

## 2009 LI-NING Pacific Rim Open

For the past 21 years the Pacific Rim Open has been the premier tournament in the Northwest for fans of table tennis. The reason for this is the high level of players who show up to compete. Among our 195 entrants, we had a quintet of top Californians, including the young phenom Erica Wu. From Colorado there were Yahao Zhang, his coach Francisco Mendez, and Angelo Gandullia. The popular Ernesto Ebuén from New York and the player who created the most excitement Yi Yong Fan, "number one", who hadn't played at the PacRim since 2005. In addition to these luminaries, there were strong players from Alaska, Hawaii, Vancouver BC, Washington State, and Oregon.

After two days of great matches, the Women Semis were on deck and it was Ge Jie Mai vs Erica Wu and JiaQi Zheng vs our local Coach, Simone Yang. Erica went down 6,9,8 while Simone put up more resistance with -8,9,7,5. In the Women's finals JiaQi seem to have Ge Jie's number as she comfortably prevailed 6,8,-6,8. As a precursor to the Open Singles Semis, Jason Shim had a well earned win over Yahao Zhang in the under 2500. As a local favorite, there was a lot of cheering for Jason. First up in the Open Semis was Ernesto Ebuén vs Weijian Zhang. After winning the first two games, it looked like Weijian would skate to the finals, and then Ernesto came back and evened the score. Ernesto hung tough but got closed out in the sixth at 10. 6,6,-9,-6,7,10 The Fan/Du match was a fitting prequel to the finals. That Du won out, 9,-4,-7,11,4,-5,8, was a testament to his youth and training. The finals demonstrated the higher levels these two players have attained and how equally matched they were. It was action packed nail biter that went the full seven with Weijian prevailing at 11,-9,9,-7,-9,8,6.

At the end of the day we got to witness some great matches, and for the fans, that's why they keep coming back year after year.

A lot of help and support is needed for a tournament of this magnitude. Fortunately for the Portland Table Tennis Club, it was forthcoming. Linda Hsing, our Referee, David Del Vecchio, Head Umpire and Zermelo Expert, along with Sean O'Neill all contributed to keep the matches moving smoothly. As usual, Bruce, Judy, Linda, and Paige did the heavy lifting moving the tables to and from the venue. The above crew, along with Anna Kim also did a great job processing the entrants. I also want to thank the kids, Ruby, Will, Nagini, Mary, and Terrance. They really made the work easier for us. Finally as our main sponsor, we have Li-Ning to thank for the great DHS tables we got to play on. Their reps Nicole and Bria helped facilitate and expedite the acquisitions.

<b>Event Name</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>	<b>3rd &amp; 4th</b>
Open Singles	Weijian Zhang	Cheng Yi Du	Yi Yong Fan & Ernesto Ebuena
Women's Singles	JiaQi Zheng	Ge Jie Mai	Simone Yang & Erica Wu
Open Doubles	Weijian Zhang & JiaQi Zheng	Yi Yong Fan & Ernesto Ebuena	
Mixed Doubles	Weijian Zhang & JiaQi Zheng	Cheng Yi Du & Ge Jie Mai	
Under 2500 Singles	Jason Shim	Yahao Zhang	
Under 2300 Singles	Vuckman Soskic	Teddy Wu	
Under 2100 Singles	Sam Lin	Michael Boye Wang	
Under 1900 Singles	Angelo Gandullia	Man Ng Yan	
Under 1700 Singles	Hao Lin	Jacob Andrew	
Under 1550 Singles	Bob Van Slyke	Jason Yi	
Under 1400 Singles	Edward Kuo	Michelle Liaw	
Under 1250 Singles	Luis (He) Luo	Shubham Chopra	
Under 1100 Singles	Paul Himes	Wayne Steffens	
Under 900 Singles	Alberto Redondo	Jem Chen	
Under 700 Singles	Elisei Parpalov	Jia Q Chen	
Under 500 Singles	Ivy Liao	John Goestch	
Under 300 Singles	Ivy Liao	Andrew Bai	
Under 2400 Doubles	Will Potter & Nagini Reddy	Matthew Barnes & Dave Laetzsch	
Under 3200 Doubles	James Hermann & Brian Yoder	Yul Lee & Jason Yi	
Under 4000 Doubles	Joe Law & Edward Kuo	Rick Livermore & Harry Oda	
Under 13 Singles	Natasha Carr-Harris	Frank Liao	
Under 15 Singles	Lester Lee	Sahl Ali	
Under 18 Singles	Yahao Zhang	Erica Wu	
Under 21 Singles	Yahao Zhang	Teddy Wu	
Over 40 Singles	Vuckman Soskic	John P Ochsner	
Over 50 Singles	Karl Augestad	Ashok Kabadi	
Over 60 Singles	Michael Cheung	Howard Grossman	
Over 70 Singles	Howard Grossman	Eric Chen	