



Dance Flame

October – December 2008

A Quarterly Newsletter : Issue 20

IDSF Launches New Logo



The new visual identity of the International DanceSport Federation (IDSF) was presented to the delegates at the IDSF Congress and Annual General Meeting held on 14 and 15 June in Moscow, Russia.

A new emblem plus a number of associated icons and visuals signal the governing body's commitment to adapt its structure and scope in order to fulfil an even broader mission in the near future.



'Vision 2012' is the ambitious programme which will lead IDSF to take on an expanded role as the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF), and which will unite all the different dance styles performed as sport under a single umbrella. The substantial changes to the IDSF visual identity lay the groundwork for the future WDSF brand appearance.

DanceSport is the dominant element in the new IDSF emblem. **DanceSport** is the brand which IDSF created over two decades ago and strengthened continually ever since. Two dancers in a dynamic and aesthetic posture which is representative of the widest range of dance styles, and of athletes of both genders teaming up in DanceSport, convey the core of the message. The distinctive shapes kept in determined colours symbolise light (yellow), the dance floor (brown) and the Earth (green/blue).

Once IDSF has evolved into WDSF, replacing 'international' with 'world' will suffice to adapt the emblem to the organisation. The new IDSF emblem will be used in the premier events scheduled for the remainder of 2008 (IDSF World Championships and Grand Slam Series). From June 2009, its use by all the member bodies and the organisers of nearly 500 competitions granted annually by IDSF becomes mandatory.

Solo Dances In 2009 IDSF Championships (Adults)

The IDSF Sports Director, Mr Heinz Spaeker has advised IDSF Member Federations that the solo dances for all 2009 IDSF Championships (Adult categories) are as follows:

	STANDARD	LATIN
	Slow Foxtrot & Quickstep	Samba & Paso Doble
The order of dances in the Finals are as follows		
Solo	Slow Foxtrot	Samba
Group	Slow Foxtrot	Samba
Group	Waltz	Cha-Cha-Cha
Group	Tango	Rumba
Group	Viennese Waltz	Jive
Solo	Quickstep	Paso-Doble
Group	Quickstep	Paso-Doble



*Mr Heinz Spaeker,
IDSF Sports Director*

Unregistered Competitions – Assen (Netherlands) & Paris (France)

The 2008 Dutch Open (Assen, 13-16 Nov 08) and the World Amateur Ballroom & Latin Championships (Paris, 5-7 Dec 08) were not registered by the IDSF, nor its member federations. Prior to these two events, the IDSF Sports Director and IDSF General Secretary published clear notices on the IDSF website from 16 Apr 2008 regarding these events.

Following their participation, the following athletes and adjudicators now face a worldwide suspension for a specified period of six to nine months.

The athletes involved are Troels Bager & Ina Jeliakova (DEN), Lenny Gouweroh & Laura Zrajkovicova (NED) and Eldar Djafarov & Anna Sazhina (AZE). The adjudicators involved are Marie Pilgaard (Denmark), Hazel Fletcher (England), Graham Oswick (England), Els Zwijsen-Gavaert (Netherlands), Lene Mikelson-James (Denmark).

A Good Friend & Fellow Athlete – Goodbye



2008 Batu Pahat, Malaysia

December 2008 will always be etched in the minds of many as we lost a friend and fellow athlete to the atrocities and ignorance of a drunk driver. Hong Jun Jie was only 20-years old, having joined the ranks of Grade A in early-2008. Both Jun Jie, or “JJ” as his friends call him, and his partner Mizushima Emi were beginning to experience the fruits of their hardwork. Having traveled to Thailand, Korea, China and Malaysia in the short space of eight months, they were destined for greater achievements when disaster struck on the Sunday night of 21 December 2008.

We first noticed JJ as far back as 2006 during the 4th SGDF Singapore Nationals DanceSport Championships, when he first appeared on the dancefloor with Emi. There, he had already captured the attention of his friends and coaches. What is it that we remember when we think of JJ? Everyone who knows him would agree that his sense of commitment and loyalty was exemplary. JJ was the essence of duty, commitment, fun and style.

JJ had shown the makings of a leader, inspiring many through his own style. JJ stood tall among his peers – he could see above the tallest people. He had a vision about his future, and how he was going to build it. And his enthusiasm was so great that he just swept every body along with him. He was also successful because he was committed to his goals. Not the first time he tried maybe, but he just kept going at it. If he really wanted something, he kept going until he achieved it.

This is not the moment for us to grieve but we should all be grateful that we had the opportunity to have known Jun Jie. JJ – you will forever be missed.

. and a note from Emi

Jun Jie, affectionately known as JJ to many, picked up dancesport for me. Then, he knew absolutely nothing about dance and rhythm. Perhaps little interest too – forced passion, I called it.

This forced passion would become a big part of his life as it became something he genuinely loved and enjoyed.

In practice and competition, he only put in his very best. He was really hard to beat in terms of determined and persistent effort to constantly improve in this artistic sport which he adored.

He was my best friend and partner on and off the dance floor. He was my pillar of strength and motivation to keep growing to greater heights in dance and life.

In dance, we shared a common goal and passion – to become great dancers and never stop dancing together. From forced passion to true passion and from zero dancer to hero dancer, he was an inspiration to many. He proved that everyone can dance and dance well in the heart and soul were put into it. Not dancing for results, but dancing for passion.

