



Eric Engemann
Coordinator of Indoor Sports
Office: (225) 382-3571
eric@brasf.com
www.brasf.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Louisiana DanceSport to host 2009 Gumbo of Ballroom Weekend

10th Annual Event to feature USA Dance Gumbo DanceSport Championships and the Louisiana Challenge Pro-Am Competition

BATON ROUGE (June 24, 2009) – The 2009 Gumbo of Ballroom Weekend will once again take place June 26-28, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Executive Center in Baton Rouge, LA. The Gumbo of Ballroom event is organized by Louisiana DanceSport and hosted by the Louisiana Gumbo Chapter 5031 of USA Dance with the support of Saturday Night Ballroom. The 2008 edition of this prestigious event drew 315 dancers from around the country and continues to be one of the premier dance competitions in the South. Please see the attached schedule for a full listing of the events and times for the competition.

Louisiana DanceSport was established in order to promote ballroom dancing and to provide opportunities for amateur competitors to participate in both amateur and pro-am competitions at a reasonable cost. In partnership with the Louisiana Gumbo Chapter 5031 of USA Dance and Saturday Night Ballroom, the board of directors of Louisiana DanceSport is dedicated to the expansion of ballroom as a sport, as a hobby and as a means of socializing with friends. The intention of Louisiana DanceSport is to serve the state of Louisiana from Shreveport to Lake Charles, Monroe to Slidell, and all points in between in order to bring together dancers

BRASF, 2

who share a passion for ballroom dancing and to foster the education of young people in an activity that will last throughout their lives. *The vision and hope of Louisiana DanceSport is to eventually see ballroom practiced as a sport within our local schools.*

Additional information about the 2009 Gumbo of Ballroom weekend can be found at www.gumboofballroom.org. For more information about the Louisiana Gumbo Chapter 5031 and their organization please visit www.usadancegumbo.org. Saturday Night Ballroom can be found at www.saturdaynightballroom.org.

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Tentative Schedule of Events

Friday, June 26, 2009

- 11:00 am Doors open to ballroom
11:45 am Competitor Meeting
11:55 am Welcome comments
12:00 pm **Session I**
Am. Rhythm Syllabus, Novice Senior IV Rhythm, West Coast, Hustle, Salsa, 1st round of Bolero, 1st round Am. Six Dance
4:00 pm **Session II**
Am. Smooth Syllabus, Novice, Senior IV Smooth, 1st round Am. V. Waltz, 1st round Int. V. Waltz, 1st round Am. Six Dance, Argentine Tango, Cabaret, Theater Arts
7:00 pm End of competition
7:00 pm Workshops
9:00 pm Welcome Dance
10:30 pm End (Ballroom closes to spectators)

Ballroom is open for practice until 11:30pm (no music available)

Saturday, June 27, 2009

- 7:00 am Doors open to ballroom
8:00 am **Session III**
Int. Standard syllabus, Novice, Prechamp, 1st round Champ. Final Int. V Waltz
11:15 am **Session IV**
Am. Smooth Prechamp, 1st round Champ, Final Am. V Waltz
12:15 pm Break
12:45 pm **Session V**
Am. Rhythm Prechamp, 1st round Champ, Final Bolero
1:15 pm **Session VI**
Int. Latin syllabus, Novice, Prechamp, 1st round Champ, Paso

2:45 pm	<u>Session VII</u> Championship finals all dance divisions (except adult age group), Int. Ten Dance, Am. Nine Dance, Int. Seven Dance, Am. Six Dance
6:00 pm	End
6:15 pm	Hospitality Hour w/cash bar
7:15 pm	Banquet
9:00 pm	<u>Session VIII</u> Adult Championship Finals
9:30 pm	Dance
11:00 pm	Ballroom closes

Sunday, June 28, 2009 - The Louisiana Challenge

7:00 am	Doors open to ballroom
7:45 am	Competitor meeting
7:55 am	Welcome comments
8:00 am	Latin & Rhythm Single dance events first
12:30 pm	Standard & Smooth Single dance events first
5:30 pm	Competition ends.

NOTE: This schedule is tentative and times are approximate. Start and ending times may be adjusted based on the number of heats required.