

THE RED SEA'S SUCCESS

CSI** & CSI***-W SHARM EL SHEIKH

By Sandra Adams



CSI** SHARM EL SHEIKH INTERNATIONAL SHOW JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS OPENED UP THE 2009/2010 ARAB LEAGUE SEASON NOT IN ITS ACCUSTOMED LOCATION AT KING'S RANCH BY THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA, BUT IN CONCORDE EL SALAM SINAI. IN A LOVELY BREEZE OF WIND AND RED SEA HARD-HITTING SUN. MORE THAN 200 RIDERS FROM EGYPT. SAUDI ARABIA, IRAQ, THE UAE, SYRIA, JORDAN, AND QATAR COMPETED TO PRIZE MONEY OF 200,000 US DOLLARS AND A CAR DURING THE 2-WEEK EVENT.

RIDERS, HORSES AND OFFICIALS WERE HOSTED AT CONCORDE EL SALAM HOTEL WHERE THE OUTDOOR COMPETITION GROUNDS WERE GRASS - WITH COURSES **DESIGNED BY INTERNATIONAL** COURSE DESIGNER, THE NETHERLANDS' ROB JANSEN. THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE WHOLE EVENT WAS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ALEXANDRIA; RIDERS WOULD FINISH THEIR CLASSES AND THEN CHANGE INTO SHORTS TO GO LOUNGE AT THE BEACH. EL SALAM HOTEL WAS ACTIVE WITH TOURISTS WHO JOINED THE EVENT AS SPECTATORS, AS WELL AS THE RIDER'S TENT THAT WAS FULL WITH A WARM SPIRIT THAT ADDED TO THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE AT SHARM EL SHIEKH.

Rob Jansen gives us a brief analysis to his experience by saying, "The level of riding in the Middle East is reasonable, although with bigger classes, I see better performances since both riders and horses have developed throughout the past 5 years. Accordingly, I design the courses. From what I have seen, there are many differences between the riders; some are very good and show potential, and some are promoted too soon to jump bigger fences. I designed big courses for the Grand Prix and against the riders in terms of technicalities, but I make sure they do not hurt the horses. The final result would be the best rider winning! My vision when designing is that the best rider with the best-trained horse will jump clear, and so several riders such as Andre Sakakini and HRH Prince Abduallh bin Miteb always come in first. As for the footing, there have been several complaints about the grass and sand arenas but I think they are good complaints that give extra room for Show Organisers to develop this show

further by next year. My advice for Officials would be to hire a good Agricultural Engineer who will build an excellent sand footing with fibre. I still must say that the whole organisation has been fine and the location is simply splendid. All my best compliments to Concorde El Salam hotel as I am sure they tried all their best to make our stay convenient."

HRH PRINCE ABDULLAH BIN MITEB AL SEOUD:

"Coming to Egypt is lovely and riding here in Sharm El Sheikh has a different atmosphere. The Arab League schedule was disorganised for several seasons but this year it has started well and early. It's very comfortable here, people are lovely and relaxed. and the beach is beautiful. The show is held inside the hotel itself where we are lodging, which is convenient, and truthfully, the experience of being in Sharm El Sheikh this year is quite amazing. From another point, what I

Show understood from the Organisers is that the show grounds were prepared in only 2 months; it was surprising to see that all was under control given the short duration of preparations. Moreover, the arena was quite good if compared to the ones in the UAE or Europe. With transportation. we had some difficulties reaching Sharm El Sheikh from Europe since there were no direct flights for the horses, so we had to land in Cairo and travel another 600 kilometres to Sharm. I am also happy to jump the big classes clear as it's quite competitive given lots of good conditioned horses and riders. Many Egyptian riders are in good form especially the young generation that brings about lots of potential. Winning means a lot to me since I bought my horse from Egypt, he is an Egyptian product basically! He was here as a young horse jumping with Mohamed Osama El Boraei who I think has given him a lot of mileage."

▼ HRH Prince Abdullah bin Miteb Al Seoud, KSA



CSI** OCTOBER 1 - 4:

From October 1st 2009 until October 4th, the 2 star show was a point accumulator for the World Cup in Geneva, Switzerland taking place in April 2010.

