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## Monaco DanceSport Festival

I am pleased to announce the Prize money for the following Championships.

### IPDSC International Open Professional Standard Championship IPDSC International Open Professional Latin Championship

#### PRIZE MONEY:

1st Prize: **6.000 Euro**  
2nd Prize: **5.000 Euro**  
3rd Prize: **4.000 Euro**  
4th Prize: **3.000 Euro**  
5th Prize: **2.000 Euro**  
6th Prize: **1.000 Euro**

### IDSF International Open Latin Championship IDSF International Open Standard Championship

#### PRIZE MONEY:

1st Prize: **1.500 Euro**  
2nd Prize: **1.250 Euro**  
3rd Prize: **1.000 Euro**  
4th Prize: **750 Euro**  
5th Prize: **500 Euro**  
6th Prize: **500 Euro**

Entry Forms and Ticket Forms are now available on line.

Please visit [www.monacodancesportfestival.com](http://www.monacodancesportfestival.com)

Should you have any queries please contact by email [mdfmackenzie@monacodancesportfestival.com](mailto:mdfmackenzie@monacodancesportfestival.com)

**Gill MacKenzie**  
*Festival Organiser*

## Werner J. Braum reports from the International Press Conference *International Dance Masters Mannheim 2008*

Open to the World – more than 100 Competitions and 28 World Championships

The World Championships 2008 of the International Dance Sport Association IDSA will be for the first time in Germany: They will be part of the International Dance Masters Mannheim. Competitors from Germany, the Benelux Countries, the Ukraine, Moldavia, China, Israel, Georgia and England will compete in nine age categories for 28 titles in Standard, Latin and 10-Dances for Adults, Youth, Juniors, Juveniles and Seniors.

Furthermore the Association of the German Dance Teachers BDT and its Amateur Association DAT will organize the German Dance School Championships 2008 in Standard, Latin for Hobby and Sports Competitors and Formation Teams. BDT is an union of 120 dance schools and more than 200 dance teachers from Germany, the Netherlands, Austria and France. The DAT is member of the International Dance Union IDU and the International DanceSport Association IDSA.

This news was announced during the press conference of the m:con Mannheim congress management as organizer of the event. Project manager Stefan Ossenkop and Bastian Fiedler

of m:con, assisted by Gabriele Warminski-Leitheusser, mayor for education, youth, health and sports of the city of Mannheim, Sabine Mayer-Kronenberger, vice president of the Association German Dance Teacher BDT and the local Youth Club managers Ariana Reiter and Klemens Hotz, led through the enlarged program of the international event.

After last year's success with more than 3000 participants from 40 different nations, dancers from all over the Globe will meet again at the congress center Rosengarten in Mannheim from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> 2008. They will present a diversified program in various categories from HipHop and viedo clip dancing to Modern and Latin. What makes the event special is the fact that anyone can participate who likes to dance. No membership of a dance school or association is mandatory.

The International Dance Masters comprises of Amateur and professional competitions. Besides same-sex dancing, formation dancing also for small groups, hobby dancing, discofox, salsa and show dances there will take place a completely new event for show formations of dance schools in modern dances. The judging will be done by the audience.

More Information under [www.m-motion-mannheim.de](http://www.m-motion-mannheim.de)

## Great Writers Inside this edition!

- \* **Bryan Watson on IDSF Latin - Cervia**
- \* **Oliver Wessel Therhorn on IDSF Standard Irvine**
- \* **Giampiero Giannico on WDC Standard - Orlando**

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# 2008 CERVIA CHAMPIONSHIPS

## The IPDSC European Cup Latin to Mikko Kaasalainen and Adrienn Fitori from Finland

The 5th of September 2008 in Cervia, Italy Mikko Kaasalainen and Adrienn Fitori from Finland after a great performance are the new IPDSC European Cup Latin Champions. The judges were: Marc Couderc (France), Monique De Maesschalck (Belgium), Carlos Gonzales (Spain) Petr Horáček (Slovakia), Daniela Novak (Slovenia), Susan Walker (England), Robert Wota (Poland),



Chris Zammit (Malta) and Carolyn Smith (Italy).

