

Filipino Martial Arts

Doce Pares Multi-System Style

Digest

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We solicit comments and/or suggestions. Articles are also welcome.

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From the Publishers Desk

Kumusta

In this Special Edition with the help of Marc Lawrence the FMA Digest brings to you the reader the history and background and practitioners of Doce Pares Multi-Style System.

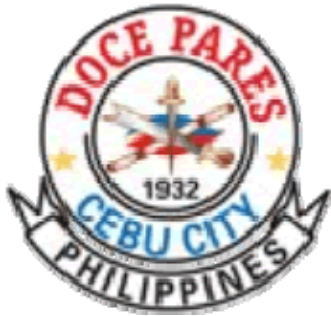
In early 1970, Eulogio Cañete, the President of Doce Pares commissioned his son Diony Canete to study, prepare and formulate a program of instruction that would cover and comprehend all the component styles of Doce Pares. The specific objective was to come up with a training curriculum that would give equal treatment and prominence to all the original styles and by all means to afford due honors and recognition to all the founding advocates. Hence, came about the birth of the "Multi-Style" system of Doce Pares.

The FMA Digest would like to thank Keith Gilliland, who wrote the article on Grandmaster Danny Guba and Steven Wolk who wrote the article on Master Arnulfo "Dong" Cuesta, for their patience in waiting for this Special Edition so their articles could be published in it.

The FMA Digest also thanks Grandmaster Dionisio A. Cañete and Doce Pares International World Headquarters, and the Multi-Style practitioners for permission and contributions.

So read, enjoy and hopefully you will learn something that you may not have known before.

Maraming Salamat Po



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Introduction

What is the Doce Pares Multi-System Style



For many years and even up to the present people are still confused about the real Doce Pares system. This is only understandable because while the system is a conglomeration of various styles as introduced by the founding masters in 1932, there are many instructors and masters today who only teach a specific style of any one of the original masters. All the founding masters had their own set of followers and the students who chose not to study and cross-train in other styles naturally learned only the particular style of their own teacher.

Doce Pares was a virtual supermarket of Eskrima styles, hence, there's the Larga Mano of Eulogio Cañete; the Espada y Daga of Felimon Cañete and Jesus Cui; the Corto Linear of Teodoro Saavedra and later on of Venancio Bacon, Delfin Lopez and Timoteo Maranga; the Corto Orihinal and Media Largo of Felimon and Iluminado Cañete; the Hirada and Retirada of Vicente Carin and Ponciano Ybañez; the Mano-Mano and Baraw of Maximo Cañete and Jesus Cui; the Corto Kurbada and Abaniko of Ciriaco and Felimon Cañete respectively.

Thus there are many masters today who only teach and promote one particular style and yet can validly claim to belong to Doce Pares family.

It was in early 1970 when Diony Canete was commissioned by his father Eulogio Cañete, the President of Doce Pares to study, prepare and formulate a program of instruction that would cover and comprehend all the component styles. The specific objective was to come up with a training curriculum that would give equal treatment and prominence to all the original styles and by all means to afford due honors and recognition to all the founding advocates. Hence the birth of the "Multi-Style" system which very much set well with Grandmaster Diony as he and his three elder brothers were among the very few who were fortunate to have learned all the original styles as brought into and introduced by the founding masters when Doce Pares was formed in 1932.

The components styles of the "Multi-Style" are:

The three styles of Corto (Close Range)

- Corto Linear (the traditional linear striking or a blade oriented type of striking)
- Corto Kurbada (the wrist-twisting or snap-wrist, curving strike)
- Corto Orihinal (featuring low, deep bent knee and wide stance which highly characterized the original Doce Pares close range style)

Media Largo (Medium Range)

Larga Mano (Long Range)

Espada y Daga (Short & Long Stick or Stick Dagger)

Baraw (Knife Fighting Techniques)

Mano-Mano (Open Hand Fighting)

- Sumbag-Patid (Punch and Kick)
- Lubag-Torsi (Locks and Immobilization)
- Layog-Dumog (Takedown and Grappling)
- Doble Olisi (Double Stick)

Specialized Subjects:

- Eskrido
- Sinawali
- Tapi-Tapi (Alive Hand)
- Sayaw/Karanza (Forms)

All the above subjects are incorporated under the comprehensive 5-year training curriculum of the Doce Pares "Multi-Style" system. The program is taught only in schools authorized by Doce Pares International, the original Doce Pares organization and only one recognized by the government of the Republic of the Philippines, duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as Doce Pares Incorporated under Registration Certificate No. 1373.



All Doce Pares Incorporated schools can readily be identified through the seat and logo which bear the original sign of Doce Pares, but more significant is their 5-year “Multi-System” program of instruction only through the Doce Pares Incorporated schools can one learn all the original styles of the founding Masters of Doce Pares.

Source: docepareinternational.com
 Doce Pares Headquarters - Cebu, Philippines

Doce Pares History and Background

By Marc Lawrence

Who is this group that has been so influential on Filipino Martial Arts? They have affected every style taught today. Many of the schools trace their lineage to this organization.

Doce Pares Pre-History

Under the Spanish rule of the islands, Filipinos were not allowed to publicly practice their fighting arts. Under the Early American rule of the islands a Victorian concept of men fighting each other with rules was considered noble pursuit. Americans loved boxing, wrestling and fencing. The American military officers felt that it helped build good moral character. As early as 1900 boxing tournaments were held on US Navy ships with American navy personnel and local fighters. One famous Filipino fighter was nickname Poncho Villa became popular. The Americans wanted to encourage things they felt reflected American ideals.

Undoubtedly, a great American impact came in education, with primary schools set up in most communities and high schools in each province. Nationwide vocational schools and teacher colleges were established, as was the University of the Philippines in Manila, founded in 1908 as the capstone of the islands' education program. 1903: The US government sponsored young Filipinos for studies in the United States (the pensionado program). By 1912, more than 200 Filipinos have been educated under the program. During the founding of the Doce Pares organization the members were proud to learn and be able to speak the English language. Because the Spaniards which did not want the Filipinos to learn their language, the Americans encouraged had the Filipino people to learn and to speak English. This was shown with many terms used by both Labangon Fencing Club and Doce Pares.

It was in 1920, in this environment the Canetes joined the Saavedras and founded the Labangon Fencing Club, the first ever Eskrima organization in the Philippines. (The group used the word “fencing” because of the influence of the Americans who referred the art as such, being similar to the art of fighting with the use of saber, foil and epee. The American influence later became even more apparent when Doce Pares used and adopted more English words to identify and describe techniques or forms.

