

REPORT by: John Lim, Hon Secretary, WDC-AAL

- DAY 1 - Royal Siam Cup Championships 2011
Saturday March 26, 2011,
- DAY 3 - Nong Nooch Garden & Resort, International Dance
Championships 2011
Monday March 28, 2011, Dance Championships

For the first time, WDC-Asian Amateur League (WDC-AAL) created a stir in the dancing scene in Thailand through two championships which were held in Bangkok on 26 and in Pattaya on 28 March 2011. These two events attracted participants from 14 countries, making them a tough act to follow. The incredible success of these two events is largely due to the commendable efforts and highly-infectious enthusiasm of our WDC-AAL Council Members and Vice-President, Director of Coaching, Mr. Uapan Snidvongs, the Organizer.

A panel of WDC International Licensed Adjudicators from England, Germany, Holland, China, Korea, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Sri-Lanka, Singapore, Malaysia and host country, Thailand were in attendance making these two competitions truly world-class events. The two events featured keen competition in a variety of categories such as Professionals, Amateurs, Seniors, Juniors, Juveniles in both Ballroom and Latin.

Day 1 - 26 March, 2011 (Saturday), The Royal Siam Cup Championships was held at the Grand Ballroom, American School of Bangkok, a 45-minute drive away from the official hotel venue, the Tawana Hotel, Bangkok. The competitors and adjudicators were shown great hospitality and the Championship events were conducted on time from 12.00 noon and lasted into the night without any hitches, As many as 200 couples from Denmark, Italy, China, Hong Kong, Chinese Taipei, Korea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and host country Thailand participated in this event. The Championships officially ended at 11.00 pm.

Day 2 - 27 March 2011 (Sunday) Participants (comprising competitors and adjudicators) and guests of the Organiser and Official Sponsor, Nong Nooch Garden & Resort, were given complimentary shuttle rides to the Championships venue, Nong Nooch Seaside Resort, about 2-hour drive from Bangkok.

Upon arrival at the Resort around noon, the participants were ushered into a waiting hall for allocation of rooms. Around 12.30 pm, the participants were served a mixed cuisine of Thai and Western fare at the Resort's dining restaurant for lunch. The participants were given a day off to rest and to recuperate from the grueling competition of the previous day. Complimentary tickets to a popular Thai elephant show were distributed to competitors. The participants also delighted in the Resort's beautiful surrounding flora.

Day 3 – 28 March 2011 (Monday), The Championships were held in two sessions the morning heats and the beginners and junior finals will begin at Resort Ballroom Hall from 10.00 am to 4 pm and much to the participants' & adjudicators surprise; the Organizer announced that the evening finals will be held outdoors at the Resort's Gardens with a specially laid dancing floor from 7.30pm to 11.30pm.

The participants were initially skeptical and worried about the possibility of rain. However, when night fell, the weather co-operated and the Resort host confidently ushered the participants to the outdoor venue complete with a dazzling display of fireworks and a live band in attendance. Truly, it was a grand experience that left a lasting impression on all who had the privilege to attend the event.

The evening Championships began with the introduction of Presidium Members from World Dance Council (WDC), The Honorable member, Mr. Karl Breuer, the Vice President, Mr. Marcel De Rijk and the Adjudicators. About 400 guests were treated to an eight-course Thai dinner in round-table settings. The evening proceeded smoothly with finals in various categories such as Professionals, Amateurs, Seniors and Juniors and eventually ended at 11.30 pm. At the end of the evening, participants and guests complimented and congratulated the Organizer for an unforgettable evening – which could have been aptly themed, **“Dancing under the Stars”**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Lim', is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

JOHN LIM
WDC-AAL Hon. Secretary