RANK	RIDER	HORSE	COUNTRY	TOUR	DAY
- 1	Andre Sakakini	Hope	Italy	Big	1
2	Hani Bisharat	Its Me T	Jordan	Big	1
3	Mohamed O. El Boraei	Nirvana	Egypt	Big	1
4	Karim Habashi	In Shalla	Egypt	Big	1
5	Mohamed mansour	Its Super Girl	Egypt	Big	1
1	Dr. Karim El Sobky	Petite Donna	Egypt	Medium	1
2	Hani Bisharat	Trouble Maker	Jordan	Medium	1
3	Mougeith Shehab	Vivre Syria	Syria	Medium	1
- 1	Salem Al Suwaidi	Natalie 097	UAE	Silver	1
2	Mohamed Ali Seif	Sky Walkers	Egypt	Silver	1
3	Abdelrahman Alaa Ragab	Sayonara	Egypt	Silver	1
-1	HRH Prince Abdullah	Mobily Lil Majd	KSA	wcq	2
2	Andre Sakakini	Hope	Italy	WCQ	2
3	Karim Habashi	In Shallah	Egypt	wcq	2
4	Ibrahim Sami	Cest La Vie	Egypt	WCQ	2
5	Mohamed O. El Boraei	Cesario	Egypt	wcq	2
1	Hani Bisharat	Trouble Maker	Jordan	Medium	2
2	Andre Sakakini	Miss Corland	Italy	Medium	2
3	HRH Prince Abdullah	Al Rayyan Poco Locoa	KSA	Medium	2
1	Mohamed Abu Eita	Primiera	Egypt	Small	2
2	Abdelrahman Alaa Ragab	Sayonara	Egypt	Small	2
3	Hashem Zaghloul	Sundancer	Jordan	Small	2
1	Abdullah Al Sharbatly	No Time	KSA	Gold	3
2	Ahmed Al Mudahka	Machoman	Kuwait	Gold	3
3	Bandar Jumaa	Lovari	Kuwait	Gold	3
1	Riyad Ayed	Flying Beauty	Iraq	Silver	3
2	Al Walid Al Rashid	Cavalor Rochetto	Jordan	Silver	3
3	Al Walid Al Rashid	Olit	Jordan	Silver	3
1	Andre Sakakini	Hope	Italy	GP	4
2	Ahmed Tolba	Rocco	Egypt	GP	4
3	Hani Bisharat	Its Me T	Jordan	GP	4
4	HRH Prince Abdullah	Mobily Saudia	KSA	GP	4
- 5	Wassim Anzarouti	Laganscho	Syria	GP	4
1	Ahmed Alaa Ragab	Favorit	Egypt	Medium	4
2	Andre Sakakini	Hollerith	Italy	Medium	4
3	Mohamed Taher Ziyada	Khair Allah	Egypt	Medium	4
1	Salem Al Suwaidi	Natalie 097	UAE	Small	4
2	Riyad Ayed	Flying Beauty	Iraq	Small	4
3	Dr. Karim El Soky	Easy Jet	Egypt	Small	4







▲ Andre Sakakini, Italy ▼ Sameh El Dahan, Egypt



▼ Ahmed Bassioni, Egypt



NAJIB CHAMI

Rider, Foreign Judge, President of the Technical Committee of the Lebanese Equestrian Federation & Secretary General Assistant:

"It was good since this is the first time competitions take place in a different location other than Kings Ranch. Even though the whole event came in during a tight schedule, somehow, they made a big effort to make things easy for everyone. For 10 years I have been judging in Europe and this is my first time to actually judge in an Arab country because usually I am riding. If compared to Europe, we are slowly approaching the levels there. I am very much enjoying my time here in Sharm; it's always nice to be around the riders to get to know them more."



▲ Wassim Anzarouti, Syria

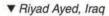


CSI*** OCTOBER 8 - 11:

Starting October 8th throughout October 12th, the 3 star show held participations for point accumulators for the Arab League standings and was a 2010 World Cup and World Equestrian Games qualifier.