“Tatang Ensong” as Lorenzo was fondly called by friends and Teodoro nicknamed “Doring” guided and helped the Canetes in their ardent desire to expand their understanding and knowledge by teaching them advanced techniques of Espada y Daga and close quarter style of fighting (Corto). The close association and friendship of the Saavedras and the Canetes further strengthened even after the dissolution of the Labangon Fencing Club in 1931.



Members of the 1931 Labangon Fencing Club. Identified by numbers

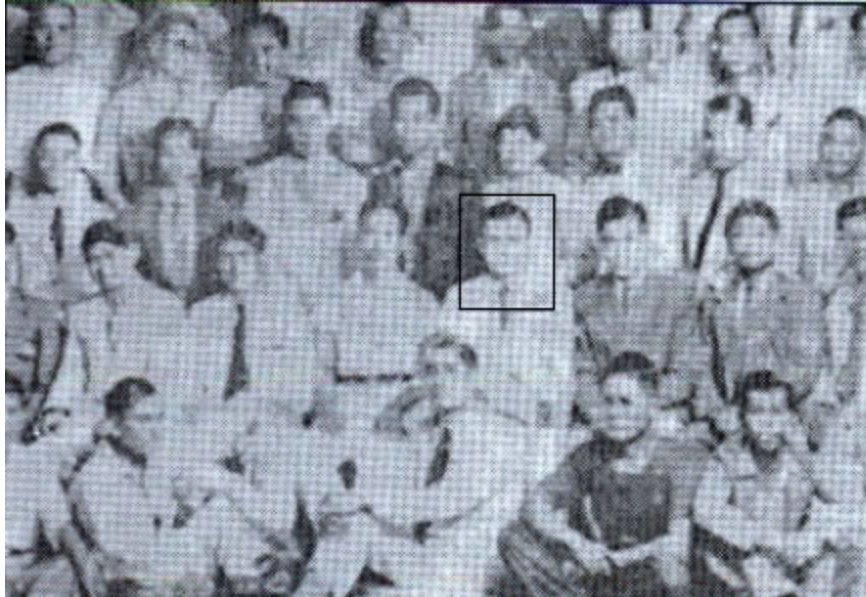
1. Eulogio Canete (President)
2. 2. Lorenzo Saavedra
3. 3. Filimon Canete.

The Frenchman’s story

In 1932, the Doce Pares Club was formed. Headed by Lorenzo Saavedra, the club was composed of three Saavedra Eskrimadors and nine from the Canete family. This composed the original twelve needed to symbolically actualize the title Doce Pares, which was named in honor of the Frenchman who befriended and shared his combat techniques with Lorenzo Saavedra in jail, and symbolized the 12 Peers of France/Doce Pares sa Francia - the knights or Paladins of King Charlemagne.

On January 11, 1932, the Canetes and the Saavedras together with the other well-known masters founded the Doce Pares Club. Only twelve people originally conceptualized the founding of the organization but during its inauguration on January 21 of the same year, the membership rose to twenty-four. In the first election of officers it was as follows: Eulogio “Yoling” Canete elected as President, and Teodoro Saavedra as Vice President. Other officers were: Fortunato Penalosa (Secretary) Marcelo Verano,

Diogracias Nadela, Felimon Canete, Federico Saavedra, Strong Tupas, Rodolfo Quijano, Pio Deiparine, Florentino Canete, Juanito Lauron and Magdaleno Cabasan. Composing the advisory board were Lorenzo Saavedra, Lawyer Cecilio dela Victoria, Margarito Reviles and Dr. Anastacio Deiparine.



1933 Doce Pares Officers. Highlighted Eulogio Canete Founder and President.

Doce Pares Name Meanings and Impact

The term 'Doce Pares' is a Spanish term translated into English to mean 'Twelve Pairs'. This term the 'Twelve Pairs' has several meanings to it. One refers to the twelve basic strikes and the twelve basic block and counters to these strikes. These strikes and blocks were ones agreed upon the founding masters were blending their styles they learned. Another more romantic explanation is of the reference to the twelve pairs of 'Compadres. Like the bodyguards for the King Charlemagne the stories say that these 12 bodyguards were close friends. This was how the club felt it should behave and emulate the friendship of these warriors.

In years to come this group became so popular that its name was almost synonymous with Eskrima, Arnis and Kali itself. It was to the clubs credit that Eskrima, Arnis and Kali was practiced and accepted as sort of competitive sport. Its rule on sparring matches had received such broad acceptance that in early 1970 was widely accepted by big Arnis schools and organizations in the country. In fact, the present tournament rules adopted by the World Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation (WEKAF) had been substantially lifted from the Doce Pares rules.

Doce Pares History WW2 to Modern History

By Marc Lawrence

When WW2 happen in the Philippines the Doce Pares Officers most of the officers of the club and its members joined in the resistance forces that continued to fight the Japanese Imperial Army Forces that occupied the islands. In 1943 Teodoro Saavedra

its Vice President and Chief instructor was captured and killed by Japanese Imperial Soldiers. Tatang Saavedra died also during the war period.



Doce Pares Officers and members - 1951

Culanag, Arnulfo Mongcal, Benjamin Pahimutang, Jose Villasin, Vicente Atillo, Teofilo Velez and Iluminado "Mado" Canete.

Several of these individuals would be the catalyst between friends that start some of feuds that continue today. In 1951 would be a bad year when factions within Association became embroiled in feud that could not be mediated its president Eulogio Canete. Constant bickering and intrigues rocked Doce Pares. Jealousies among followers of the different masters notably those of Venancio Bacon and Ciriaco Canete were not contained by the continued mediation of the club's elders led by its President Eulogio Canete.

The feud came to a head in November 1951 when, an altercation between Delfin Lopez and Vicente Carin resulted in a gunplay that caused a near fatal injury to the former. Lopez was a known Bacon ally, in fact was considered his right hand man, while Carin belonged to the Canete camp.

In 1952 Bacon, together with Lopez, Timoteo Maranga and others broke away and started the Balintawak Self Defense Club. It took its name from its location on a street named Balintawak Street, where it was originally taught. The Club was in the back of a watch repair shop on Balintawak Street. In later years a bitter rivalry would become publicly known of with Doce Pares and Balintawak this was personally painful to Eulogio who, some years prior was responsible in landing Bacon with a good job at the Cebu Portland Cement Company in Tina-an, Naga, Cebu where the former worked as a department manager.

Another group that would splinter off was CEMUSA or as it is known as the Cebu Mutual Security Association. Ciriaco Canete together with lawyer Juanito Cabaluna, Vicente Carin, Nicolas Javelosa and Luciano Cabanero among others founded the Cebu Mutual Security Association, which was later, became popularly known as CEMUSA. Unlike Balintawak, CEMUSA understandably maintained close ties with Doce Pares, which remained under firm control of Eulogio and Felimon Canete both older brothers of Ciriaco.

