



Disneyland Martial Arts Festival

(Filipino Martial Arts Division)

February 3 - 4, 2007

Disneyland Hotel

Anaheim, California

By Marc Lawrence

The 2007 Disney Martial Arts Festival featured Filipino Martial Arts for the first time this year. The Filipino Martial Arts division was organized and managed by the USFMAF. The USFMAF is the United States Filipino Martial Arts Federation. They are a new organization with a big vision. I attended the event as guest of the organization. The organization's president is Darren Tibon. He shared his vision with me and this being of one organization here in the US for all Filipino martial arts styles and Filipino martial arts groups to come together and participate in events together sharing in brotherhood.

On Saturday the seminars were held in one section of the Resort Center. There were a number of activities going on Saturday. The crowd was treated to an excellent demonstration by Master Dexter Labonog of BAHALANA Eskrima from Stockton, CA. He and his daughter did a very impressive Espada y Daga demonstration. Between the seminars there were several break-out sessions in groups were Filipino martial artists sharing techniques together. I personally had a most memorable and a great time crossing sticks with Guro Elrik Jundis who was a Jedi in Star Wars Episode 2. Angel Cabales son and Darren Tibon's son did a classic Serrada technique demonstration. However the highlight of the afternoon was Master Roger Agbulos of LAMACO. He did a great seminar on self defense techniques against knife. I found that most of the situational techniques were very practical.

While I was there I got meet a number of well known Filipino martial arts Masters and schools. Some of the groups that had people that came were Serrada Eskrima, BAHALANA Eskrima, Masellones Combative Self-Defense, World Modern Arnis Alliance, Pedoy's School of Eskrima LLC, and the Filipino National Police (PNP) team.

On Sunday the tournament started with form competitions and then went into kids sparring division. The sparring rules were different than most are use to. As Darren explained they had to consider safety for all of the competitors as the organization developed the rules. The padded sticks were provided by **SMAK Sticks**.

The sparring competition was done from two separate perspectives. One being that the padded stick was applied from a sword perspective. This means that the first one with a contact strike would be scored and their opposites would not be counted. Each time there was contact strike the players would stop and have to return to their marks and start again.

The other was from stick perspective. This was divided into two categories one being point based on the strikes and the other being continuous strikes. Marcial Chavez Jr. of the PNP made a great showing of his skill and took a first place in one of the divisions. The live stick event was held at the end of the day. It was full contact full gear sparring held on the point system style scoring.

Results:

Kids Forms

1st Place - Joshua Fabella - Chang's Martial Arts

2nd Place - Kayla Fabella - Chang's Martial Arts

Kids Padded - Point

1st Place - Joshua Fabella - Chang's Martial Arts

2nd Place - Kayla Fabella - Chang's Martial Arts

Mens Forms

1st Place - Mike Bowers - Kombatan Martial Arts Academy

Mens Lightweight Padded - Continuous

1st Place - Crennan Baker - MDT Training

2nd Place - Alvaro Cotroneo - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

Mens Lightweight Padded - Point

1st Place - Crennan Baker - MDT Training

2nd Place - Alvaro Cotroneo - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

Mens Middleweight Live Stick - Point

1st Place - Chez Tibon - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

2nd Place - Gelmar Cabales - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

3rd Place - Andrew Hunt - Kombatan Martial Arts Academy

Mens Middleweight Padded - Continuous

1st Place - Chez Tibon - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

2nd Place - Gelmar Cabales - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

3rd Place - Mike Bowers - Kombatan Martial Arts Academy

Mens Middleweight Padded - Point

1st Place - Chez Tibon - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

2nd Place - Gelmar Cabales - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

3rd Place - Andrew Hunt - Kombatan Martial Arts Academy

Mens Middleweight Double Stick - Point

1st Place - Andrew Hunt - Kombatan Martial Arts Academy

2nd Place - Mike Bowers - Kombatan Martial Arts Academy

3rd Place - Ron Carlbom - Kombatan Martial Arts Academy

Mens Heavyweight Live Stick - Continuous

1st Place - Steve Lawson - Filipino Combat Systems

2nd Place - Clint Wink - Filipino Combat Systems

3rd Place - Phillip Labatad - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

Mens Heavyweight Live Stick - Point

1st Place - Steve Lawson - Filipino Combat Systems

2nd Place - Clint Wink - Filipino Combat Systems

3rd Place - Nate Hill - Filipino Combat Systems

Mens Heavyweight Double Stick - Point

1st Place - Carlo Canezo - Filipino Combat Systems

2nd Place - Steve Lawson - Filipino Combat Systems

Mens Middleweight Overall Grand Champion

Chez Tibon - Angels Disciples Escrima Assn.

Mens Heavyweight Overall Grand Champion
Clint Wink - Filipino Combat Systems



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