*The IPDSC Presidium would like to thank Davide Gabusi and Claudia Tavalazzi, organizers of this important event.*

The Palazzetto Dello Sport is still the home of the Cervia Dance Festival, and I am told it still retains all the atmosphere of days gone by. As this is my first time in Cervia all I can say is that it is something special, and made me wish that I was still dancing.

If this week - end's competition is anything to go by, next years event promises to be even bigger and better, and is heartily recommended to all competitors, as one of the major events of the year.

Special thanks go to the Gabusi family, friends, and members of the club for all the hard work in organizing and running this new event.

## IDSF Open Latin

Comments By  
Bryan Watson

### Final

**Couple 14 (Steffano Di Filippo / Anna Melnikova) Italy**

Outstanding in this field. Likely candidates to bring the world title back to Italy,

A little too physical on this occasion, with dancers of this calibre it's not necessary.

**Couple 76 (Miha Vodichar / Nadiya Bychkova) Slovenia.**

Very naturally gifted couple both in talent and attributes. They have a physical volume which will one day be a major weapon in their armoury.

**Couple 87 (Oleksandr Kravchuk / Olessia Getsko) Ukraine**

Immaculately groomed and attention to detail, including the Leopard Skin Shoes. Make a impressive impression, but the attention to dance detail should be at the corresponding level otherwise it looks all dressed up with nowhere to go !!!

**Couple 61 (Dario Scuderi / Maria Mangione) Italy.**

No denying the young, dynamic talents. Small in stature, but this is proof d y n a m i t e comes in small packages.

Be careful to defuse the energy in the correct places or you could blow yourselves up.

### Semi Final

**Couple 6 (Yassine**

**Bouabdallah/Serena Cavedagna) Italy**

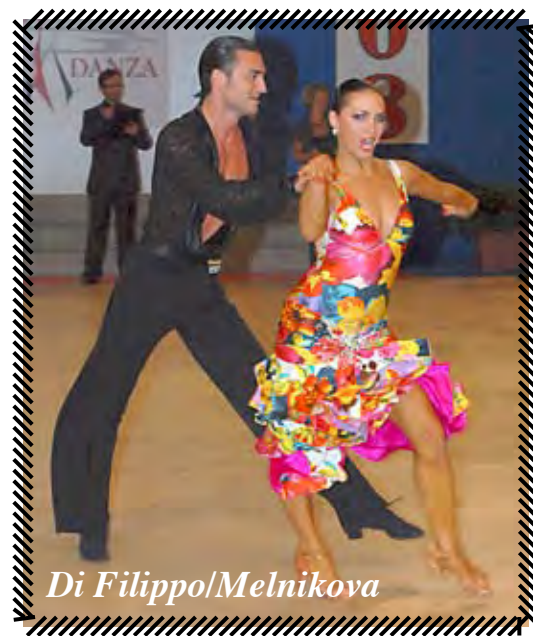
Nice feel for dance, seem to control the music, but be careful not to let the physicality take over !!

**Couple 64 (Salvatore Sinardi / Enza Gebbia) Italy**

Impressed by this young lady. Natural charisma both, but more clarification of timing both bodily and musically.

**Couple 49 (Dimitry Pakhomov / Alessandra Mason) Italy**

Tall couple would manage to keep the co-ordination through movement and music, very masculine verses feminine. Need more controlled variation of mood.



Di Filippo/Melnikova

**Couple 35 (Aniello Langella / Natalia Maidiuk) Italy**

Though usually, a classic performance which blows really hot and cold.

Because of the understated style they are not always as competitive as the rest of the field.

**Couple 27 (Ferdinando Iannaccone / Yulia Musikhina) Italy**

Definitely on the right track as we see lots of improvement with every outing.

Now need more maturity in every level from understanding the usage of fundamentals to grooming.

## Report and Photo's By Andrew Miller

This year saw the return to Cervia of one on the most popular competitions in the Italian Dance Calender.

After a break of two years and in a new format the competition returns with new organisers, Davide and Claudia Gabusi.