Some as the most exciting period of modern Eskrima considered the decade that followed the births of the two new groups. By others it was considered to be dark time that turned away people from Eskrima toward foreign martial arts like Judo, Jujitsu, Karate and TaeKwonDo. This is when Eskrima picked up the label of it being a poor

After the war Doce Pares regrouped as many people and organizations did after the war. New members join and leaders emerged. Some of these were: Felimon Canete, Jesus Cui, Venancio Bacon, Ciriaco Canete, Delfin Lopez, Timoteo Maranga, Maximo Canete, Vicente Carin, Lorenzo Lasola and Artemio Paez. Later such names as the brothers Arsenio and Felimon Caburnay, Santos Dinampo, Isidro Bardilas, Benjamin

man's martial art around Cebu city. Parents did not want their children practicing this martial art.

Some regard it as the most chaotic era in which Eskrima had undergone radical development as the masters competed in introducing, inventing and formulating more fighting techniques designed to beat opponents and reign supreme in "challenge matches". During this, a number of top masters were involved in "juego todo" but surprisingly none of the big names had faced each other in real fights. While some well-known masters had claimed to have a number of fights, they were all against lesser-known opponents.

Despite of the numerous attempts to match the big names, no fight had taken place among and between them. Obviously the so-called "balance of Power" had something to do with it, each being wary of the power and skill of the other that none of them had ventured to really push hard for the bout to happen. There was no denying that Venancio "Ansiong" Bacon and Ciriaco "Cacoy" Canete hated each other so much that their publicly known mutual hate and dislike had infected their loyal followers, yet, during the span of more than three decades they lived within the same district in Cebu City, they somehow managed to avoid facing each other in "juego todo". The deep animosity between Balintawak and Doce Pares notwithstanding, most of their loyal followers had continued to bear respect and reverence to Eskrima patriarch, Eulogio, who almost always played the role of a peacemaker and diplomat patching up conflict and differences among the masters. The Balintawak group split into four different groups. These became Balintawak International Self Defense Club, Tres Personas Eskrima, Teovel Balintawak Eskrima International, and Atillo Original Balintawak Eskrima Association (its earlier name was Philippine Arnis Federation).

The decades 1970 and 1980 saw the emergence of the new breed of masters who benefited from the "multi-style" training program introduced by Diony when he assumed as the Dean of the instructional staff in early 1970. The program provided for the comprehensive teaching of all the component styles of Doce Pares as introduced and taught separately and distinctly by the founding masters.

So the Saavedras, Eulogio an Felimon Canete, Jesus Cui, Vicente Carin and, even Ciriaco and Maximo Canete to name a few, had varied and different styles of either corto, media largo, largo mano or Espada y Daga, then so with the training curriculum to comprehend and cover each style separately and, to treat each within the realm of the philosophical and theoretical concept of the principal advocate. It was concluded that the program gave recognition to the founding masters as well as broaden the horizon of knowledge and skill of the students. It also allowed them better perspective in understanding the entire system, a conglomeration of the various styles of Eskrima. It was in this period that Diony Canete would write the first curriculum manual and publishes it to create informality with the association's lesson plans and training program.

When the First World Eskrima Championship was held in Cebu City in August 1989, Doce Pares once again was able to demonstrate the essence of the system and showed the quality of the training program that made possible for the outstanding performance of its players who accounted for a number of gold medals. But amid all these monumental successes, the organization lost its guiding light. One June 26, 1988, Eulogio died of natural cause at the age of 87 years. And on August 12, 1995, Felimon, the last surviving founding master also died. He was 91 years old.

Eulogio's second eldest son Eulogio, jr. succeeded him as president up to the present. His youngest son, Grandmaster Diony is the Executive Director and Chairman of Doce Pares Council of Masters.

Doce Pares remains in safe hands and, as wished by Eulogio, his children have taken over the reins of leadership. In December 1989, Eulogio Jr., was unanimously elected as President.

The younger brother, Diony, who in 1988 was elevated to the rank of Grandmaster had assumed the position of Chairman, Council of Masters, the post held by Grandmaster Felimon "Momoy" until his death. Sworn in along with them who are tasked to carry on the torch of preserving and perpetuating the honor, dignity and tradition of Doce Pares are these new generation of Masters, officers, country Directors, heads of chapters and affiliates from the different member countries.

Subsequently, the organization became Doce Pares, Incorporated when it was registered as non-stock, non-profit corporation with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission, which issued certificate of registration no. 1373.

An Election of Officers and Directors is held every December each year. Doce Pares, Incorporated as mandated by its by-laws, elects its officers and, for the year 2001, the following were duly elected, to wit:

President - Eulogio Cañete, Jr.

VP - Paterno B. Ganzo

Secretary - Valentin B. Suan

Treasurer - Michael R. Cañete

Executive Director - Grandmaster Dionisio Cañete

Dean, Instructional Staff - Arnulfo "Dong" Cuesta

Directors:

Grandmaster Vicente Carin

Grandmaster Isidro Casio

Eulogio Cañete, Jr.

Paterno B. Ganzon

Valentin B. Suan

Michael R. Cañete

Grandmaster Dionisio Cañete

Special Note: Grandmaster Vicente Carin has been a member of the board for about forty years. While Ganzon and Suan who are both lawyers have held various positions since 1970. Eulogio, Jr. holds the post, as President since 1990 and Grandmaster Diony became a legal officer from the early 1960 until being elected to the board in 1970.

In closing the Doce Pares Organization has affected much of what people consider modern Eskrima, Arnis and Kali today.

How Doce Pares Multi-System Came to the USA

By Marc J Lawrence



This article is based on the conversations with Grandmaster Alfred Bandalan and Marc Lawrence. Grandmaster Bandalan was first introduced to Eskrima by his grand father as child. This started a life long interest in Eskrima.

During the early 70's, Grandmaster Bandalan was recruited to teach Karate for the San Jose Parks and Recreation. He taught at the Alum Rock, Almaden, South Side, and Morgan Hill Parks, plus the Camden Community Center.

In 1975 he met Master Angel Cabales in Livingston, California and trained with him and his Guro Mike Inay. He was already proficient in Hawaiian Karate when he met (now a Grandmaster) Master Angel Cabales.

His school hosted a demonstration of Eskrima in San Jose, California. During this time Grandmaster Bandalan felt that Eskrima in America was limited.

