

60 SECONDS WITH

SAMIR ABDELFATAH



▲ 1990 Mena House event, Egypt hosting the USA team

Country: Egypt

Date of Birth: June 16 1949

Star sign: Gemini

Profession: Civil Engineer & the
Chef d'Équipe of the National
Egyptian Show Jumping Team

What is your best achievement?

Amanda is my horse. She was ridden by Michael Whitaker during the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics where they won the silver medal and she won her gold medal at the 1987 European Championships in St. Gallen. My personal achievement, I would say, is my team winning 3 medals at the Pan Arab Games here in Cairo in 2007.

Who is your favourite athlete (rider or other sports person)?

Many show jumpers from the old and new generation are very good, but I would choose Michael Whitaker. He has an extraordinary talent for riding a horse.

Do you keep any pets?

Apart from horses? No. My ex-wife kept 17 dogs which made me a little wary to get near them again.

What is your favourite movie?

Anything that is a thriller or action film. I like to be able to snooze for a few minutes and then get back to the

movie and be able to follow it again.

Who is your ideal celebrity (female or male)?

Several to name, but Kim Novak from "The Legend of Lylah Clare" and Catherine Zeta Jones.

What is your favourite gadget?

The bridle. I can only use my hands well with the reins of a horse but with nothing else!

What is your favourite music record?

Frank Sinatra's "My Way".

What is your second favourite sport?



▲ Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh greeting Samir Abdelfatah & Michael Whitaker during the 1982 Royal International Horse Show

All sports at top levels.

Do you like to cook?

I know how to! Very well. But I wouldn't choose to.

What is your strength and what is your weakness?

Strength: to be able to start all over again. My weakness, although I don't see it as such: being too emotionally involved with the people I deal with.

What makes you happy & what makes you sad?

Happy: seeing people trying to achieve something. Sad: to see people waste their talents or potentials.

To your close friends & family, you are known to be?

The Godfather.

If you had the power to change something, what would you change?

I would start Egypt's January 25th revolution, but they beat me to it!

If there is something about Samir that you would like to change, what would that be?

Maybe to get a new car.

Do you support any charitable organisations?

The streets of Cairo.

Do you think there is any other question we should have asked but did not?

You could have asked me if I could be more constructive in life than I am now. 🙄