The dance floor will never feel the same again, but I will keep dancing for us because we shared this true passion deeply. I hope he will always be an inspiration to many, for he will always be mine.



8th SGDF Singapore Nationals
DanceSport Championships

Tributes From JJ's Friends



2008 Thailand Open

"An exemplary athlete for others to follow. Hardworking and humble, Jun Jie will be terribly missed by everyone in the dancesport fraternity." – **Shawn & Gladys Tay (National DanceSport Coaches)**

"We will always remember Jun Jie as a great friend and fellow dancer. Off the floor he was a fun-loving and trustworthy guy, but when practicing he always pushed himself harder than anyone else, and I think that made all of us better dancers too. Jun Jie has been a great friend and a great inspiration to us. Those days we had practicing together have become a very precious part of my dancing memory. We will always remember him as an extraordinary dancer, a fighter and we shall miss him dearly." – **Sng Li Wei & Tan Wei Jing**

"Jun Jie is a very cheerful person. He always worked very hard, be it for dancing or any other things in life." – **Vasily Chuply & Priscilla Kwa**

"A perfectionist dance enthusiast, who never rest till he perfect his moves. A fun loving boy who enjoys eating. His is always very enthusiastic when it comes to training and practices. A very good companion to have during the overseas competitions." – **Edwin Toh & Carolyn Tan**

"JJ, a friend we got to know, & a friend we'll remember forever. A fantastic dancer, a person with strong goals and great dreams. A humourous person, and we thank God for allowing us to know him. He'll live forever in our memories & hearts." – **Brian Tan & Clarissa Khor**



2008 Shanghai Open



2006 5th SGDF
Singapore Nationals

"Known JJ ever since the day I knew Emi. He has always been full of nonsense, and he has never failed to do the stupidest things to irritate others. There were times when he got so playful with his practice towel that he flung way too hard and injured me in the eye. He always wanted to be around, in each and every conversation that Emi and I were having. We used to find him irritating, but come to think of it, we are actually missing him now. I still remember there was once during a meeting, he actually started playing catching with some guys around the studio in cha-cha walks! He was always the joy-giver to those around him. JJ has been a great friend, and he shall always be." – **Sng Hsueh Min**

"Jun Jie has always been a source of inspiration for many dancers who have seen him train or compete. Many dance hopefuls are inspired to dance and do better when they see him strut his stuff." – **Muhammad Tasnim**

"Billions of people live in this face of the earth, but only a handful of people were as special as Jun Jie. The dedication and hardwork blended with his natural talent pushed him up to shine in dancesport arena in no time. He also never failed to continuously pour his sincere kindness towards all this friends. Glad that we ever known you, Jun Jie." – **Rianto Mulia & Karen Wong**

"Jun Jie is a guy who possesses leadership qualities both academically and in DanceSport during his school days in Singapore Polytechnic. He represented the club in various competitions and brought numerous glory to the school. He was a role model for all his juniors and peers on and off the dancefloor. Jun Jie is one who knows what he wants in the DanceSport arena, he sets his target high and works hard towards his goal of being the best he can be." – **Melvin Tan & Sharon Tan (former 11 Times Singapore National Latin Champions, and SEA Games 2005 & 2007 representatives)**



2006 Johor International



2007 7th SGDF Singapore Nationals

“To us all, JJ was more than just a dance senior, he was a friend and he was always there to guide us not just in dance, but also in many other stuffs. There was this once, before the 8th Nationals, when we were in a rush towards the competition, JJ and Emi came back and helped us polished our moves, clean up our steps, and advised us on the many things we had needed. They were the only seniors along with Hsueh Min who bothered to come back and guided us even after having graduated, and that all were important to us.

JJ was there for us almost all the time since he was awaiting enlistment, and he continued to be around for us even after having gone into the army. During SP's first-ever freshman orientation camp, JJ and Emi also came back to perform and inspire our very own first year members then. JJ was a selfless person who cared

a lot for the club and would always go all out to help us. On or off the dance floor, he has always been an inspiration to us all, and he always will be.” – **2008 Singapore Polytechnic DanceSport (Skye Tan, Bernard Koh, Lim Hong Mei, Jane Liew & Sun Weiyng)**



2007 – 6th SGDF Singapore Nationals DanceSport Championships



2007 – 7th SGDF Singapore Nationals DanceSport Championships

A 2-minute Interview With Singapore's Future Stars

In this issue, we feature Singapore's current National Latin DanceSport Champions, Lim Chong Aik & Riane Low, both 17 years old.

Q. So Chong Aik & Riane, what does it feel like to represent Singapore in the past year?

A. Our first 'major' international event was the 2007 Asian Indoor Games, held in Macau. We were very honoured to be selected by the Singapore National Olympic Council and Singapore Sports Council to participate in that event. Being able to represent a country at the Asian and World Latin is something that not many can experience. However, Riane and I were given the chance to do so and it was of course, an eye-opener for us. We were exposed to the highest level of dancing through the competitions held in Taipei and Melbourne and this made us realise how much more we have to put in, in order to be the best that we can be in our dancing. The results may not have been the best but we were very proud of our own performance at both competitions, striving to do our best. We draw our inspiration in dancing from Nikita Brovko and Alina Zharullina who hail from Russia. Their most appealing points are their technicality, styling and togetherness.



Photo By Robert Ong