Early in 1977, Grandmaster Bandalan wrote to the Philippines Government asking for information on Eskrima. His letter was forwarded to Doce Pares and he received his first reply from Grandmaster Cacoy Canete. Within a month Grandmaster Diony Canete arrived in San Jose, California and Grandmaster Bandalan received his first training in Doce Pares. Later that year, Grandmaster



Alfred Bandalan with the Canete brothers

Bandalan flew to Cebu and was greeted by all the Doce Pares masters. Grandmaster Bandalan was fortunate to be allowed to see The Book of the Doce Pares. Later, Grandmaster Bandalan was invited to, and attended, the 50th Anniversary of Doce Pares.

In 1980 in San Jose, California Grandmaster Bandalan along with Ed Abinsay and Leo Fernandez, promoted the First National Eskrima Tournament. From this tournament, the Regional, National, and the World Tournaments were born, which today is WEKAF. He also became Assistant Coach to the First World Tournament and ever since, has always been actively participating in subsequent WEKAF World Championships, along with other WEKAF related activities.

In 1981, then Master (now Grandmaster Bandalan) was given direction by Grandmaster Diony Canete, to name his school, Bandalan Doce Pares. He became the first Hawaiian/Filipino to be accepted into the Doce Pares. He was also honored to be one of the first practitioners in the U.S to receive his affiliation papers from Doce Pares. Later Grandmaster Bandalan due to his support of the art became President of the United States Arnis, Kali, Eskrima Federation, affiliated with National Arnis of the Philippines (NARAPHIL).

In 1988, Inside Kung Fu did an exclusive interview with Grandmasters Bandalan and Grandmasters Diony Canete. Grandmaster Bandalan is considered the Doce Pares original founding member here in the United States and knows the history of Doce Pares in depth.

In 1989 he was a founding member of World Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation (WEKAF). This went on to promote Doce Pares Multi-System training in the USA. In 1996 the World Tournament was hosted in the USA. The Doce Pares Multi-System Team.



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Grandmaster Dionisio A. Cañete

Dionisio is a second generation of the famous Filipino Martial Art advocates, one of the Cañete brothers of Cebu City, Philippines. He is the youngest son of Grandmaster Eulogio (Ylong) Cañete, the founders of Doce Pares. Grandmaster Eulogio Canete headed the organization since its founding in 1932 until his death in June 1988.

Dionisio began his lessons in the Filipino Art after WW-2 in 1946 at the age of eight from his father and brother Iluminado, the eldest of the five children (4 sons and a daughter) of Eulogio and Irene Aventura.

He studied under Grandmaster Felimon "Momoy" Cañete and later with Grandmaster Ciriaco "Cacoy" Cañete, both brothers of his father. He also trained with Grandmaster Vicenter Carin and Maximo Cañete.

In 1950s, during the Golden age of Boxing in Cebu, he was attracted to the sport and for five years regularly sparred and trained with several good amateur and professional boxers at that time.

In 1957, together with his brothers, Diony was introduced to Kodokan Judo.

In 1960 with his election as one of the officers of Doce Pares, rules on the acceptance of students and membership were liberalized. They started to promote and develop Arnis to a wholesome spectator's sporting event, based on his experiences in boxing.

In 1969 at the age of 22, he passed the Bar Examinations and became a full-fledged Lawyer.

In 1975, He initiated the formation of the Cebu Eskrima (Arnis) Association. All major Arnis clubs in Cebu banded together for the first time. In succeeding to organize and band together all the top Arnisadors, Diony, in effect, sort of "Civilized" the fighting-oriented Masters and curbed them to learn to co-exist for the sake of the Filipino Art.



Some of the events he helped organize and Events he participated:

March 6-7, 1976

First National Arnis Festival, University of San Carlos Gym, Cebu City, Philippines by National Arnis Association of the Philippines (NARAPHIL).

March 24, 1979

First National Arnis Open Championship, Cebu Coliseum, Cebu City, Philippines.

August 19, 1979

First National Invitational Tournament, Philippine National College Gymnasium, Manila, Philippines.

October 15, 1988

First National USA Eskrima Kali Arnis Championships, San Jose, CA.

First Eastern USA Arnis Championships, Jersey City, NJ.

Note: The two tournaments were made possible through the all-out assistance and initiative of Arnulfo Cuesta, Fred Bandalan, Edward Abinsay, and Leo Fernandez.

August 11-13, 1989

First World Eskrima Kali Arnis Championships, Cebu City, Philippines

It was during this tournament that the World Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation (WEKAF) was organized. Grandmaster Dionisio A. Cañete was elected Charter President.

January 25-27, 1992

2nd World Championships & Congress, Manila, Philippines.

1989

Grandmaster Dionisio A. Cañete was selected as Sportsman of the Year, by the Sportswriters Association of Cebu (SAC).



During these tournaments he prepared the tournament rules and designed the proper protective gear so that the stick fighters could play and not be injured while sparring.

Diony has scaled down his active participation in various activities related to Arnis. His private gym in Cebu, however, remains a popular training place for students and instructors, especially those coming from other countries. He sees to it that the visitors are well attended to and are assured of learning what they want to know about the art. He still makes himself always available to render service to WEKAF and NARAPHIL.

Source: ARNISADOR Magazine
The Journal of Philippine Arts & Culture

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Master Leonilo "Nilo" Baron

7th Degree Black Belt of Doce Pares Multi System.

By Marc Lawrence



A personal protégé of Grandmaster Diony Cañete, he had all his training for more than 10 years at the World Headquarters before his departure for the U.S. in 1996. He was the youngest to ever be promoted to master. His exceptional talent was clearly acknowledged when he was commissioned in 1993 as one of the regular instructors of the World Headquarters.

Training with all the top masters at the headquarters highly benefited him as he learned all the component styles which comprise the entire Doce Pares System. He was authorized to teach the seven systems of the multi-system- Espada y Daga, Largo Mano, Media Largo, the three styles of "corto" (close range) Baraw, Mano-Mano as well as the twelve (12) forms (Sayaw) and the sophisticated technique of Tapi-Tapi (sticky hand).

Master Nilo talked about his early days as a Guro and his various challenges. He said that Grandmaster Diony Cañete had him teach the local City Police Association in Cebu City. Because of his age difference the older officers didn't want to respect him as

instructor, but after watching his skill their opinions were quickly changed. He said that was one of his earliest big challenges.

He also said that he was put in charge of training the children's classes. He said that there was big difference between teaching children in the Philippines and here.

He came to USA as part of the Doce Pares team in the world competition.

Because of his diverse training background, in the Filipino martial arts the students learn not only to execute and perform but also to understand the various theories, principles and philosophies in which the techniques were derived or anchored upon. This has become Master Nilo's philosophies, to teach the students to learn the techniques as well as the concept so that by themselves they can create and develop their own techniques.

