



Newsletter of the American Sambo Association. Vol. 9, No. 3&4. June - September, 2011

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## A Word from the President

Greetings everyone,

We have lots of news and info for our loyal readers in this issue. Whether you enjoy our newsletter to keep up with Sambo and ASA news, MMA news, or to keep tabs on national events, we have plenty for you!

Unbelievably, this past weekend saw the tenth anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks. Please take a moment to watch the attached short film "A Fighting Spirit" produced by Matthew Kaplowitz (The Fight Nerd) and directed by Kahleem Poole-Tejada. This moving tribute presents the stories of the NY MMA community ten years later.

Sincerely,  
Stephen Koepfer, ASA President

## "A Fighting Spirit" – NY MMA Community remembers 9-11

[www.thefightnerd.com/a-fighting-spirit-how-9-11-affected-the-ny-mma-community/](http://www.thefightnerd.com/a-fighting-spirit-how-9-11-affected-the-ny-mma-community/)

This Sunday marked the ten-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The way America looked at itself was altered immensely on that date, and a decade later the world is a very different place. Memories of panic and uncertainty are still present, but the urge to keep moving forward is even stronger.

In remembrance of this anniversary, TheFightNerd.com, has released an exclusive short-film that commemorates this event alongside the New York MMA community. "A Fighting Spirit" is a video memoir that interviews members of the NY martial arts community and discusses where they were when the Towers collapsed, how they have coped, and how New York and America have grown stronger.

Directed by Kahleem Poole-Tejada (director of the full-length documentary "New York MMA") and produced by Matthew Kaplowitz (Editor-in-Chief of TheFightNerd.com) in association with Ranger Up, the film takes viewers around a tour of downtown Manhattan and provides a glimpse inside several of New York City's top MMA gyms.

The film features many NY-based fighters, such as Renzo Gracie, Chris Weidman, Pete “Drago” Sell, and Vitor “Shaolin” Ribeiro, as well as Stephen Koepfer of “NY Combat Sambo”, Mark Yehia of “Elite Plus MMA,” Rob Constance of “The Renzo Gracie Academy” and President of the “Ultimate Absolute” grappling tournament, and Emilio Novoa, President of ADCC North America. Also appearing is UFC middleweight fighter Jorge Rivera, as well as Strikeforce middleweight Tim Kennedy, who adds the voices of members of the U.S. Armed Forces to this emotional piece.

## 2011 Texas Open Results

2011 Texas Open Freestyle Sambo and no-kurtka tournament, Austin, Texas. August 6, 2011.

### Freestyle Sambo Results:

66kg Division

- 1 - Richard Crenwelge - Monolith Training Center
- 2 – Jason Petit – Relson Gracie Academy

74kg Division

- 1 – Travis Joyner – Eclectic Combat Systems
- 2 – Enrique Limon - Guy Mezger’s Combat Club
- 3 – Michael Vermaelen – LA Boxing
- 4 – Greg Forrester - Guy Mezger’s Combat Club

84kg Division

- 1 – Doug Fournet - LA Boxing
- 2 – Elliot Wallace - Guy Mezger’s Combat Club
- 3 – Garrett Scott - Rubicon Fight Sport
- 4 – Nealy Jones - LA Boxing

96kg Division

- 1 – Marshall Leavoy - LA Boxing
- 2 – Henry Torres - Eclectic Combat Systems

+96kg Division

- 1 - Marshall Leavoy - LA Boxing
- 2 – Jason Hanson - Eclectic Combat Systems
- 3 – Eddie Sabillon - Eclectic Combat Systems

-Best Match Award: Doug Fournet vs. Elliot Wallace

-Fastest Submission Award: Marshall Leavoy, 17 second Achilles Lock

-Best Throw Award: Michael Vermaelen

-Dynamic Entry Award: Richard Crenwelge

### No Kurtka Results

66kg Division

- 1 - Jason Petit – Relson Gracie Academy
- 2 – Blair Johnson - Eclectic Combat Systems

74kg Division

- 1 – Travis Joyner - Eclectic Combat Systems
- 2 – Ferdinand Devera - Eclectic Combat Systems
- 3 – Ryan Morgan – TSB/Monolith Training Center
- 4 – Michael Vermaelen - LA Boxing

84kg Division

- 1 – Garrett Scott - Rubicon Fight Sport
- 2 – Elliot Wallace - Guy Mezger’s Combat Club
- 3 – Chris Kelly – Elite MMA

+96kg Division

- 1 - Marshall Leavoy - LA Boxing Baton Rouge
- 2 – Eddie Sabillon - Eclectic Combat Systems

-Best Match Award: Greg Forrester vs. Michael Vermaelen

-Fastest Submission Award: Michael Vermaelen, 18 second armbar

-Best Throw Award: Ferdinand Devera

### Statistics

Teams represented:

Guy Mezger’s Combat Club (Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas)  
Eclectic Combat Systems (Austin, Texas)  
LA Boxing Baton Rouge (Baton Rouge, Louisiana)  
Rubicon Fight Sport (Austin, Texas)  
Monolith Training Center (Austin, Texas)  
Elite MMA (Houston, Texas)  
Austin Submission Fighting (Austin, Texas)  
Relson Gracie Academy (Austin, Texas)  
TSB (Austin, Texas)

