



Newsletter of the American Sambo Association. Vol. 7, Number 2. March/April, 2009

Anniversary Issue!

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A Word from the President:

Greetings everyone,

Well, we have made it through six years! April 21st saw the sixth anniversary of the ASA! I want to personally thank each and every supporter and member for without you all, we would be nowhere today!

I also want to extend a heartfelt thanks to all the members of the ASA board and advisors. These guys spend countless hours on the phone listening to my nervous rants and have put in so much time and effort to help make all the ASA events we offer happen. They are an incredible bunch of folks!

We have lots of ASA and sambo news in this issue. Be sure to read through and mark your calendars. We have lots of training opportunities coming up!

Congrats to all the athletes who stepped on the mat since February. The ASA is placing its flag out there for all to see. Let's keep the ball rolling...great job everyone!

Sincerely,
Stephen Koepfer
ASA President

Sambo and ASA News:

- Travel Channel's "Dhani Tackles the Globe: Russian Sambo": May 18!

The ASA and our partner group in Russia, the FKE, have joined forces to assist the Travel Channel with filming on location in St. Petersburg, Russia!

The Travel Channel crew and host Dhani Jones (described below) spent 10 days filming Combat Sambo training at the FKE training center as well as the Suvorov Military Academy. We don't want to give away the scoop on the show, but rest assured this will be one of the best displays of Combat Sambo to come to American television.

Featured in the episode (which is scheduled to air in either the last week of May or first week of June) is NFL linebacker Dhani Jones, FKE Head Coach Alexander Barakov, NYCS Head Coach Stephen Koepfer and many others.

There are plenty of surprises to come as Dhani travels throughout St. Petersburg and trains Combat Sambo! How does Dhani do? Is he able to hang with the big boys in Russia? Tune in to the Travel Channel to find out! Learn more about the show at www.travelchannel.com



Stephen Koepfer demonstrating an armbar on the set of Dhani Tackles the Globe

- **1st Annual Renegade Freestyle Sambo Tournament.**

The first Annual Renegade Invitational Freestyle Sambo Tournament took place at Tiger Martial Arts in Levittown, Long Island on March 29. This tournament was an ASA member tournament and also the first ASA tournament to host a youth freestyle sambo division. Under the direction of ASA member Anthony Sansonetti (Team Renegade Coach) and Stephen Koepfer (ASA President), the tournament ran very smoothly and was a huge success. We hope to have more ASA member participation at our next event!

The following ASA members were in attendance:
 NY Combat Sambo, Team Renegade, Rosati Martial Arts, and Gladiator's Academy

Adult Division Results:

Open Weight (9 man bracket) - single elimination:

Gold: Doug Fournet- (96kg) (Gladiator's Academy)
 Silver: Bill Nobile - (96kg) (Renegade)
 Bronze: Vincent Beurrier - (60kg) (NYCS)

84kg/96kg combined division - double elimination (8 man bracket):

Gold: Jeremy Paiser (Renegade)
 Silver: Doug Fournet (Gladiator's Academy)
 Bronze: Bill Nobile (Renegade)

74kg Division (2 man/best of three)

Gold: Chuck Reina (NYCS)
 Silver: Ross Schneiderman (NYCS)

60kg Division - double elimination (4 man

bracket):

Gold: Mike Chesbro (NYCS)
 Silver: Ben Sayers (Renegade)
 Bronze: Vincent Beurrier (NYCS)

Tournament Stats:

25 total adult matches
 19 total submissions
 8 toe holds/ankle locks
 7 chokes
 3 armbars
 1 chest compression

We had lots of incredible submissions! Here are the fastest ones:

Fastest Submissions in order (under one minute):

- 1- :18 toe hold - Chuck Reina (NYCS) over Ross Schneiderman (NYCS)
- 2- :26 toe hold - Jeremy Paiser (Renegade) over Bill Nobile (Renegade)
- 3- :30 front gi choke - Doug Fournet (Gladiators) over Wilfried Verbauwen (Renegade)
- 4- :31 ankle lock - Doug Fournet (Gladiators) over Joe Fricione (Renegade)
- 5- :36 toe hold - Wilfried Verbauwen (Renegade) over Khari Russel (NYCS)
- 6- :40 triangle choke - Vincent Beurrier (NYCS) over Dan Kuhlmann (Renegade)
- 7- :45 front gi choke - Doug Fournet (Gladiators) over Bill Nobile (Renegade)
- 8- :46 toe hold - Mike Chesbro (NYCS) over Dan Kuhlmann (Renegade)
- 9- :54 front gi choke - Doug Fournet (Gladiators) over Bill Nobile (Renegade)
- 10- :56 ankle lock - Vincent Beurrier (NYCS) over Mike Chesbro (NYCS)
- 11- :58 triangle choke - Jeremy Paiser (Renegade) over Joe Fricione (Renegade)

Youth results:

Exhibition Matches

- Jeff Hili (Renegade) defeats John Hallman (Renegade) 4-3 in overtime
- Steven Dachel (Rosati) Defeats James McDermott (Rosati) 12-6
- Ryan Field (Renegade) defeats Chris Losak (Renegade) 4-3
- Nicky Unger (Rosati) defeats Nate Roth Rosati (Rosati) 12-6
- Matt Dixon (Renegade) defeats Terrence Connors (Renegade) 6-3
- Alex Unger (Rosati) defeats Paul Jaechel (Rosati)

12-3

- Samantha Canavan (Renegade) defeats Brittany Waunsch (Renegade) 6-3
- Daniel Kuhlmann (Renegade) defeats John Huller (Renegade) 2-0 in overtime

Children's lightweight division

- Frank Alexander (Renegade) 1st Place
- Zach Ricca (Renegade) 2nd Place
- Michael Losak (Renegade) 3rd Place
- Noah Roth Rosati (Rosati) 4th Place
- Dave Prago (Rosati) 5th place
- Brandon Moore (Rosati) 6th Place

- **ASA to be Sole Supplier of Hadjiev Reversible Sambo Kurtki ! 2 Weeks left to pre-order! Pre-orders are now open to non-ASA members!**

We know you have all been waiting patiently and the ASA is proud to announce that we has made an agreement with Hadjiev to be the first to provide their high quality Sambo jackets in the United States!

We have been compiling pre-orders from our ASA members and will **for the next two weeks only** be accepting non-member pre-orders at the low price of \$75 (plus\$5 shipping). These high quality reversible jackets will retail for \$100 plus S&H.

Bulgarian manufacturer Hadjiev produces very high quality Sambo gear and is also a supplier for the Japan Sambo Federation. For order information, please contact the ASA.

For an order form contact
americansamboassociation@att.net

Or call the ASA to place an order by phone at
718-728-8054

- **Remix Dojo is the new official ASA store!**
We are proud to announce that www.remixdojo.com is the new official ASA store. The store is run by Reilly Bodycomb and will also host videos, news, and other Remix Dojo brand products. Now, you can purchase all ASA merchandise on-line! So please be sure to check out the new Remix Dojo store.

- **2009 ASA Newsletter Publication Schedule.**

For the 2009 year, the ASA newsletter will be published bi-monthly. If you have news or articles to submit for the newsletter, you must have it to the ASA before the following publication deadlines:

June 15, August 15, October 15, December 15.

- **Chico Hernandez adds 2 more medals to his collection!**

Newark, New Jersey - Team Irish Member and long time sambist; James "Chico" Hernandez, 55 of Washburn, Maine won a pair of medals on April 5, at NAGA's World Championships (Expert Masters Division).

Hernandez won a Silver medal in the No-Gi competition. He lost to Neil Keegstra, of New Jersey 4-2. In the Gi competition; Hernandez won the Bronze by forfeit over his Polish opponent.

- **American Sambo Association Seminar Series Launched!**

In April the American Sambo Association launched its new seminar series with intensive seminars at **NY Combat Sambo** and **Seattle JuJitsu/Sea Town Sambo**. The ASA hopes to offer regularly scheduled training opportunities nationally at low cost though intensive training seminars at some of our ASA member clubs. We realize that many folks can't make it to our 4 day training camps and hope to generate more interest in Sambo through these smaller local training intensives. Here is a review from a BJJ practitioner who attended April's Leg Lock Intensive at NY Combat Sambo:

Going into the seminar, I wasn't exactly sure what to expect, other than instruction on leg locks. What I ended up getting was two and a half hours of extremely personalized and practical instruction. Mr. Koepfer came off immediately as friendly and interested in the material he was teaching, and this showed in his teaching style. The materials he showed were all unique (to me at least), interconnected, and above all, useful. Never did anything he showed throughout the seminar come off of as a novelty or impractical. I would highly recommend Stephen Koepfer to anyone interested in

sambo or no gi grappling. The materials covered will not be forgotten or discarded – Chris Montenegro.

Currently, **NY Combat Sambo**, **Sea Town Sambo**, and **Cummings Combat Sambo** will be offering regularly scheduled intensives. However, we expect more ASA member clubs to jump on board soon!

The next schedule intensives are:

Seattle, Washinton: Sea Town Sambo/Seattle JuJitsu, June 6th, 2009: **Leg Locks with Aaron Fields**. 11am – 3pm. \$20. For more information contact: www.seattle-jujutsu.org or batakhan@speakeasy.net

New York City: NY Combat Sambo, May 23rd, 2009. **Throwing Intensive with Stephen Koeper**. 3-5pm. \$50. To register contact www.nycombatsambo.com or americansamboassociation@att.net

Panama City, Florida: Cummings Combat Sambo. Dates coming soon.