Some of Master Baron's accomplishments are:

1990, 91 - Member of the 5 man Doce Pares team which captured the Philippine National team championships.

1990, 93, 94 - Philippine National Champion.

1991 - Became one of the youngest instructors of Doce Pares

1992, 94 - Member of the 5 man Doce Pares team which captured the Philippine National team championships.

Several times Cebu Champion in Sparring and forms.

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Master Erwin Mosqueda

8th Degree Black Belt

By Marc Lawrence

Master Erwin Mosqueda was voted **Instructor of the Decade** - His sacrifice pay off as he received the Instructor of the Decade Award during the Doce Pares Annual Awards, in April 2005 at Cornwall City, United Kingdom.

The Los Angeles City, California - based Erwin Mosqueda, took the highest accolade awarded by the world-renowned Doce Pares International. Mosqueda is Doce Pares senior most, instructor in the US, the second highest master in the US after New Jersey - based Master Arnulfo "Dong" Cuesta, who is the World Headquarters Dean of Instructors.

Mosqueda, who is from Mambaling, Cebu City, grabbed the award for his dedicated training and propagation of the Filipino martial art since 1977. He learned the basic art from Doce Pares founding president Eulogio Sr., Ciriaco and Felimon Cañete.

According to Doce Pares Grandmaster and lawyer Dionisio "Diony" Cañete, Mosqueda bagged the award for his unselfish dedication to the art.

"He is multi-faceted. He is a Master, as we all know after dominating and plucking world titles. He knows how to run eskrima tournaments not just here in our country but also in the United States, most specifically the in LA area," said Diony.

"And to top it all, Erwin left his family here in Cebu to spearhead the Filipino martial arts' propagation in western America, where a lot of Filipinos live," Diony added.

Mosqueda started to blossom as an event organizer when he became chairman of the organizing council in 1998 (5th World Championship) and 2000 (6th World Championship).

Also in 1998, he was the youngest ever to be elected as Doce Pares Board of Director at the age 30.

Master Val Pableo, whom Mosqueda bested in the Instructor of the Decade Award, stated that he salutes the latter for his dedication. "He is the most courageous among us masters since he was able to leave his family for this art, something which I could not do."

Pableo added that Mosqueda is the most sought after instructor in Los Angeles, California. Other masters defeated by Mosqueda were masters Rudy Rey, who was once based in Sacramento, California and is scheduled to leave for Europe, and London resident Master Danilo Guba.

Master Instructor Erwin Mosqueda began his training back at the old Doce Pares Headquarters in 1977. He's had the distinction of having trained under legendary Grandmasters such as Felimon "Momoy" Canete, Ciriaco "Cacoy" Canete, and their elder brother Eulogio Canete who served as the organization's president since its founding in 1932. These three legends together along with the two most talented sons of Eulogio namely Panfilo and Dionisio "Diony" Canete were the source of his knowledge and skill.



Grandmaster Diony much later guided him to a higher level in the understanding of the Filipino martial arts.

Some of Master Mosqueda's accomplishments are:

1988 - Member of the strong 5-man undefeated Doce Pares team that competed in the National Arnis Team Championships in Manila Philippines.

1989 - Junior Flyweight Sparring Champion during the historic First World Eskrima Kali Arnis Championships (WEKAF) held in Cebu City, Philippines.

1990 - Was again a member of the 5-man Doce Pares Team that retained the title as the National team champion of the Philippines.

1994 - Bantamweight Champion in sparring during the 3rd WEKAF championships held in Metro Manila.

1998 - Elected as a member of the Doce Pares Board of Officers, the youngest to ever hold that position in the 70-year history.

In addition to his shining credentials, Mosqueda has organized several tournaments and conducted numerous workshops all over the United States in the past two years.

Master Erwin Mosqueda teaches Filipino Martial Arts in Torrance, California at the Kukido Martial Arts Academy and is available for classes.

Los Angeles Doce Pares

(323) 382-4927

Email



Website

Master Percival "Val" Pableo 9th Degree Black Belt

Master Instructor Percival "Val" Pableo began his training in 1979, under his eldest brother Prospero, who was a regular member of the group trained by Grandmasters Diony Cañete and his elder brother Panpilo...

In 1982, he was taken in by Grandmaster Diony to live with him in his family until the end of 1990. During this time, he was the favorite sparring partner of Grandmasters Diony, Ciriaco "Cacoy" Cañete and Vicente "Inting" Carin in various demonstration and exhibitions.



Some of Master Val Pableo's accomplishments are:

1985 - Won the Bantamweight Division title during the 3rd Philippine National Arnis Championship held in Cebu City.

1986 - Won the Middleweight Division Title (155 lbs) during the 4th Philippine National Arnis Championship held in Bacolod City, and voted best player of the tournament.

1988 - Was a member of the Doce Pares team that won the National Arnis Team Championships held in Manila of that year.

1989 - During the historic 1st World Eskrima-Kali-Arnis Federation (WEKAF) Championships held in Cebu City he became champion in sparring (Welterweight Division) champion in Forms (Sayaw), Solo Baston (Single stick) category and was voted the best player of the tournament.

1990 - Team captain of the Doce Pares team which won the National Team Championship held in Manila.

1991 - First toured the USA, and has conducted over 200 seminars workshops in different countries among which are: England, Holland, Belgium, Poland, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, and Australia, among others, Philippines.

1992 - During the 2nd WEKAF championships, he was champion in Sparring (Middleweight Division - 155lbs).

1994 and 96 - World Championships, he was the Head Coach and Team Captain of the Philippine Team which captured over-all honors in the two tournaments.

1996 - Appointed and designated as Chief Instructor of the Doce Pares World Headquarters in Cebu City, Philippines.

1998 and 2000 - World Championship, he was a member of the Organizing Council and also designated as the Event Director, administering the Congress, Seminar and competition proper of the entire world events.

Master Pableo wrote numerous manuals in Eskrima Kali Arnis, such as the Doce Pares "Sayaw" "Commentaries on the Tournament Rules" and basic Eskrima. Also featured in two Instructional Videos, Abanico Productions - 4 volumes in 1995, Nikko Productions - 6 volumes in 1999 and produced 3 volumes in Valflex Production in April 03. His most recent accomplishment was being featured in the Discovery Channel's "Asia's Ancient Tradition of Martial Arts."



www.doceparesworld.com

Email

Email

Master Jaunito "Nito" Noval
6th Degree Black Belt

Master Instructor Nito Noval has been trained in the Philippines and is certified to teach Doce Pares under Grandmaster Dionisio Canete and is also a member of WEKAF, (World Eskrima-Kali-Arnis Federation).