RANK	RIDER	HORSE	COUNTRY	TOUR	DAY
<u> </u>	Wassim Anzarouti	Laganscho	Syria	WCQ	1
2	Andre Sakakini	Hollerith	Italy	wcq	1
3	HRH Prince Abdullah	Mobily Saudi	KSA	wcq	1
4	Mohamed Mansour	Its Super Girl	Egypt	wcq	1
5	Claudia Al Nafarawy	Fadlallah	Egypt	WCQ	1
1	Hani Bisharat	Touble Maker	Jordan	Medium	1
2	Salem Al Suwaidi	Solito	UAE	Medium	1
3	HRH Prince Abdullah	Al Rayyan Poco Locoa	KSA	Medium	1
1	Ali Qarlousi	Sunrise	Iraq	Small	1
2	Abdallah Alaa Ragab	Sayonara	Egypt	Small	1
3	Dr. Karim El Sobky	Udana	Egypt	Small	1
1	HRH Prince Abdullah	Mobily Lil Majd	KSA	WCQ	2
2	Karim Hamdy	Cecotto 4	Egypt	WCQ	2
3	Andre Sakakini	Hollerith	Italy	WCQ	2
4	Wassim Anzarouti	Laganscho	Syria	WCQ	2
5	Firas Jneidy	Tyson	Syria	WCQ	2
1	Salem Al Suwaidi	Solito	UAE	Medium	2
2	Mustafa Al Zindaki	Power Light	Syria	Medium	2
3	Amr Gamal	D Ga Vue	Egypt	Medium	2
1	Mohamed Abu Eita	Primiera	Egypt	Silver	2
2	Salem Al Suwaidi	Natalie 079	UAE	Silver	2
3	Islam Amr Eid	Vission	Egypt	Silver	2
1	Dr. Sameh El Dahan	Vera	Egypt	Medium	3
2	Mohamed Al Owais	Saydoon V.D.H.	KSA	Medium	3
3	Ahmed Alaa Ragab	Salsa	Egypt	Medium	3
1	Ali Sabbour	Soiree	Egypt	Silver	3
2	Yasin Al Zbibi	Athar Al Sham	Syria	Silver	3
3	Riyad Ayed	Subhan Allah	Iraq	Silver	3
4	Andre Sakakini	Hollerith	Italy	GP	4
2	HRH Prince Abdullah	Mobily Saudi	KSA	GP	4
3	Karim Habashi	In Shallah	Egypt	GP	4
4	Claudi El Nafarawy	Fadlallah	Egypt	GP	4
5	Wassim Anzarouti	Laganscho	Syria	GP	4
1	Mohamed Mansour	Its Super Girl	Egypt	Medium	4
2	Ahmed Bassiouni	Top Choice	Egypt	Medium	4
3	Mustafa Al Zindaki	Power Light	Syria	Medium	4
1	Islam Amr Eid	Vission	Egypt	Silver	4
2	Dr. Karim El Sobky	Petite Donna	Egypt	Silver	4
3	Khaled Mohamed Aly	Karamana	Egypt	Silver	4







▼ Salem Al Suwaidi, UAE





▲ Karim Hamdy, Egypt

▼ Ibrahim Sami, Egypt

HANI BISHARAT:

"We as a Jordanian team have been preparing plenty for the event; we have had several competitions in Jordan prior to this one and so we came in with some good confidence. I was lucky over the past 2 weeks as I raised the flag of Jordan several times, which is a good achievement. My amazing mare 'Trouble Maker' was almost going to win all the Medium Classes! I'm also very much happy to see that the Arab League is continuing as every year it brings about many young talents which is a refreshing sight. As Arab riders, we are developing to the best and we have reached World Cup and Olympic levels, and in the upcoming 2 years, it is certain that we shall all see many potentials; experience will come by age and mileage, which is happening here. My sincere thanks to Horse Times as it follows our riding activities and publishes the best of us and the best of the Arab region's show jumping scene."

HAIDAR AL JUMAILY President of the Iraqi Equestrian Federation:

"We face many challenges with the sport in Iraq, but we are trying our best to come up with the best strategic and beneficial plans for our riders and horses. We have an embargo on horses travelling out of Iraq and generally, the sport is expensive of course and to transport our horses to be able to compete at Arab League events is more of a challenge. As such we have bought several horses and rented stables at the Equestrian Federation of Jordan in Amman in order to make matters easy for our riders. Moreover, our riders are really exerting a good effort, and I think with the little expenses that we have, they have achieved some good results and gained some good experience. We would still appreciate some support from the International Equestrian Federation and we as Iraqi riders, would love to participate at more Arab League events." HT

Pictures courtesy of Hossam Fadl +2 012 451 6401



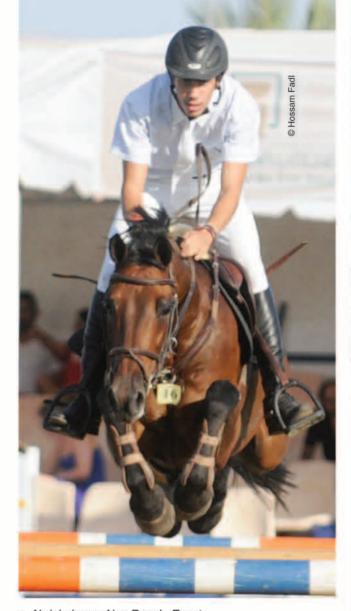
▲ Hisham Hattab, President of the Egyptian Equestrian Federation, presenting a Prize to Haidar Al Jumaily



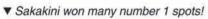


▼ Firas Jneidy, Syria





▲ Abdelrahman Alaa Ragab, Egypt







▲ Khaled Mohamed Aly, Egypt



▲ Islam Amr Eid, Egypt

▼ Abdullah Al Sharbatly, KSA