The event is now run over three days, with competitions in all grades from IDSF for the Amateurs, IPDSC events for the Professionals, and National events for ranking points.





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**Thank you to everyone who  
attended this year**

**See you in 2009  
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# 2008 CERVIA CHAMPIONSHIPS

*Langella/Maidiuk*



**Couple 68 (Luca Urso / Alessandra Tripoli) Italy**

Unfortunately came to my attention for the wrong reasons by showing total disregard for the music and each other, they obviously have to prioritise and curb the instinct to over dance and contain their excitement.

**Couple 79 (Jiri Hein / Lucia Krncanova) Slovenia**

This couple appear very grounded through nice use of weight from the feet up, nice to see especially from young man. This is an asset, which should be nourished and developed from your coaches / teachers, which would make you different from the rest.

**Couple 34 (Pasquale La Rocca / Veronica D'Asti) Italy**

Striking grooming from the lady which draws attention to the areas which unfortunately need to be prioritised i.e. leg usage. The young man displays the rare quality of body leads which can be very useful in Latin American dancing. Individual problems should be addressed as they portray a strong "couple" image.



*Iannaccone/Musikhina*



# IDSF Grand Slam Standard Championship in Irvine, California Embassy Ball

**Report by**  
**Oliver Wessell Therhorn**

**Photos by Park West**

With the exception of one couple all top couples of the World came to the USA to compete in this fantastic competition. The judges had a nightmare to pick just the right couples for the Semi-final. Only 12 Marks were allowed no matter what! It did not get any easier when it came to the decision of who should be in that final. And here I was very surprised for the first time this evening! When the Danish champions Emanuel Valeri / Tania Kehlet did not make the final and finished 7th I couldn't think of any reason. This couple had the most wonderful display of musicality throughout their dancing. Tania is arguably the best lady dancer in

the Amateur field today. A few of my colleagues were in the same state of shock as I was. Into the final and placed in this order were:

1. Paolo Bosco / Silvia Pitton. They danced with a lot of confidence throughout the comp. In the meantime they have a certain lightness which allows them to be relaxed where others start to struggle. I did not completely like their Viennese Waltz this time though on other occasions it had already impressed me. The Sway to the left on step 1 of a Natural Turn is hindering a free Swing! Worthy Winners.

2. Benedetto Ferruggia / Claudia Köhler  
Back to old form after Blackpool. Very reliable in all aspects. A little more risk towards emotions would be another step forward in the development. They were clear second in all five dances.

3. Marat Gimaev / Alina Basiuk  
There is a certain cleanness about their dancing. Nevertheless there are 2 things which I can't overlook: His topline is very fixed and too far back and Alina's feet are quite accidental in many places. Therefore I could not place them in the top 3.



**Ferruggia/Köhler**

to answer: unfortunately not too much in the technical department. Instead of musicality I see a certain aggression which scares me. This is not Ballroom Dancing as we want to see it! The Quickstep lives from cheap tricks and is constantly too fast! Yes I do think they are talented. We know that for some years now. It is time to do something with it.

My thank goes to Brian and Kristi McDonald and their team who do a wonderful job here in Irvine.

4. Federico di Toro / Jenny Favero  
They had quite a good night. I do see changes during a dance. From relaxed and pleasing to stressed and frantic. It is for me not consistent enough. But they seem to find now their own way and that is already very good.



**diToro/Favero**

5. Simone Segatori / Annette Sudol  
For me easy in the top three! This couple oozes musicality! As music is our reason for dancing it should be better rewarded. The sixth place in Foxtrot is a mystery to me. The Tango was fantastic. But I realized the marks were totally mixed. That couple will rise to the top sooner or later. There is no doubt.

6. Sergei / Olga Konovaltsev  
What can I say? I did not mark them into the final in any dance. As a judge I shall not judge who is talented but actually what is already there and comparable. And that is easy



**Gimaev/Basiuk**



**Bosco/Pitton**

# WDC meets with US Pro Competitors

WDC President, Donnie Burns MBE, and other WDC officials met with US professional competitors during the US Championships in a meeting called by the WDC.