Master Noval has been teaching the Art of Eskrima for over 10 years.

Some of the accomplishments of Master Noval have been:

1992 - World Invitational Champion (Heavyweight Division)

1994 - World Invitational Champion

1994 - World Championship WEKAF (Heavyweight Senior Division Champion)

1996 - World Championship WEKAF (Super Heavyweight Senior Division Runner-Up)

Certified Judge and Referee



Grandmaster Cañete and Master Noval



Website

Sacramento Doce Pares

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(916) 207-2922

Master Arnulfo “Dong” Cuesta 9th Degree Black Belt

By Steven Wolk

Instructors:

Grandmaster Dionisio “Diony” Cañete

Grandmaster Ciriaco “Cacoy” Cañete

Grandmaster Felimon “Momoy” Cañete

Master Arnulfo “Dong” Cuesta’s long journey into the study of eskrima began early in life, and was influenced by a variety of circumstances and incidents. As early as the sixth grade, Dong became involved with a local gang in his hometown of Cebu City. Stunts such as jumping off moving cargo trucks eventually led to petty theft and more serious incidents. Dong ended up as a runaway living in a house with other gang members in Pasil, the most notorious place in Cebu, akin to Tondo in Manila. Eventually, some members of the gang were arrested for murder.



In order to escape the perils of gang life, Dong took advantage of a very old offer from his neighbor, Grandmaster Ciriaco “Cacoy” Cañete, to join and practice at his gym. Dong began training in the Doce Pares system with Cacoy’s son, Edgar, who at the time was concentrating on dumog (Filipino grappling, focusing on joint locks and takedown techniques). Dong’s skill developed at a very fast pace. His goal was to acquire enough knowledge and skill to be able to defend himself against his old gang, which looked unfavorably upon members who attempted to quit. Fortunately, the gang eventually broke up and ceased to exist. Nevertheless, Dong’s love for the art continued to bloom and soon he was a very dedicated practitioner.

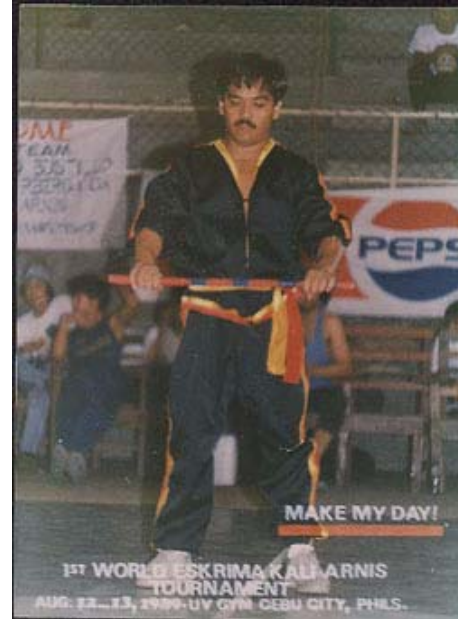
Impressed by Dong’s talent and dedication, Grandmaster Filemon “Momoy” Cañete offered to train him personally. Grandmaster Momoy trained him in solo olisi, doble olisi, espada y daga, latigo, and combat judo. He placed an emphasis on grace in execution as well as proper technique. Dong developed the utmost respect for Grandmaster Momoy’s skills. Grandmaster Momoy also practiced *oración* (a mystical Filipino chanting practice), and once used it to heal Dong during a time that he became very ill. Over time, Dong became Grandmaster Momoy’s top student, and led many of his classes.

Dong would also take advantage of opportunities to practice with Grandmaster Cacoy Cañete, who emphasized sparring and eskrido. Sparring was Grandmaster Cacoy’s forte, and in Dong’s opinion he was the quickest. His skill in palakaw, or guided sparring, was known to be exceptional. Eskrido involves the use of the olisi as a lever to generate locks and throws. The style, which has its origins in Grandmaster Momoy’s juego todo, uses principles from Grandmaster Cacoy’s extensive background in judo and aikido.

After being away for a few years due to his hectic schedule attending law school and building a practice, Dionisio “Diony” Cañete came back into the picture. Diony was the son of Eulogio Cañete, the brother of Grandmasters Momoy and Cacoy, and the

President of the Doce Pares from its inception in 1932, until his death in 1988. Dong was immediately impressed with Diony's talent and skill. Diony taught and guided Dong in all of the Doce Pares sayaw (forms). Dong feels that Diony is the instrument of success within the Doce Pares system and will probably become its greatest Grandmaster. Diony typically does not want to acknowledge himself worthy of the title, but everyone recognizes his talent and qualifications. After Dong's emigration to the United States in 1981, he went to become the highest-ranking student of Grandmaster Diony in the United States. In addition, he is the Dean of Instruction for Doce Pares.

Dong's favorite aspects of eskrima are sparring and sayaw. He was a founding member of the World Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation (WEKAF). Formed in 1989 to promote the Filipino martial arts through a sport version of sparring and a forms competition, it was one the most successful and longest running organization in the FMA world. Representing the Philippines, he won first place in both the single and double stick sayaw divisions at the First WEKAF World Championships in Cebu in August 1989. He enjoys demonstrating that sayaw is an important training tool, which improves strength, speed, and coordination of the hands, body, and feet. As a testament to his skill as a teacher, a number of Dong's students have gone on to become WEKAF world champions. He was the head coach of the US team competing in the 1992 World Championships in Manila, and the 1996 world championships in Los Angeles.



Dong Cuesta about to begin his championship solo olisi sayaw at the 1st WEKAF World Championships in Cebu, August 1989.



Master Cuesta (with student Steve Wolk) doing a demonstration at the 3rd WEKAF World Championships in Manila in 1994.

His dedication to the art has led him to a level where he has been able to fathom the depth of the art of eskrima and that of the Doce Pares system. His great fortune to have trained with so many different top-level masters of the Doce Pares system has given him a unique and very broad understanding of the intricacies of the art. Because Dong is always very humble, particularly when in the presence of his teachers, it is difficult to appreciate the magnitude of his talent until there is an opportunity to train with him. His grace and elegance in execution is a privilege to watch. Like all true masters of the art, he

makes it look deceptively simple.

Dong firmly believes that eskrima should be introduced as both a combat art and a sport. The growth that he sees in his own school, as well as the increase in the number of schools in the U.S., leads him to believe that eskrima could become the art of the next decade. He hopes one day to see the rivalries between eskrima systems and Grandmasters disappear, so that everyone can unite for the sake of art and its heritage. He feels that everyone should be working towards the common goal of developing, promoting, and preserving the Filipino martial arts.

