

From the Editors

Welcome to the first issue of the OADA E-Newsletter. The purpose of this E-Newsletter is intended to replace the DanceScene magazine. Our mandate will be to produce the E-Newsletter on a quarterly basis and it will be posted on the OADA website as well as emailed to all active OADA members as long as we have your email address. If anyone wishes to receive the E-Newsletter in hard copy format, please inform us of your interest. The charge will be at a minimum cost to cover printing and postage and we have yet to determine the cost of subscription. Also, if you are interested in advertising your business with us, please let us know.

To continue this communication vehicle with our readers and members, we have temporarily agreed to take on the editor role. If anyone, or if you know of anyone, who may be interested in filling this position, please contact us immediately. The Editor will be working with a great team which consists of Stephen Kwong, Daniel Cheng, Candy Leung, Nixon Wu, Paulina Cheng and Margaret Law. We would like to thank the team for its assistance in making this first issue possible. Your opinions and comments regarding this first issue of the OADA E-Newsletter are most welcome. Readers are encouraged to submit articles, your dance experiences and photographs, etc. to help us make the E-Newsletter more attractive and interesting.

Have a great summer and see you all in September!!!!

Candy Leung & Paulina Cheng
Interim Co-Editors



3 Most Important Qualities in Competitive Standard Dancing



- * What are the most important concepts to strive for?
- * Do these priorities differ at the professional level vs syllabus level?
- * Why do basics matter?
- * Is the perspective the same for a man vs woman?

Ivan Lebedev & Ekaterina Fadeeva

... Continue on Page 4

President's Message

I would like to welcome everyone to our first issue of the Ontario Amateur Dancesport Association's E-Newsletter. We are trying this as an alternate to the DanceScene magazine.

I would like to thank Stephen Kwong for the logo which he has created for OADA, both on the new OADA jackets, as well as on our new membership

cards. I would also like to thank him for his contribution to this E-Newsletter. Also a special thank-you goes out to Candy Leung, Nixon Wu, Paulina Cheng, Daniel Cheng and Margaret Law for their contribution and co-production of this first E-Newsletter.

I would personally like to congratulate all of our competitors for their great success at the 2007 Canadian Closed Championships, held this year in Vancouver. Special congratulations go out to Anton Lebedev and Anna Borshch, Richard Tonizzo and Claire Hansen, Kamil Studenny and Katya Trubina, Alan Gilin and Anastasia Trutneva, Vlad Vynogradskyy and Katya Kerro, Anton Belyayev and Karolina Paliwoda, Winson Tam and Anna Nina Kus, and Patrick Rucinski and Ella Nusenbaum. All these couples will be representing us at Worlds throughout the year and I wish them all the best.

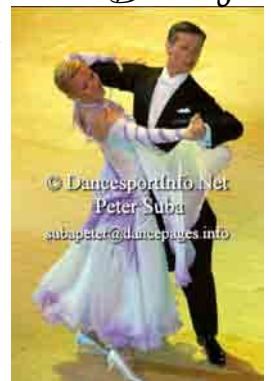


... Continue on Page 2

Maintain Partnership in Competitive Dancing

- * How would you define a successful partnership?
- * What other involvements would help a partnership grow?
- * How should a couple set their goals?
- * What are the human factors that affects a partnership?
- * When problems arise from a partnership, how should they handle it?

Alexandre Chalkevitch & Larissa Kerbel



... Continue on Page 3

New Oada members who joined us in June

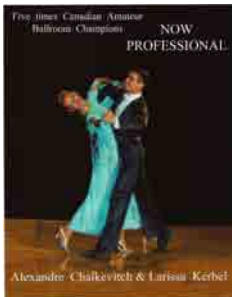
Bibikova, Regina	Maruyama, Fusako
Bobrovitsky, Timothy	Maruyama, Kyoichi
Cheung, Fred Ting	Ng, Hannah
Gynga, Elizabeth	Ng, May Wah
Ho, Robin Hon-Lau	RajaRam, Peter
Ho, Anne	Stanley, Elise
Lam, Eldon	Staroversky, Daniel
Leung, Eagle	Wong, Yee Kwan
	Zavadaska, Yuliya

Welcome aboard!

Other Interesting Topics:

- * 2007 Canadian Closed Amateur Dance Sport Championships Ontario Couples's Results and whom representing Canada at World Competitions
- * 2007 Canada Not Sanctioned by CDTA
- * List of Canada Sanctioned Competitions by CADA 2007-2008
- * New OADA Jackets

... Continue on Page 2 -- 4



Alexandre Chalkevitch
&
Larissa Kerbel

Partnership in Competitive Dancing

M : Margaret Law
L : Larissa Kerbel

M: How do partners find one another?

