

## 15. Austrian Open Championships 2008 IDSF World Championship Standard

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The 15<sup>th</sup> Austrian Open Championships are history and we would like to thank all couples, adjudicators, coaches, representatives of the IDSF Member Bodies and guests for taking the opportunity of visiting Vienna and to compete in our competition. It is a great pleasure for us to welcome so many couples in Vienna and hope, that everybody had a great time.

Organizing the Austrian Open is meanwhile a never ending project. All our volunteers know "After the Austrian Open is before the Austrian Open". I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to all our helping hands. They all helped that the Austrian Open nowadays is accepted worldwide.

Everything has to be ready until Thursday, because Thursday evening is the first chance to try the floor in both halls in a practice session. From year to year more couples take this opportunity.



Lost of tables



delivery of beverages



Hall A



120 trophies



Hall B



loudspeakers



AOC-banner 40 m2



building up the lightening



ready to go!

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## 1<sup>st</sup> day: Friday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> 2008



Due to the increasing number of competing couples the different categories have to start on Friday morning. This year this were Youth Standard, IDSF Senior II Standard, Rising Star Latin, Junior I+II 6 dance, Juveniles 6 dance and IDSF Senior Latin. These categories gave already an overview of the dance spectrum itself.

Winner in the **IDSF Senior II Standard** was the couple from Austria **Walter Valenta and Irmtraud Maurer**. They showed a very good performance and followed their success after winning the 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the World Senior II Championship recently.

Valenta-Maurer

In the **Rising Star Latin** we could welcome much more competitors than the year before, 85 couples out of 19 nations appeared on the floor. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to **Roman Kovgan and Marina Sergeeva**.



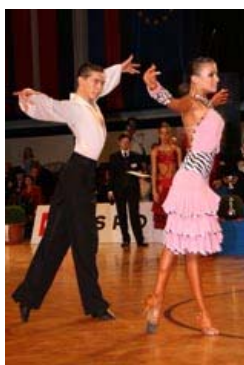
The **Senior Latin** title went to **Gwenael Lavigne and Stephanie Godet** from France.

Gwenael-Godet



Kovgan-Sergeeva

One of the highlights in every competition is the **Youth Standard**. You can only admire and appreciate the brilliant performances of these young couples. Winners of this event were **Jacek Jeschke and Wiktoria Wior** from Poland.



Jeschke-Wior



We were also happy about the huge number of competitors in the **Junior II 6 dance**. Five different nations were represented in the final. This proves the intensive work in the Junior section. This time a couple from Bulgaria was successful **Georgi Ganev and Veronika Gadzheva**.

Ganev-Gadzheva



In the Juvenile II 6 dance the young couples especially from the eastern countries dominated this category. In the final we could see couples from Russia and Romania. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to **Fedor Kozlov and Viktoria Trishina** from Russia.

Finalists Juveniles Kombination

## 2<sup>nd</sup> day : Saturday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> , 2008

Everybody was expecting the highlight of this evening, the **IDSF World Championship Standard**. According to the presold tickets we expected the tickets to be sold out. The hall was full packed, enthusiastic and great atmosphere for the couples. Fans from all abroad and the grateful Viennese audience gave the couples a tremendous welcome. Their performances were sensational and nobody wanted to be in the situation of the adjudicators to select couples for the final. The favorites of the night **Paolo Bosco and Silvia Pitton** danced "out of this world" and into the hearts of their fans. They very clearly became World Champions. There was only one question : how long will they stay with the amateurs. But in this moment full of happiness we could not expect any answer. In the last competitions there was often a fight for the 2<sup>nd</sup> place between two couples. This time **Benedetto Ferruggia and Claudia Köhler** from Germany were the lucky ones, followed by **Andrea Gighiarelli and Sara Andracchio (ITA)**

4. Marat Gimaev und Alina Basyuk

5. Simone Segatori und Annette Sudol

6. Emanuel Valeri und Sandra Kehlet



1. Bosco-Pitton (ITA)



2. Ferruggia-Köhler (GER)



3. Gighiarelli-Andracchio (ITA)



4. Gimaev-Basyuk (RUS)



5. Segatori-Sudol (GER)



6. Valeri-Kehlet (DEN)

Also on this night we saw the **IDSF International Open Latin**. 149 couples showed the other spectrum on DanceSport. Most of the top ranked couples did not find the way to



Vienna. Maybe due to the coming World Championship Latin in December. Didn't it fit into their time of preparation or are they afraid of being classified before? Whatsoever, the present couples had not been afraid of all this and were heartily welcomed by the enthusiastic audience. Winners of the Latin were **Zoran Plohl and Tatsiana Lahvinovich** (picture to the left) from Croatia, in 2<sup>nd</sup> position **Evgeny Imrekov and Elizaveta Divak, RUS**. 3<sup>rd</sup> also from Russia **Timur Imametdinov and Ekatarina**

**Nikolaeva.** In 4<sup>th</sup> place **Valentin Voronov and Alina Imrekova, RUS.** The Austrian couple **Zufar Zaripov and Anna Ludwig Tchemodourova** came into 5<sup>th</sup> position, followed by **Jevgeniy Suvorovs and Andrea Zelinkova, LIT.**



2. Imrekov-Divak (RUS)



3. Imametdinov-Nikolaeva (RUS)



4. Voronov-Imrekova (RUS)



5. Zaripov - Ludwig-Tchemodourova (AUT)



6. Suvorovs-Zelinkiva

In Hall E of Wiener Stadthalle was the day of the youngsters. Winners of the **Junior II Sta** were **Valts Liepnieks and Daniela Diure, LAT.**

In the **Junior I Latin Sergey Rozhkov and Marina Zakharova , RUS,** were the absolute favourites of the audience and the adjudicators. It was fantastic to watch their musicality, ability and talent. They could also win the Standard next day. This is a very promising couple for the future.