Dong, as a senior student of Grandmaster Diony's, teaches the Doce Pares "multi-style" system, which is a synthesis of the systems of the original Grandmasters of the Doce Pares club that was formed in 1932. This includes the close range (corto) of Lorenzo and Teodoro Saavedra, the medium range of Jesus Cui, the espada y daga and corto orihinal of Felimon "Momoy" Cañete, the long range of Yoling Cañete and Vincente Carin, the corto of Ciriaco Cañete, and the pangamut of Maximo Cañete. The current curriculum is broken down into solo olisi, doble olisi, baraw, espada y daga, mano mano, and dumog.



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Interview with Grandmaster Danny Guba

By: Keith Gilliland



Keith Gilliland in an interview with Grandmaster Danny Guba finds out about this honorable highly skilled practitioner, which has come from the Philippines and is now residing in London, England. Bring with him the Filipino martial art of Doce Pares Multi Style System.

KG: *Hello Danny, good to see you again!*

DG: Its good to be here and speak to you again.

KG: *Could you tell our readers when and where you began your Martial Arts training?*

DG: I started training in 1964 when I was 12 years old in Cebu City in the Philippines.

KG: *What system was this and who was your first Instructor?*

DG: My first teacher was Magdalino Nolasco and the system was Doce Pares.

KG: *Is the Doce Pares system an old style?*

DG: It is from the 1920`s but goes back a lot further. We can trace our Martial Arts back to One of the Philippines greatest heroes, Lapu Lapu who fought against Magellan in 1500`s.

KG: *Which countries have you taught in?*

DG: Obviously I taught in Cebu City in the Philippines. In 1989 I went to New Zealand to teach. After this I have been in Germany, then to the United States and finally settling here in London, England.

KG: *What year did you come to England?*

DG: I came here in 1995, to London and this is now my home.

KG: *When you arrived here what did you think of the Filipino Martial Arts here? Was it technically good and overall a good standard compared to what you were used to in the Philippines etc?*

DG: When I first saw some of the Filipino Martial Arts practitioners here I thought it was ok but it was incomplete.

KG: *They were practicing incomplete systems?*

DG: Yes it was not a complete system. What I teach is a multi style original complete system!

Some of them were quite good at what they did but they had no structure, no base.

KG: *What are your ambitions, hopes etc for Filipino Martial Arts in the UK?*

DG: I want to promote the Filipino Martial Arts in an authentic structured way so the students and Instructors have a strong foundation to work from. They can have a complete practical approach within a recognized system. We are at the moment running Instructor training programs around the country to establish qualified competent Instructors who work under my guidance. It is very important for me to promote the original system of Doce Pares as handed down and taught to me by my Masters.

KG: *So your ambition is to give the students and Instructors a complete, authentic and original Filipino system?*

DG: Most certainly. I want people to learn the techniques, the philosophy, the culture and language. The complete package!

KG: *Yes I understand. That has defiantly not happened here before. Do you think you have an advantage with this because you are a Filipino and learnt in the country of origin?*

DG: (Laughs) Well yes I think you are right. When I was young the training way was different. Like a lot of things, time has an effect on them. I still maintain a lot of the old ways and principals that my Masters instilled in me but I like to teach it a modern way. Yes I have the advantage of learning the original system from the original Masters I was very lucky!

KG: *Danny tell us about your Instructors and what areas they specialize in?*

DG: Ok. My first Instructor was Magdalino Nolasco. He taught me empty hand and knife techniques, which were very good.

- The second Instructor was Ceriaco “Cacoy” Canete who I’m sure everyone has heard of! His specialty is Eskrido (locking, immobilization and throwing) and close quarter techniques. His movement of the stick in close range was awesome; he would gain total control over you!
- Next was Filimon “Mamoy” Canete who specialty was San Miguel – the oldest and longest form in the system and Espada y Daga.
- Vicente “Inting” Carin was my next Instructor and his main area of expertise was the Knife and Re-triada, which are special footwork patterns.
- Bonifacio Dacalos. ”Loloy” Uy specialized in single stick sparring and the sporting side with body armour. He taught me Amara (freestyle) and how to develop my striking skills.
- Dionisio “Diony” Canete was next. Diony is a very good instructor whose knowledge and skill are legendary! He taught me how to combine everything. He



Guro Keith Gilliland
Dionisio “Diony” Canete
Grandmaster Danny Guba

- knows the complete system and has helped develop it both technically and philosophically. Diony designed the sporting aspects, rules protective equipment etc.
- Percival “Val” Pableo was my training partner. We sparred together and Val helped my development in the forms side also.

KG: *You are now based here in England but where did you teach after leaving the Philippines?*

DG: Well I went to teach in New Zealand for a while after which I was in Germany and the U.S.A. before coming here!

KG: *What are your plans for the future*

DG: I am currently running Instructors programs all over the country. This will ensure we have quality instructors and students in the future.

KG: *Is it true that you are going to be holding your own tournaments?*

DG: Yes this is another one of my projects. I will be hosting tournaments that will include stick competition and forms competition. All the tournaments will be recognized by the governing body in the Philippines, WEKAF.

KG: *Ok the future sounds very good indeed for Filipino Martial Arts in the UK and Europe!*

DG: Yes it is a good time now. I will make sure that every one who wants to learn true multi style authentic Filipino Martial Arts has access to bona fide, qualified Instructors and recognized schools. I think this has been a problem before where the potential student could not find correct tuition etc.

KG: *Well that sounds great! Before we sign off may I congratulate you on receiving your 10th Dan?*

DG: Yes thank you. This is a great honor for me, especially knowing that my Masters recognize the work that I do in promoting, not only Doce Pares system but the Filipino sport, culture, philosophy etc.



If you want to find out more about
Grandmaster Danny Guba visit:
www.dannyguba.co.uk



If you practice the Filipino martial arts or want further information on classes or Instructors training programs please:

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Doce Pares Australia

Master Instructor Peter Shannon

Doce Pares International Australia

The foundations for the Doce Pares International Australia System of Filipino Martial Arts were originally set back in November 1996, in Melbourne, Victoria. This came through the initial contact and expertise of the 5th Degree Doce Pares representative at the time.



April 2000 saw the direct affiliation of the Doce Pares International Australia by Peter Shannon under the guidance of Grandmaster Dionisio A. Canete of Doce Pares Inc, Cebu, Philippines.

A series of training trips to the Philippines have seen the family ties strengthen, with representation at World Championship level and active support at the 70th and 71st Anniversary Celebrations for Doce Pares International in 2002 and 2003 in the Philippines, with the most recent training trip being in July 2005 which had the trip members training daily at the Doce Pares Headquarters in Cebu with Grandmaster Diony Canete and senior instructors.