L: Through teachers; at competitions; through internet; at studio practices; advertise constantly that they are looking for partners etc. Once they find a potential partner, they should seriously discuss all the details concerning their expectations and goals of the partnership. They should exchange their ideas and resources and that would save a lot of time in the long run.

M: How would you define a successful partnership?

L: A successful partnership should have the same beliefs and stay on the same track. They agree on the same coaching; they share the same dedication and pattern of practice.

M: What other involvements would help a partnership grow?

L: They should keep up their personal relationship :ie. Spend more time together in gym; travel together, watch tapes on dancing together; think about dancing together etc...

M: You mentioned a successful partnership shares the same goal or beliefs. What exactly do you mean? How should a couple set their goals.

L: Let me give you a practical example: The couple should set a goal to make to the semi-final or the final in a certain competition. The successful couple should use their intelligence to analyse why they are lagging behind; they can achieve pretty much anything they want to if they stay on the right track.

M: We are only human. What are the human factors that affects a partnership?

L: We should always remember a dancer is a person and we should respect every dancer as a person. There are many dancers who feel that their partner is not good enough and they easily put the blame on their partner for failures.

M: When problems arise from a partnership, how should they handle it?

L: Mature couples should talk to each other and their coach; Their coach could help them find out the source of the problem :eg. if one partner puts more time on the practice than the other? Is there a difference in the goals?

M: What are the usual factors that would lead to the breakup of a partnership?

L: Blaming your partner for failures; lack of control of your emotions and words; eg. Instead of discussing, they use a negative approach such as screaming to communicate. Always remember to pick a positive way to say your opinions. Remember your partner usually takes criticisms from the teachers , but not from the partner. However when your partner criticizes you and you do it accordingly, you will always improve; it is better to talk about the problems than when there is no communication between the two.

M: How do you balance the dance partnership and the real personal life?

L: Dancing is the priority especially when it is your career.
The real life partner (if he is not your dance partner) should understand this.

List of Canada Sanctioned Competitions by CADA 2007 - 2008

Canada Dancesport --- September 21 - 22, 2007
Kingston Military Community Sports Centre, Kingston, Ontario
www.canadadancesport.com

Dansemania --- October 13, 2007
Drummondville, QC
www.aadsq.com

Wild Rose Ball --- October 20, 2007
Polish Canadian Cultural Centre, Calgary, AB
www.wildroseball.com

Ontario Open Amateur Championships --- October 27, 2007
Rameses Shrine Banquet Hall, North York, ON
www.ontariodancesport.com

Northern Lights Classic --- November 3, 2007
Polish Hall, 10960-104 Street, Edmonton, AB
www.dancesport Alberta.org/northernlights

Maple Leaf Classic 2007 --- November 4, 2007
Renaissance Parque Convention Centre, Toronto, ON
Contact: Tanya Cardinal - 905-763-9051

Dancesport for Charities --- December 1, 2007
Rameses Shrine Banquet Hall, North York, ON
Contact: Dave & Jenny Stokes - 905-319-8055

La Relance --- December 8, 2007
(To be determined)
www.aadsq.com

Pol-Can 2008, --- February 3, 2008
John Paul II Cultural Centre, Mississauga, ON
www.lechowia.ca

Dancesport Atlantic Qualifier, Sunday, --- February 3, 2008
Edgett International Dance Studio, Halifax, NS

Snowball Classic --- February 8-10th 2008,
Vancouver, BC: -DSBC CCC qualifier
www.snowballclassic.com.

La Classique Du Quebec --- February 14-16, 2008
Montreal, QC
www.laclassiqueduquebec.com

Ontario Closed Amateur Championships --- February 23, 2008
OADA - CCC Qualifier
Rameses Shrine Banquet Hall, North York, ON
www.ontariodancesport.com

Alberta Winter DanceSport Classic --- March 1, 2008
TELUS Convention Ctr, Calgary, AB
www.dancesport Alberta.org/awdc

Canadian Closed Championships --- March 21 - 22, 2008
World Trade & Convention Centre, Halifax, NS
www.dancesport.chebucto.org

Blue Silver Trophy Ball Competition --- April 5th, 2008
Rameses Shrine Hall, North York, ON
www.dancebluesilver.com

Crystal Leaf International Dancesport Championships --- April 18 - 19, 2008
Doubletree International Plaza Hotel, Toronto, ON
www.crystalleafinternational.com

Mississauga Open --- May 4, 2008
John Paul II Cultural Centre, Mississauga, ON
www.lechowia.ca

... Continue from Page 1 (President's Message)

When it comes to funding and financial assistance to help send our couples to World Championships, OADA has added an addition to our requirements:

Old Rule:

Rule 2.6 - In order to receive funding to Canadian or World Championships, a couple must have competed in a minimum of three (3) Ontario sanctioned events within the last twelve (12) month period prior to the Ontario Closed Championship qualifier of that year.