The meeting was in response to an open letter of complaint from several US Pro competitors complaining of a lack of US adjudicators at recent WDC World Championships. This letter was originally published in Dance Beat World (edition 0708-1.pdf). This edition can still be downloaded from the web site: [www.dancebeatworld.com](http://www.dancebeatworld.com)

Currently the USA has sixteen (16) pro competitors registered with the WDC as competitors. Of those sixteen, ten were present at the USDC and could attend. However, the meeting was also opened to non-registered US pro competitors.

The USA currently has fifty-two (52) adjudicators registered with the WDC. Many were present at the USDC but were not invited to attend the meeting.

Mr. Paul Richardson, Vice President of the Competitors' Commission was also present and he has submitted the below report. Mr. Donnie Burns, also issued a report, but since much of it mirrors what Mr. Richardson says, we have not reprinted it here. You can, however, review Mr. Burns' report on the Dance Beat World web site: [www.dancebeatworld.com](http://www.dancebeatworld.com)

As of publication, Dance Beat has seen no official, certified minutes from the meeting.

## Competitors Commission Report

By Paul Richardson  
Vice Chairman –  
Competitors Commission

### WDC meeting with USA Competitors at USDC 2008

As Vice-Chairman of the Competitors Commission, I was invited to attend the meeting hosted by members of the WDC Presidium & Dance Sport Executive Board (DSEB). The meeting was held with USA competitors some of who are currently registered as International Competitors with the World Dance Council.

First, I would like to give an explanation of who the Competitors Commission is; we are a commission within the WDC that represent all Professional competitors registered and who hold competitor licenses with the WDC. The CC have 2 seats on the Dance Sport Executive Board which includes voting rights; we have been instrumental in protecting the rights of competitors for over 10 years. Our collective voice is heard and respected by the

many countries that are part of the World Dance Council.

The President of the WDC Mr. Donnie Burns MBE chaired the meeting. Other members of the WDC Presidium in attendance included Mr. Jack Rothweiler (V. President). The Honorary advisor to the WDC Mr. Martin Chiang was also in attendance along with members of the DSEB, Mr. Jerry Abrate & Mr. Sergey Ryupin.

The main subject of the meeting was the letter (previously printed in Dance Beat) authored by Mr. John Kimmins, which included the names of 5 prominent, US couples. This letter was a complaint that in the previous 2 years there had been no invitation from the WDC to the NDCA to nominate US judges for any World Championship events.

The President of the WDC (Mr. D. Burns MBE), stated at the meeting that even though the letter of complaint had not been officially sent to the WDC by the NDCA, nor through the Competitors official representatives (Competitors Commission), that due to the fact it had been published in the Dance Beat publication as an open letter, he felt it would be in the best interest to meet directly with the US competitors to hear their concerns and to explain to them the background of the situation between the NDCA and the WDC.

The following information was given:

1. A printed list was given to all competitors present detailing all World Championships since 1995 and showing the US judges that were selected for these championships. In total since 1995, there have been 56 out of a possible 70 US judges on WDC World Championships

2. There had been in the past, a rule that stated the top 3 placed couples in a World Championship would be entitled to a judge from their country on the next years World Championship. Apparently this rule was changed in recent years and according to the Dance Sport Committee minutes from the meeting concerned, the NDCA voted for the change to the rule.

3. That the Dance Sport Executive Board of the WDC and not the Presidium select the countries to be invited to send judges to a World Championships. It is then the Countries that choose and nominate the judges to be used. That is - The country selected can choose whichever qualified judge they wish.

4. The current rule for selecting the countries who nominate judges is:

Nomination of Adjudicator Countries

The DSEB will nominate the countries invited to submit adjudicators for Granted Title events a minimum of 12 months in advance. In each succeeding year the list of nominated countries will change by at least 30%. In addition it is a policy that, over the years as far as possible, all full member countries will be considered. The host country will be included in every instance. Official requests from the hosting country to the DSEB will receive consideration

5. It was stated that there had been US judges officiating at the 2 most recent WDC

World Pro-Am Championships in Argentina, and also Judges from the US judged at the German Open Championships 2006. 07, 08, where the selection of judges is done in partnership with the WDC presidium and the Organizers of the GOC.