The Doce Pares Australia Group throughout the Australasian Region is teaching the current Doce Pares Multi-styles International Curriculum of Eskrima Kali Arnis as per Grandmaster Diony Canete's instruction, including the recently formalized 12 Doce Pares Traditional Forms personally presented to Chief Instructor Peter Shannon at the Doce Pares 70th Anniversary in DVD format and reinforced during the recent training stint in the Philippines.

This direct contact establishes the Group as one of the most up-to-date Doce Pares affiliates in the World at this time.

The System incorporates Single and Double Stick, Staff, Palm Stick and Dagger training, plus Competition Stick Fighting Tournament applications.

The Empty Hand side of the Art includes: Close Quarter trapping, Sensitivity and Contractive Reflex training, plus Joint Locking, Groundwork and Controlling applications.

The system is designed to be integrated by all Instructors and Students from any Martial Arts background, without compromising any of their previous training or affiliations.

Stated simply, the Doce Pares Australia System provides the practitioner with the right attitudes and habits to prepare them to develop skills and achieve the desired change. The aims are to ingrain the traits of being responsible, tolerant and adaptive to change, in terms of skill, attitude and knowledge.

Ongoing goals and achievements have seen the establishment of clubs in various States of Australia, seminars by various Filipino Masters, annual training trips to the Philippines and regular Doce Pares Stick Fighting Tournaments using the current WEKAF rules supplied by Grandmaster Diony Canete, twice each year.



www.doceparesaust.com

Doce Pares International Australia

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Doce Pares Multi-System Style Overview

By Marc Lawrence

The Doce Pares system of Eskrima is really composed of Seven Styles or sub-disciplines that are described as components of the Multi-System Style. As with all Filipino Martial Arts the stick is the starting point for the training. The stick is in essence a poor mans punching bag, sword, knife and grappling tool all in one. By training with it, the student learns with muscle memory, about fighting distance, speed and timing coordination.

The seven parts or the multi-system are as follows:

1. Solo Olisi - Single Stick:

The strong hand wields a stick and serves as the primary defense. The empty hand is used mainly for defense, focusing on controlling the opponent's weapon hand. The strong hand wields a stick about 29 inches length and 3/4" in diameter, usually made of rattan. The role of the check hand is to stop or redirect your opponent's attack. Twirling techniques are taught to develop wrist strength and coordination, which facilitates the ability to generate power and re-angle the wrist at short range.

Solo Olisi techniques can be practiced in long (larga), medium (medio), and short (corto) ranges. The larga range is characterized by evasive footwork/angling, and fast

continuous strikes to the weapon hand. The medio range utilizes sophisticated checking of the opponent's weapon hand with simultaneous counterattacking.

The Tapi-Tapi, is introduced using the system of trapping and checking, is taught in training with Soli Olisi to develop these skills. The corto range emphasizes curving attacks and continuous re-angling of the strikes around the opponent's defenses. One of the most fundamental Solo Olisi drills is the Abesedario, a comprehensive defense/counter-strike drill, the seven levels of which are designed to develop movement/angling, checking and countering in each of the three ranges. A variety of disarming techniques are also studied. Most of the techniques can be generalized to Espada (sword) techniques. One obvious difference is that the orientation of the empty/check hand must be correct to utilize the sharp edge of the weapon.

2. Doble Olisi - Double Stick:

Each hand has a stick. They can be used for combination attacks or one can serve as defense while the other is used to attack. Each hand has an Olisi. In general longer ranges are utilized since checking techniques are more limited. A variety of striking and twirling patterns are practiced to develop strength and coordination over many angles of attack and combinations. The art of Sinawali is practiced in these drills. These drills are practiced alone and with partners. The skills developed here carry over into the other sub-disciplines, such as empty hand striking combinations, Solo Olisi- striking and checking, and Espada y Daga.

3. Baraw - Knife:

It is similar in format to the Solo Olisi, but the weapon is a short blade. The Eskrido portion is similar the locks, throws and takedowns with done in Solo Olisi. Similar in format to the Solo Olisi, but the weapon is a knife Initial training usually begins with empty hands defenses against a knife, with an emphasis on stepping off the line of attack and checking the weapon hand. Various blocks and parries are used to address the four types of attacks (single, double/multiple, sliding, and slicing). Simultaneous counter-attacks are then added. More advanced defensive tactics include locks, disarms, and redirections. Training progresses to knife vs. knife, where a variety of two-man drills teach principle attack/defense/counter-attack combinations, as well as continuous flows. All of the tactics applied to empty hand defense verse stick can be applied to armed defense verses unarmed as well.

4. Espada y Daga - Sword and Dagger:

Strong hand wields a stick or long blade and serves as the primary offense. Other hand holds a knife and used for both offense and defense -blocking, checking and locking. The strong hand wields a stick or long blade, and serves as the primary offense. The weak hand holds a knife and is used for both offense thrusting or slashing and defense -blocking, checking, and locking.

Training starts with drills, which teach coordination of the two weapons in striking and checking patterns, then footwork (i.e. the triangle principle) and body angling is added. Drills then progress to those involving multiple attacks (typically long weapon followed by short weapon); basic defenses are followed by transitions to the outside, avoiding remaining between the weapons. Finally, the complex Espada y Daga locks and takedowns are addressed.

5. Mano-Mano Empty Hands/Open Hand Fighting:

The empty hand drills usually involve boxing-style attack movements combined with effective trapping and foot techniques. The open hand techniques such as eye jabs are often employed. The defensive movements use the same zoning and body angling practiced with the weapons techniques.

6. Dumog - Grappling:

A variety of takedowns and throwing techniques are used, which can be practiced with or without weapons. Unlike Ju-Jitsu, very little groundwork is done due to the prevalence of knives in the Philippines. Combat Judo/ Dumog features grappling, joint locks, pressure point control, sweeps, and throws. Dumog manipulates an attacker by utilizing and redirecting an opponent's own strength against him or herself.

7. TAPI-TAPI Alive Hand - Sticky Hands Old Style:

Students are introduced to Tapi-Tapi during their Soli Olisi training. Sticky Hands - Old Style Sumbag-pated punch/ kick combinations are taught. Using single, double and triple punch and kick combinations along. The Tapi-Tapi training has all of the 12 Forms-Sayaw, Karanza including the 5-minute duration Form 12, and the so-called "San Miguel".

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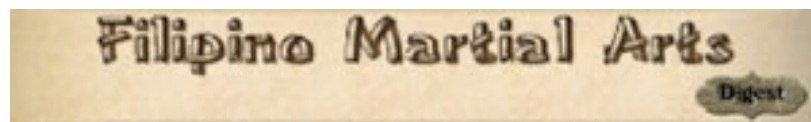
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