



5th Annual WFMAA LABAN LARO TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 7, 2007

Embassy Suites Hotel

3225 158th Avenue SE

Bellevue, Washington 98008, USA

Mabuhay and Welcome!

The World Filipino Martial Arts Association is proud to present the 5th Annual WFMAA Laban Laro Tournament. This year's grand event will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Bellevue, Washington, the site of the 1st Expo & Laban Laro. Based on popular request, this year's tournament will include a new division for all instructors who wish to compete – **Guro Division**.

The Expo & Laban Laro event is comprised of several events held in three days – **Masters Seminar Series** (Friday/Saturday), **Luncheons** (Friday/Sunday), **Awards Banquet & Ceremony** (Saturday), and the **Laban Laro Tournament** (Sunday). This year's event will feature 10 Masters, representing a variety of the Filipino Combative Arts. Imagine spending 3 days with some of the top FMA instructors in the world. Train with them, learn from them, talk with them and dine with them. An additional dozen or more of previous featured instructors will also be there to join in the Brotherhood!

I invite your support and participation in one of the best Filipino Martial Arts event of the year!!! Having this many FMA masters and grandmasters in one room, in one building, in one weekend is already a success and history made. Take part and absolutely do not miss out!

The Laban Laro Tournament is open to all levels of experience and systems of Arnis, Kali and Eskrima. New students are highly encouraged to participate and experience a once in a lifetime event. You will not be disappointed. Instead, you will be inspired! Please review the following rules and become familiar with them before the tournament day. On behalf of the event staff, we welcome and wish you the best and good luck! See you at the 5th WFMAA Laban Laro!

Gumagalang (respectfully),

Punong Guro Myrlino P. Hufana
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General Rules

The tournament and event organizers, promoters and directors reserve the right to change and/or modify the rules as necessary in order to preserve the safety of the participants, tournament officials/staff and spectators. The WFMAA organizers and tournament officials reserve the right to reject any applications. The primary objective of this tournament is to promote excellent FMA in the spirit of good competition and brotherhood.

1. Code of Conduct

Honor, respect, and brotherhood are expected from all participants, coaches, instructors, tournament officials/staff and spectators. Inappropriate behavior and language (such as swearing, disrespect and unsolicited remarks) may result in immediate disqualification of match, and/or expulsion from event premises. You will be held responsible for your actions, and remember that you not only represent yourself. You represent your instructor, teammates, school and organization. You instructors, family, friends and guests will be present to witness the action-filled Laban Laro. Please lead by good example!

2. No Video Recording

There will be an official video crew to capture the actions throughout the events. The public, including participants, coaches and instructors, are not allowed to video record any of the tournament matches and events within the event premises. Violators will be escorted out the tournament area and penalty point(s) may be imposed on the associated participant or team.

3. Photography is allowed

The public, including participants, coaches and instructors, are allowed to photograph (still pictures only) any matches and any part of the events.

4. Pre-Registration Only

Participants must pre-register to compete. No late entries at the day of the event will be accepted. No exceptions. **Completed registration forms and payment in full must be received no later than September 15th.** Register early and save money! Registration details are available in the official WFMAA website www.Worldfma.com. Competitors MUST participate in the 3-days event (*WFMAA Expo & Laban Laro 2007*) to compete.

5. No Refunds, Non-Transferable and No Alternate Participants

There will be NO refunds issued for any payments received. No exceptions. Completed and paid registrations will NOT be transferable. Registered participants cannot have an alternate or fill-in if they are no-show or late reporting to their division(s). Your name will be called and announced three times (3x) during division roll call. Please be prepared.

Tournament Rules

6. Check-In

Participants **MUST** report and be physically present during roll call of divisions. It is highly advisable to be ready with all your sparring gears 15 minutes prior to the start of your division. Penalty points may be imposed if you are late and not ready for your match.