An invitation was also extended to the President of the NDCA to judge in this years World Amateur League Championships in Paris. The invitation was declined.

6. Concern was expressed regarding the trade marking of World Championship Titles in America by a member of the NDCA.

7. Concern was also expressed at the selection criteria used by the NDCA in the way the

NDCA chose the judges when asked to nominate judges for a World Championship. It was agreed between the competitors and the WDC President that a letter from the WDC would be sent to the NDCA to seek clarification.

From the competitors present at the meeting, the question was asked why there had been no World Championships allocated to the USA recently, as the running of these events had been frequent in the past. Mr. Burns responded with the information that the NDCA had applied for the 2008 World Professional Latin Championships and had been defeated by Austria for the right to hold the event. Since then there have been no further applications made by the NDCA for World Title events.

The consensus of the competitors present was that they would like to see more US judges on World Championship panels. The US competitors also requested the re-introduction of the previously deleted rule of having the top 3 couples from a World Championships entitled to having a judge from their country represented on the next years Championship. Happily, from the Competitors Commission point of view, interest was also shown by the US competitors towards forming their own competitors group. This was met with approval by myself, representing the Competitors Commission, and also by the WDC officers present.

The Competitors Commission hopes that solutions can be found.

Footnote: Before sending this report to Dance Beat, it was circulated to the to as many of the competitors who were present at the meeting as possible. I did not have all of the competitors email addresses. This was done so that this report could be as accurate as possible. At the specific request of several competitors who attended the meeting, I have been asked to clarify the following:

(a): In regards to the WDC concerns about the Trade Marking of World Titles by a member of the NDCA: The NDCA have trademarked the title – World Pro-Am Championships, Arthur Murray International Inc. have trademarked the following: World Pro-Am Latin Championships, World Pro-Am Standard Championships, World Pro-Am Rhythm Championships, World Pro-Am Smooth Championships, World Professional Latin Championships, World Professional Standard Championships, World Professional Smooth Championships, World Professional Rhythm Championships. A search on [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) confirms these facts.

(b): In regards to the selection process used by the NDCA to nominate judges for a World Championship: It was thought by the WDC, that the President of the NDCA, at his sole discretion, selects the USA judge for World Championships. Other countries have nomination procedures where the members of the National Associations each nominate qualified Adjudicators and the result is decided by a democratic voting process.

## Coming Soon!

*New Zealand Championships - report and photos*

*More reports from Embassy Ball by Paul Beeton, Lorraine Barricchi*

*More reports from US Open by Adele Hyland, Forrest Vance*

*Reports from the Internationals*

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# US OPEN PROFESSIONAL STANDARD

**Report by  
Giampiero Giannico**

**1. Arunas Bizokas & Katusha**

Demidova - Very clean in every action tonight. Katusha always looks amazing on the floor and to me she is one of the best ladies out there.

2. Victor Fung & Anna Mikhed - I am glad that Victor has improved the quality of his feet and his musicality. I would suggest that Anna be aware of her right arm, sometimes it is too far back.

3. Mikhail Avdeev & Anastasia Muravyeva - I have seen these two dance better. Mikhail needs some more work on his posture and to be more clear in his leads. Anastasia sometimes anticipates the action and Mikhail therefore has to follow her, so control is lost.

4. Igor Litvinov & Yulia Ivleva - Recently they have improved a lot. They have very good foot and leg action but I would like to see more changes of speed.

5. Linas Korieva & Liene Apale - I see this pair getting better and better in every competition. I believe they have a great future. Well danced!

6. Urs Geisenhainer & Agnes Kazmierczak - Tonight I saw Urs alive again! I believe that he has the best musicality but can be very inconsistent. Tonight very well done!

**Geisenhainer/  
Kazmierczak**



**Bizokas/Demidova**



**Avdeev/Muravyeva**

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*photo by Park West*

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