All divisions were single elimination with consolation bracket or round robin

Total matches: 85

Total submissions: 29

Officials:

Stephen Koepfer  
Reilly Bodycomb  
Pat Goode  
Grant Gilliam  
Marie Gilliam

Tournament Sponsors:

Eclectic Combat Systems (Organizer)

First Medical Response of Texas  
Furse Priority Printing and Design  
Harris Custom Blades  
Hearn Leather and Jewels

PRODUCER:  
Stephen Koepfer

DIRECTOR:  
Kahleem Poole-Tejada

## Welcome to Our Newest Members!

- Inger Schoelkopf, New Haven, Connecticut
- Mike Kirkland, Lake Park, Georgia
- Ron Dayley, Clarkesville, Tennessee

To learn more about the film, which premiered to critical acclaim at the Bronx Week Film Festival, please visit: [www.nymmafilm.com](http://www.nymmafilm.com)

## "New York Mixed Martial Arts" Documentary!



**New York Mixed Martial Arts**  
(Kahl One Film Productions & The Coalition to Legalize MMA in NY, 2011)

New York Mixed Martial Arts is an enthralling documentary that provides a back seat view of the grass roots struggle to legalize and regulate the professional sport of mixed martial arts (MMA) in New York State. New York is one of a handful of states in which MMA is still outlawed; sacrificing jobs and millions of dollars in revenue to neighboring states and countries since 1997. In his first feature length film, Kahleem Poole – Tejada presents an intimate account of the struggle to legalize MMA through the lens of one amateur combat Sambo fighter's (Bradley Desir) quest to turn professional under the guidance of his coach (Stephen Koepfer). Viewers are offered a rare glimpse behind the curtain of the political, sometimes frightening, and always exciting world of mixed martial arts.

### RAVE REVIEWS for New York Mixed Martial Arts!

*New York Mixed Martial Arts* shows the audience the fiery yet kind heart of the sport's culture and dares them not to like it.  
- Peter Lampasona, US Combat Sports

*This is an important piece of work, and every aspect of it works together to create a coherent piece of engaging story-telling that hooks you into this world and transforms the viewer from an outsider to an insider in the span of an hour.*  
-The Fight Nerd, thefightnerd.com

*It is a rare glimpse inside MMA, but it is a gem at the same time because it will open your eyes and help you understand that this sport is so much more than punches, kicks, and choke holds.*  
-Shawn Baran, TheGarv.com

*Thumbs up for New York Mixed Martial Arts documentary!*  
-Jim Genia, MMAConvert.com

*It's going to be a great ambassador for the legalization movement...they clearly debunk the no holds barred myth that is associated with the sport*  
-Beth Hurtle, Bloodyelbow.com

*New York Mixed Martial Arts* beautifully captures the essence of what it is to be an MMA fighter in New York.  
-Anil Melwani, MMA.us

## NY Combat Sambo Sponsors Darce Side Radio!

If you have not listened to the show, please do. They offer a fresh, young, fan driven, professionally show. This show has tons of promise and I don't often stand so strongly behind a product. They air live every Monday at 7-9pm. Catch them as a podcast on iTunes as well.



[www.blogtalkradio.com/thedarceside](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/thedarceside)

## Upcoming 2011 Sambo Seminars and Camps

**September 24, 2011:**

**Sambo Leg Lock Seminar with Reilly Bodycomb.**

Where: Toshido MMA - 510 Bay Ave., Kelowna, BC, Canada

When: Saturday, September 24th, (11am - 2pm)

Cost: \$75 per person

To reserve a spot: Contact David Lea at E-mail [davidklea@hotmail.com](mailto:davidklea@hotmail.com)

**September 25, 2011**

**Sport and Combat Sambo Seminar for Law Enforcement Officers. Southampton, PA**

Location: Yawara Force, 1300 Industrial Blvd, B-3. Mikhail Kozitskiy and Mikhail Jideliyov review throwing and grappling techniques as well as rules and officiating strategies. For more information, contact: [yawaraforce@gmail.com](mailto:yawaraforce@gmail.com) or call (267)939-3072.

**September 30 – October 1:**

**Two Day Seminar with Carlos Cummings**

### **Tulsa, Oklahoma**

Location: Xtreme Performance Center (XPC)/ Kamagon Fitness. [www.xpctulsa.com](http://www.xpctulsa.com)

Sept 30 6pm-8pm, Oct 1 10am-2pm

Cost: Pre-Register \$55. Same day, \$65

Contact: Brent Robinson 918.607.9590 or Xtreme Performance Center 918.994.6868

**October 21-23, 2011:**

**2011 Sambo Summit Training Camp - Seattle**

Location: Seattle JuJitsu/Sea Town Sambo

<http://www.seattle-jujitsu.org/>

Coaching staff: Gregg Humphreys, Aaron Fields, Doug Fournet, Stephen Koeper.

