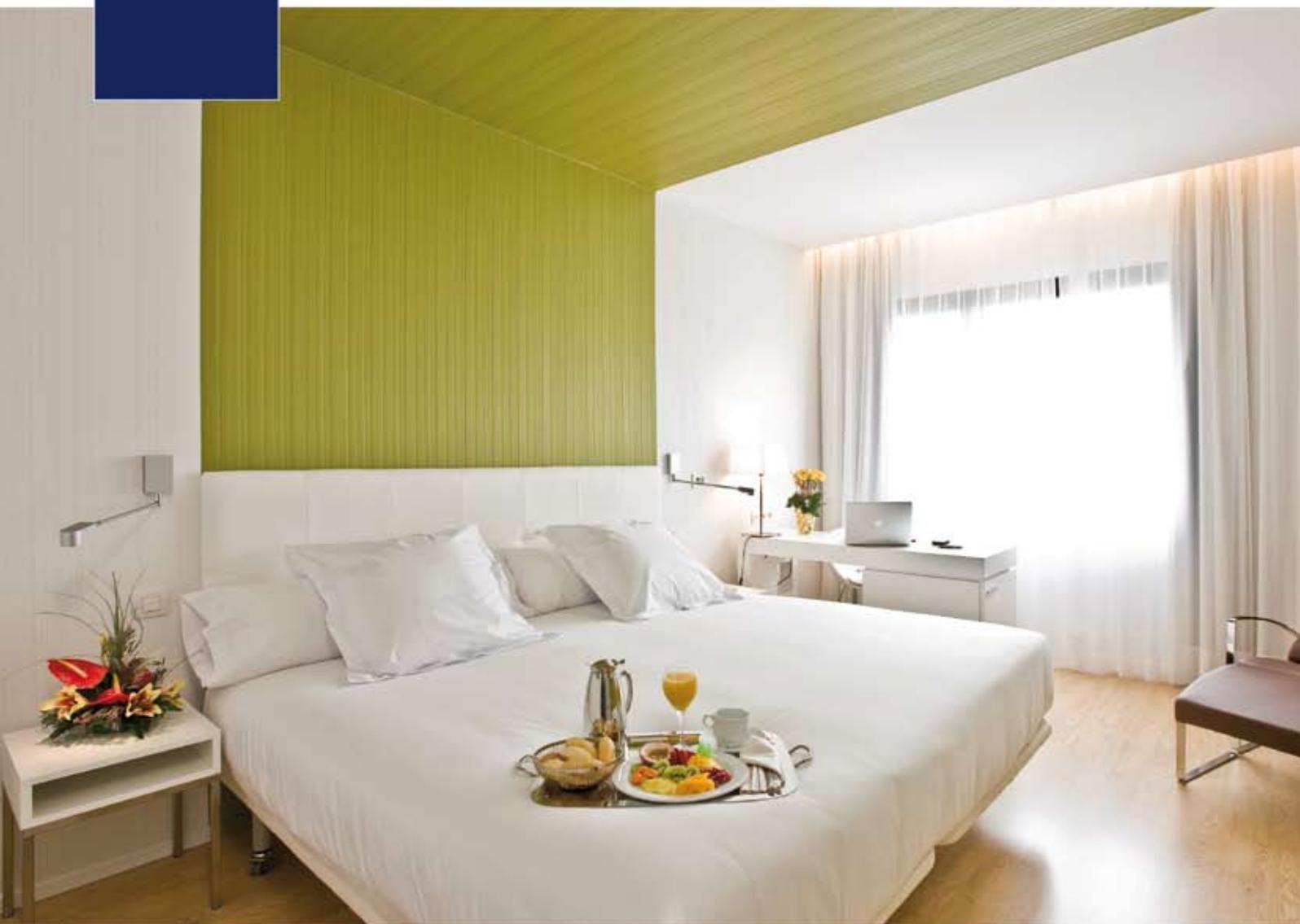
Chisinau, MDA, 11/10

| | | |
|-------|---------------------|-----|
| 1 | DSC Codreanka | MDA |
| 2 | TC Ludwigsburg | GER |
| 3 | Braunschweiger TSC | GER |
| 4 | Lotos-Jantar | POL |
| 5 | Impulse | RUS |
| 6 | Mara | BLR |
| 7 | Szilver TSE | HUN |
| 8-10 | TK Chvaletice | CZE |
| 8-10 | Kodmon TSE | HUN |
| 8-10 | KTS Interklub Madit | SLO |
| 11-12 | Kadryl | POL |
| 11-12 | TC Kosice | SLO |
| 13 | Floris Dance Team | ROM |

World Cup Adult Latin

Shanghai, CHN, 20/08

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1 | Stefano Di Filippo - Anna Melnikova | ITA |
| 2 | Alexey Silde - Anna Firstova | RUS |
| 3 | Martino Zanibellato - Michelle Abildtrup | DEN |
| 4 | Jesper Birkehoj - Anna Kravchenko | GER |
| 5 | Jevgenijs Suvorovs - Andrea Zelinkova | LAT |
| 6 | Mirko Sciolan - Nuria Santalucia | AUS |
| 7 | Zufar Ludwig Zaripov - Anna Tchemodourova | AUT |
| 8 | Joonas Piippola - Katri Makinen | FIN |
| 9 | Gregoire Lyonnet - Anastasija Gorbachenko | FRA |
| 10 | Nicolas Garcia - Maria Turlupova | ESP |
| 11 | Paul Voicu Marian - Saray Gomez | ROM |
| 12 | Gediminas Grigonis - Zemaityte Justina | LTU |



New Openings 2008

Barceló Cologne City Center | Germany

Barceló Hammamet | Tunisia

Barceló Old Town Praha | Czech Republic

Barceló Castellana Norte | Spain

Barceló Alba de Layos | Spain

Barceló Asia Gardens | Spain

Barceló Punta Umbria Enebrales | Spain

Barceló Raval | Spain