- **Tough Times Training Program for those who have lost jobs!**

Three ASA member schools have developed programs to assist students during this tough economy.

NY Combat Sambo (Manhattan, NY) and **Cummings Combat Sambo** (Panama City, Florida) have established a program specifically for students who have been laid off from work. In this program students who show proof of having been laid off will be eligible to attend classes for free or for discounted tuition. **Seattle JuJitsu/Sea Town Sambo** (Seattle, Washington) has established a scholarship program with similar goals.

This program has extended beyond the ASA with **Gracie Barra Clearwater** (Florida) also offering a Tough Times Program.

For ASA school contact information, please visit www.samboschools.com

To contact Gracie Barra, visit: www.tampabjj.com

ASA Member News:

- **Welcome New ASA Members!**

Webster, Texas – Shaun McCrary is the program director of the YMCA and is looking to incorporate Sambo principles into the martial arts program at the YMCA. Shaun is an experienced martial artist who holds a 3rd degree black belt in Hapkido, a 1st dan in Kempo Jujitsu, and is a trainee instructor in ROSS. He has also trained in BJJ, JKD Concepts, and Krav Maga.

Davenport, Florida – Sixto Lopex is interested in adding Sambo to his arsenal and training regimen. He has trained Shoot Wrestling under George Schwartz and JuJitsu under Frank Raimondi.

- **NY Combat Sambo Brings 2 Grappling Medals in May!**

New York – NY Combat Sambo's Reilly Bodycomb brought home a gold medal from NAGA's Northeast Groundfighting Championships on May 2nd. Reilly won the expert lightweight division with two heel hooks against very tough competitors.

On May 3rd Tyga Maclin tore through his opponents in the NYC Submission Shootout II advanced lightweight division. This was a submission or draw event and Tyga won with 4 straight submissions (2 arm bars, 1 achilles lock, and 1 heel hook).

- **Cummings Combat Sambo makes waves in Florida!**

Florida – In April, students at Cummings Combat Sambo make showing at the Florida Grappling League 3rd Quarter Finals. Dominic Gaberleski (159 to 169lbs) scored two wins via Heel Hook and Knee Bar. Brenton Robinson (140 to 154.9 lbs) scored 2 wins via Kimura. Cameron Lahren (140 to 154.9 lbs) added 2 wins to his reume' via points and kimura. Carlos Cummings won the advanced Heavy Weight division (220 to 249lbs) via ankle lock and points.

Photo of the Month



Fedor vs Aoki exhibition Combat Sambo demonstration at the M1 Global/Affliction card – April, 2009.

To watch the exhibition visit:

http://www.mixfight.ru/multimedia/video/category/fights/2009/5/fedor_emelianenko_vs_shinya_aoki/

Upcoming 2009 Events:

- **May 16, 2009**
Kentucky State Wrestling/Sambo Tournament.
Louisville, KY.
Must be current USAW member. Youth and Adult divisions. Sport Sambo rules.
For more information contact:
Che.Founder@jefferson.kyschools.us
or call (502) 295- 6474
- **May 23, 2009. ASA Seminar Series**
Throwing Intensive Seminar. 3-5PM
Manhattan, NY, USA.
2 hour intensive seminar covering throwing techniques, counters, gripping, and throw to

submission. NY Combat Sambo. 10 person limit. \$50 per person. Gi top or kurtka required. To pre-register contact Stephen Koeper at americansamboassociation@att.net or www.nycombatsambo.com

- **June 6, 2009. ASA Seminar Series**
Leg Lock Intensive Seminar. 11am – 3pm
Seattle, WA, USA.
4 hour intensive seminar covering leg lock theory and application. Seattle Jujitsu. \$20 per person. To pre-register contact Aaron Fields at www.seattle-jujitsu.org or bata Khan@speakeasy.net
- **July 16-19, 2009.**
Without Limits Training Camp.
East Strousburg, PA, USA.
Instructors: Devon Cormak, Stephen Koeper, Tony Capraro. Kyokushin Karate, Combat Sambo, and Boxing. Four hard days of training and conditioning! This is a boot camp style event. Room and board included. For more information please contact Camp Director Tony Capraro at ck yokushin@aol.com or www.masoyamaskarate.com
- **August 15-15, 2009**
The Russian Approach to Fighting: Sambo, Systema, MMA Training Camp.
Montreal, Canada.
Instructors: Kris Iatskevich, Stephen Koeper, Eugene Shewchuk, and Kevin Secours. Two days covering principles leading to techniques for grappling, Combat Sambo, MMA and street defense. For camp and registration information please visit: <http://seminaraugust2009.bravehost.com/index.html>
- **September, 2009 (date/location pending)**
2009 Sambo Summit Training Camp
ASA Sponsored Event
- **October 3, 2009 (date to be confirmed)**
6th Annual North American Freestyle Sambo Championships. Rahway, New Jersey.
Contact americansamboassociation@att.net for more information