Exceptions:

1. New Partnership
2. Just graduated to Championship level
3. Just graduated to a new age level
4. If their age event was not offered in Ontario

Addition to - Rule 2.6 (i) – It is now expected that any current Ontario Canadian Champion attend the currently ran Canadian IDSF competitions throughout Canada, and if not possible to attend all, then it is compulsory that they attend the IDSF competitions held in their own Province of Ontario in order to receive any financial OADA funding.

Currently OADA has been awarding, (\$1,250/\$1,500 & \$750/\$500) over and above what CADA awards, to send our couples to Worlds, plus OADA gave money, in the amount of over \$7,700 to help fund our Ontario Closed Championships to the 2007 CCC in Vancouver.

For the up-coming 2008 CCC, to be held in Halifax, the new Senior age category of 55 and over (both couples) is being added, as well as, Senior 45, in both Standard and Latin Championships.

Please make sure you are aware of our postings on the OADA website of Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Competitions, being held in Canada, as well as outside of Canada. As a competitor it is your responsibility, not OADA's, to make sure that you only dance in recognized/sanctioned competitions. It is therefore also a requirement and it has always been, that if you plan to competing outside of Canada, that you officially notify OADA, as well as CADA before doing so. In some cases, you can only dance outside of Canada if you have CADA's permission to do so.

Important Notice:

Right now there are some competitions being held in the USA which you may be asked to join or hold a CDDSC membership before competing in. Remember, if you take out a CDDSC membership, as an amateur, you will no longer be allowed to compete in any other events being sanctioned by your own regional association or CADA, as we do not recognize the CDDSC, as they are now affiliated with IDU and IDSA. You do not want to lose your amateur status to compete, by entering, and competing, in an event which is not recognized/sanctioned by CADA, IDSF or your official regional association.

Some of your top teachers and judges have recently been told they can not judge at these USA competitions, by the organizers of these events, for example: Cherry Hills competition.

Please check the OADA website for the new OADA jackets and order them before the fall season starts.

See you at the next competition.

Gord Brittain
OADA President



Ontario Couples' Results & whom representing Canada at World competitions

- Adult Standard 1st Anton Lebedev & Anna Borshch, Moscow, Oct. 27/ 07
- Adult Standard 2nd Richard Tonizzo & Claire Hansen, Moscow, Oct. 27/07
- Adult Latin 1st Kamil Studenny & Kateryna Trubina, Lithuania, Dec. 8/ 07
- Adult 10-Dance 1st Anton Belyayev & Karolina Paliwoda. Tokyo, Oct. 20/ 07
- Youth Standard 1st Alan Gilin & Anastasia Trutneva , Italy, Sept. 22/ 07
- Youth Latin 1st Alan Gilin & Anastasia Trutneva, Finland, Jan. 27/ 08
- Youth Latin 2nd Vlad Vynogradskyy & Katya Kerro, Finland, Jan. 27 / 08
- Youth 10-Dance 1st Alan Gilin & Anastasia Trutneva, Singapore, Aug. 25 / 07
- Junior Standard 1st Winson Tam & Anna Nina Kus , Moscow, Apr. 7 / 07
- Junior Standard 2nd Patrick Rucinski & Ella Nusenbaum, Apr. 7 / 07
- Junior Latin 1st Winson Tam & Anna Nina Kus, Risa, Latvia, Dec.15/ 07
- Junior Latin 2nd Patrick Rucinski & Ella Nusenbaum, Latvia, Dec.15/07
- Junior 10-Dance 1st Winson Tam & Anna Nina Kus, Barcelona, Spain, June 30/ 07 (18 out of 34)

2007 Competitions Not Sanctioned by CADA

DATE	NAME	CITY	PRODUCTION
Sep 28-29, 2007	WDC, World Championship, World Dance Trophy	Centre Pierre Charbonneau, Montreal	Andrée, Aldor & Manon Grenier, Danielle & Alain Millette, Roger Picard & Yvon Quintal
Oct 6, 2007	CDTA Cup	Quebec	CDTA Quebec Section, Norman Côté
Oct 13, 2007	La Capitale du Canada	Ottawa, Ontario	Stéphane Sauvé
Oct 27,2007	L'Étoile d'Or	Quebec, Quebec	Normand Fortier & Johanne Falardeau
Nov 3,2007	Le Réseau	Longueuil, Quebec	Norman Côté
Nov 24,2007	Canadian Star	Hull, Quebec	Guylain Cyr

3 most important qualities to strive for in Competitive Standard Dancing

Ivan Lebedev & Ekaterina Fadeeva

OADA has the pleasure of speaking to Ivan Lebedev and Ekaterina Fadeeva on a variety of ballroom topics. One discussion surrounded the most important qualities to strive for in Competitive Standard Dancing.