7. Weigh-in

Please make sure to indicate your current weight as of the date you submit your registration form. Weigh-In is not mandatory at day of tournament; however it may be necessary if there is a discrepancy to confirm weight prior to your match. Please check the tournament divisions section for your proper weight class.

8. Mandatory Uniforms / Dress Code

All competitors **MUST** wear compete uniforms representative of your school or organization. Uniforms (pants, shorts and shirts) **MUST** have your logo or symbol of your school or organization. Competitors without complete uniforms will not be allowed to compete and will be disqualified.

9. Filipino Martial Arts Stick-Fighting Tournament

This is a Filipino Stick Fighting tournament. Scoring of points will be determined by the contact made by the weapon(s) only. Only WFMAA endorsed or sponsored tournament weaponry will be allowed for competition. Official WFMAA Laban Laro weapon will be supplied. Other required safety equipments, as specified in this manual, must be provided by you.

10. Scoring

All matches will be judged by 2 side judges and 1 center referee. Points are awarded for strikes that have good, clean technique, power and accuracy. The side judges will utilize *clickers* to score points. For fairness of scoring, judges will be moving around for better viewing of the fighters. There will be two (2) 1-minute rounds. Most accumulated points will determine the winner after 2 rounds. Overtime of 30 seconds may be used if there is a draw after 2 rounds. The center referee will be the only person in the ring that can give penalty, deduct points, or stop the fight.

1 POINT will be awarded for the following Legal Target areas:

- Clean strikes to front, side, or top of headgear (*no striking to the unprotected neck areas*)
- Clean strikes to weapon hand or arm
- Clean strikes to empty hand or arm
- Clean strikes to front and side of body, shoulders (*no striking to kidney areas or back*)
- Clean strikes to thighs, knees and shins
- **You have 2 seconds to strike AFTER a player drops his weapon**

Penalties, point deductions and disqualifications

Center Referee may give “verbal warning” for the first non-flagrant and non-dangerous actions, such as running out of the ring or attempted strikes to illegal targets. Other than these verbal warnings, the following penalties will be imposed.

Three penalties and you're out!

- Penalties may include, but not limited to the following:
 - i. Foul or illegal target
 - ii. Continually running out of the ring
 - iii. Continued disregard of the referee's instructions or commands
 - iv. Repeated disregard for safety (blatant, malicious, dangerous and flagrant actions)
 - **1st penalty call = 1 point deduction**
 - **2nd penalty call = 3 points deduction**
 - **3rd penalty call = Disqualification**

11. Fight Time

Each match will run for 2 rounds (1 minute each round). NO TIME OUTS – No time outs will be called by the competitor or coach. Center Referee can only stop time. There will be 30 seconds between each round (this is the only time for competitors to receive coaching instructions). In case of draw after 2 rounds, **OVERTIME** will be utilized by the center referee. Overtime is 30 seconds. The stop-watch will continue unless center referee stops time for the following reasons.

- Injury of player(s) in the match
- Issuance of warning or deduction of points
- Replacement of broken weapon

12. Legal Targets

- Clean strikes to front, side, or top of headgear (*no striking to the unprotected neck areas*)
- Clean strikes to weapon hand or arm
- Clean strikes to empty hand or arm
- Clean strikes to front and side of body, shoulders (*no striking to kidney areas or back*)
- Clean strikes to thighs, knees and shins
- You CAN use open hand jab ONLY if followed by a stick strike, otherwise 1 point penalty will be imposed (*no boxing*)
- **You have 2 seconds to strike AFTER a player drops his weapon**

13. Illegal Targets & Prohibited Moves

- NO Boxing, punching, kicking or kneeing
- NO Grappling or Wrestling
- NO Throwing, takedowns or foot sweeps
- NO Thrusting to the neck areas
- NO Groin strikes or Head-butting
- NO Strikes to the back of the neck and head, and back of body
- NO Strikes to ankles and feet
- NO holding of stick or any part of the opponent's body
- NO Use of foul or inappropriate language