One more time the couple from Poland **Jacek Jeschke and Wiktoria Wior** could be successful, this time it was winning the **Rising Star Standard.**

Jeschke-Wior





Another category showing dancing on a very high level was the **IDSF Senior I Standard**. The reigning World Champions **Stefano Bernardini and Stefania Martellini, ITA**, could defend their first place, followed by the couple from Germany **Tassilo and Sabine Lax**.

Bernardini-Martinelli

Due to their impressive performance the Austrian couple **Michael Gmoser and Kerstin Gmoser-Danzer** reached the final. Austria was also represented in the Semifinal by **Roland Holub and Eleonore Gerl** and **Philipp and Sandra Kaufmann**.



Gmoser - Gmoser-Danzer



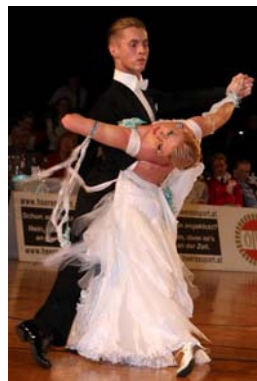
Holub-Gerl



Kaufmann-Kaufmann

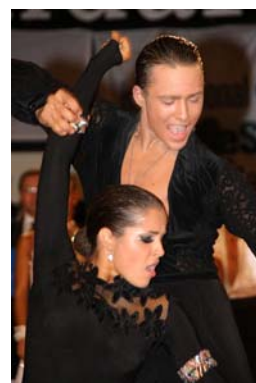
### 3<sup>rd</sup> day : Sunday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008

The main event of the day was the **IDSF International Open Standard**. It was nearly the highest number of entries in the history of the Standard competitions at the AOC, although the stars from last night took a break this night. The audience appreciated the performances of the couples and winners in the end of the day were **Luca Bussoletti and Tjasa Vulic** from Slovenia, followed by **Angelo Madonia, LAT**, . In 3<sup>rd</sup> position came **Ivan Novikov and Margarita Klimenko** , **RUS**. I am not quite sure whether they were satisfied with their placing, because they showed an excellent performance and could easily finish higher that evening. Also in the final in 4<sup>th</sup> position **Nikolai Darin and Ekatarina Fedotkina RUS**, 5<sup>th</sup> **Salvatore Todaro and Violeta Yaneva BUL**, 6<sup>th</sup> **Csaba Laszlo and Anna Mikes, HUN**. The Austrian couple **Roman Mayer and Siret Siilak** missed the final and finished 7<sup>th</sup>.



1. Bussoletti-Vulic (SLO) 2. Madonia-Samuilova (LAT) 3. Novikov-Klimenko (RUS) 7. Mayer-Siilak (AUT)

In the **Youth Latin** was an entry of 58 couples, remarkable the level of the couples from Latvia, three of them could make the final : 1<sup>st</sup> **Slavik Visniaskovs and Teresa Kizlo**, 2. **Rihards Eglitis and Elza Pole**, 4. **Andrey Semakin and Luiza Darzniece**. In 3<sup>rd</sup> place finished **Pavel Zvyhaynyy and Jaqueline Cavusoglu** from Germany.



Visniaskovs-Kizlo

The **Junior I and II Standard** saw the same winners as in the Latin section on Saturday: **Sergey Rozhkov and Marina Zakharova** and **Fedor Kozlov and Victoria Trishina** from Russia.

On Sunday there are always held two very traditional events: This year it was the **41<sup>st</sup> Viennese Waltz Competition**, open to everybody who enjoys to dance Viennese Waltz. Everybody has to wear normal dress, no competition dress. Since a few years the Viennese Waltz competition is open to competitors from all countries. Many of them take the chance. The government of Vienna City is very proud of this event and supports it by giving gold coins to the competitors reaching the final and semifinal. **Roman Mayer and Siret Siilak** could win the trophy **in memoriam Dir. Alfred Gruber** again this year.



Mayer-Siilak



HSV Zwölfaxing – Team A „Queen“

Of special interest for the audience proved to be the **Formation Latin**. 6 teams entered and the clear favourites this evening proved to be **Queen (Team A) HSV Zwölfaxing**. This team proved to be well prepared and ready for the coming World Championship in Wiener Neustadt.

After 3 days of very interesting competition dancing the organizers would like to thank there volunteers for their tremendous work they have done. They all worked together and helped to make the Austrian Open to the biggest event in Central Europe, well known and accepted all over the world. It is their effort, that our guests feel comfortable and welcome.

We also would like to thank all the competitors and their accompanies for their interest in our event and hope to meet again next year

**November 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009**

**The team of the Austrian Open Championships**