© DancesportInfo Net
Peter Suba
subapeter@dancepages.info

D: What would you consider to be the 3 most important qualities that one should strive for in standard dancing, whether at the professional or syllabus level?

I: First, your picture or your frame. Second, your movement. Third, your musicality and how you breathe with the music.... not rushing, not delaying, and being on time. In general it's the quality of movements. Fourth, if I may, floorcraft and not bumping into other couples. It doesn't matter if you're dancing the same steps. You should change direction of movement when you see other couples coming, and you'll go to another direction.

D: For syllabus dancers, would you suggest going back to basics?

I: More like fundamentals such as a straight vertical spine. When you are stable in the position, you're much more stable in the direction. Other basics include correct action in your legs and body. Then, we can talk a little higher level and talk about swing and sway, presentation of the partner, and shapes, but this is at a higher level. In the beginning, I think you need to focus on the fundamentals, like the development of your base for dancing -- correct position, correct posture and frame, and correct use of your legs.

D: And for you, Ekaterina, what are your thoughts?

E: Do you mean what would I work on for a major competition? It does vary depending on where you are at your dancing at the moment. At times, your posture may be bad because you lost it over time. Or footwork may be lacking something. I think it's quite different. The things we work on for any competition is definitely keeping our heads in the outside position on our frame. For our body posture, we always want to make sure that we are proper alignment. Second, I would say weight transfer such as swing, sway, shaping, dynamics of the movement, and footwork as well. Third, I think proper dynamics between the partners/couple, making sure both partners are quite active everywhere. You can't have one person pushing and the other person waiting to be pushed. We constantly want to ensure both partners are doing their jobs and looking for a balance.

D: Would this be the same in the professional level as with the syllabus level?

E: No matter which level, we always come back to the base. The base is most important. And when we are preparing for a competition, as much as we're paying attention to details such as swing and sway, we are still emphasizing our posture. Posture is the first thing we see in both man and lady. Second is weight transfer and how coordinated are the man and woman towards each other, and the dynamics of the body transfer, and body lines. Third, I would look for lines especially at the lower levels. That is, lines you hold through your movement. But this is a bit different than posture for me. Posture is just the basics positions. But everything else is what you're maintaining throughout your dance. Eg. lines in the Throwaway Over-Sway, that everything is finished and not thrown.

D: And what about floorcraft?

E: Oh yes, floorcraft is Ivan's big topic!! In terms of partnership, it is so important. I really do like talking about floorcraft since it's so important the man knows what he is doing. As ladies, we have a huge responsibility to be on the lookout as well because if we are facing the line of dance (LOD), it's our job to warn our partner whether by hand signal or something. But floorcraft is a huge one, for example in Blackpool, I found that the majority of people have the worst floorcraft that I've ever seen in my life. The LOD is lost and people go across whichever way they want, whether back LOD or cutting floor right down the middle.

D: Is this coming from a woman's perspective?

E: No I don't think so. If we're talking in general about both partners, I don't think there can be a woman's or a man's perspective to that extent. But if you want me to talk about the man and the lady separately, that is certainly different. If so, I would like to see that the man is clear with his movements, and easy to follow in that, without words, the lady partner already know what he's going to do even before the figure. So the man has to indicate everything earlier through his swing, rotation, lowering and rising. Women dancers have to act as if we don't know anything. We have to teach the partner how to lead us. But at the same way, we have to be quite fast to react. It is the ladies' job to react within a millisecond. We cannot be passive. We must be active followers.

D: From a guy's perspective, knowing what the women's needs will make our jobs easier? ... such as giving proper signals?

E: I expect the ladies to do the same things as the men... to have the same knowledge as their partners for everything to work. I don't say the women have to be ignorant of the steps. I don't say the ladies do not need to know the techniques, movement or proper alignment. If anything, they must know it 101% more because sometimes it is harder to react. If the partner has some time to prepare, he knows the next movement but the woman only has a split second to follow that while keeping the proper movement and proper alignment. Both jobs are hard.

... Continue Part II on the next Issue

New Oada Jacket

Designed by Stephen Kyong

OADA jackets for Men and Women :

100% polyester twill outershell
Mesh lined body and lined sleeves
contrast Stitching with white piping
wind/water repellent soft, quiet outershell
adjustable Velcro cuffs
two front zippered pockets
OADA Logo on front left chest
Ontario/ Canada Logo on Back

Colors : Black/ Red
Sizes : S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL

OADA Jackets for Junior and Youth :

Same description as above
Sizes : S, M, L, XL

Price : CAD\$65.00+ shipping
extra CAD\$ 5.00 for personalized name to be embroidered onto right front chest.

Any Enquiries, Please call Margaret Law (416) 576-6683