**Cost: \$300 before October 1<sup>st</sup>, \$400 after**

October 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact Stephen Koeper for

registration information: [samboinfo@yahoo.com](mailto:samboinfo@yahoo.com) or 718-728-8054

## Sambo Instructionals

[Digitsu presents "Sambo: Grip to Sub" with NY Combat Sambo head coach Stephen Koeper](#)



Your instructor and renowned authority on Sambo, Stephen Koeper, is the head coach of New York Combat Sambo. He has achieved the high honor of Master of Sport of Russia (Combat Sambo) and taught students at the Suvorov Military Academy and the FKE in St. Petersburg, Russia. Stephen served as a US team coach at the 70th Anniversary World Sambo Championships in 2008 and most

recently was featured on the Travel Channel program "Dhani Tackles the Globe."

Stephen walks you through the following:

- Grips often utilized in Sambo competitions.
- Four High percentage takedowns/throws stemming from the grip.
- Eight EFFECTIVE and PRACTICAL submissions from the takedowns/throws
- Many techniques contain LIVE examples from Sambo COMPETITIONS.
- Replays of each technique shown from multiple angles in slow motion.

Whether you are a Sambo practitioner, Catch Wrestler, Judoka or Brazilian Jiu Jitsu player, this series will help you EXPAND YOUR REPERTOIRE and take your skills to the next level!

Bring home **one of the most unique online instructional series you will ever own** – instantly – with Digitsu's online streaming video technology.

[Click here for a recent review of Grip to Sub](#)

Visit [www.digitsu.com](http://www.digitsu.com) to purchase this revolutionary series. **For a limited time only, readers of this newsletter will receive a 15% discount on their purchase! Use the ASA promo code: GTSeb14: (case sensitive)**

**[“Dynamic Entries!” With Team American Sambo member Reilly Bodycomb](#)**

This instructional DVD will show you some of the advanced flying and rolling attacks from the COMBAT SAMBO hand to hand fighting system

that can be used in competitive Mixed Martial Arts. Also covered are dynamic submission counters to kicks, re-counters against your opponent's attacks, as well as succinct and detailed lessons on leg locks and leg lock defenses. Join Reilly Bodycomb to learn these exciting, crowd pleasing, and extremely effective techniques to finish fights in the blink of an eye!

**For a limited time, purchase this DVD and receive 10% of an American Sambo Association membership!**

To purchase DYNAMIC ENTRIES, visit

[www.budovideos.com](http://www.budovideos.com)

## Support the “Coalition to Legalize Mixed Martial Arts in New York”



The **Coalition to Legalize Mixed Martial Arts in New York** is a non-partisan group of organizations, gyms, business owners, and individuals who volunteer to support the legalization and regulation of mixed martial arts in the state of New York.

For information about how you can help us, contact Stephen Koepfer at 718-728-8054 or e-mail [NYMMANOW@gmail.com](mailto:NYMMANOW@gmail.com)

Visit the coalition blog at:

<http://nymmanow.blogspot.com> or our facebook group!

## ASA and Sambo News

**June 16, 2011:** Travis Joyner of ASA pro member club brings home gold in the advanced no-gi grappling division of the Texas Police Games.

**July 17, 2011:** ASA Club FusBoxe student “Baby Face” Maureen Riordon wins by brutal GNP in 1:42 of round 2 at Colorado Kickdown.

**July 22, 2011:** Combat Sambo Champion Amagov makes victorious Strikeforce debut!  
Part 1:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djvo7zJybDs&feature=youtu.be>  
Part 2:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPNGm33jd00&feature=youtu.be>

**August 7, 2011:** Freestyle SAMBO Championship Logs Record 2011 in Austin, Texas.  
[http://uscombatsports.com/index.php?option=com\\_flexicontent&view=items&cid=236&id=9449&Itemid=326](http://uscombatsports.com/index.php?option=com_flexicontent&view=items&cid=236&id=9449&Itemid=326)

**August 8, 2011:** LA Boxing Scores Big at Freestyle Sambo Tourney.  
<http://laboxing.com/batonrouge/blog/2011/08/08/la-boxing-scores-big-at-freestyle-sambo-tourney/>

**August 12, 2011:** Putin ‘em Away: An Introduction to Sambo.  
<http://wrestlingroots.org/putin-em-away-an-introduction-to-sambo/>

**August 16, 2011:** Michael Sullivan – Supporting Women’s MMA.  
<http://mmameltdown.wordpress.com/2011/08/16/michael-sullivan-supporting-womens-mma/>

**August 22, 2011:** ASA Club FusBoxe student Shannon Culpepper wins her 2nd MMA fight in Ring of Fire.

**August 31, 2011:**  
Phoenix Alexius of New York Combat Sambo brings home a Judo gold from the World Police and Fireman’s Games.

**September 7, 2011:** Combat SAMBO by Bodycomb.  
<http://www.electriceceans.net/2011/09/combat-sambo-by-bodycomb/>

**October 22, 2011:**  
New York Combat Sambo’s Bradley “Feather Stone” Desir makes his pro MMA debut at the CFFC in Atlantic City! For tickets call 718-728-8054. Be sure to check out Brad’s fan page on Facebook!