14. Required Sparring Safety Gears

- **All Competitors must supply their own safety gears**
- WEKAF or LAMECO type headgear only (*must be in good condition; will be checked by center referee*)
- Street hockey or La Crosse gloves (*wrist, hands and fingers must be covered and padded*)
- Street hockey knee pads or cloth/foam pads (*must cover knee areas only; not to cover shin or lower thigh*)
- Athletic groin cup and supporter for men/boys

Optional Safety Protections

- WEKAF full body protector or chest protectors will only be allowed for the women's divisions (*both competitors MUST wear them if agreed*)
- Elbow pads to cover ONLY the elbow and not the forearm or upper arm area
- Mouthpiece for all competitors

15. Required Safety Inspections

Safety inspections by the center referee will be done before each match. Please have the required safety sparring gear ready when you enter the ring.

16. Tournament Awards

Awards (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) will be presented immediately at the conclusion of all matches.

Tournament Divisions

TEENS DIVISION – Single Stick (PG Stick, padded rattan stick)

- **Ages 13 – 15**
 - **Lightweight** (less than 115 lbs)
 - **Middleweight** (116 – 135 lbs)
 - **Heavyweight** (136 + lbs)
- **Ages 16 – 17**
 - **Lightweight** (less than 125 lbs)
 - **Middleweight** (126 – 145 lbs)
 - **Heavyweight** (146 + lbs)

WOMENS DIVISION Single Stick (PG Stick, padded rattan stick)

- **Ages 18 - 39**
 - **Lightweight** (less than 115 lbs)
 - **Middleweight** (116 – 135 lbs)
 - **Heavyweight** (136 + lbs)

MENS DIVISION Single Stick (PG Stick, padded rattan stick)

- **MENS Ages 18 – 39**
 - **Beginners** (less than 2 year experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Intermediate** (2 – 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Advance** (over 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
- **SENIORS Ages 40 – 49**
 - **Beginners** (less than 2 year experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Intermediate** (2 – 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Advance** (over 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)

- **VIP Ages 50 +**
 - **Beginners** (less than 2 year experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Intermediate** (2 – 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Advance** (over 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)

GURO DIVISION Single Stick (PG Stick, padded rattan stick)

- **Certified Instructors Only; Grandmasters NOT allowed**
 - Light Weight (185 lbs and less)
 - Heavy Weight (186 lbs +)

MENS Double Sticks (PG Stick, padded rattan stick)

- **Ages 18 +**
 - **Advance Only** (over 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)

TEAM DIVISION Single Stick (PG Stick, padded rattan stick)

- **Ages 18 +**
 - **Intermediate - Advance Only** (over 2 years experience)
 - 3 Members in a team
 - Men & Women
 - Open weight class

MENS LIVE STICK 28" Rattan Stick

- **Ages 18 +**
 - **Advance Only** (over 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)

Each division is limited to a maximum of 12 competitors

Divisions may be further divided by weight, depending on the number of competitors. Only one winner will be declared for each division.

Tournament Officials

Certified Judges & Referees

Tournament Judges, Referees and Staff will be required to attend a special training, certification, and re-certification directed by Master Ariel F. Mosses (*Tournament Director*) and Punong Guro Myrlino P. Hufana.

Tournament Staff (Ring Timers and Scorekeepers)

The tournament staff will make up of an all-volunteer team. The staff will also have training in the ring procedures and tournament rules.

Ring Etiquette

Please do not direct your complaints to the tournament staff (*timers and scorekeepers*) before, during or after the matches. Competitors and coaches must direct their questions or issues to the center referee immediately, before the match is completed. Complaints or issues received AFTER the completed match will not change any decisions made by the judges and referees.

Maraming Salamat Po!

WFMAA would like to extend our gratitude for your support and participation. Everyone involved in the making of the WFMAA Laban Laro contributes to the quality and overall success. Thank you very much for your continued support!

WFMAA Laban Laro Tournament Directors

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