

Headlines

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2, Bahgat Ali Street, Zamalek, Cairo - Egypt Tel & Fax: +2 02 27356939 +2 02 27354348 www.horsetimesegypt.com





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Design and layout

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Egyptian Showjumping Victory in Longines Challenge Cup in Barcelona



The Egyptian show-jumping team finishes in fifth place at the Longines Challenge Cup at the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Final 2015 at Real Club de Polo in Barcelona, Spain.

A great performance by the Egyptians who have passionately ridden; they shared fifth place with the Italians when both finished on 13 faults at the end of day.

Egypt has qualified as the best nation of the African region for the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™ Final. According to the FEI Nations Cup Website, "it was determined by adding points of the 4 best placed riders of each nation based on the Longines rankings released two months prior to the final." This marks the first time for the Egyptian team to take part in the final.

Riding at their best, they had a tough competition. A mistake at the second element of the double at five prevented Egypt's Karim Elzoghby from taking his cut of the extra cash, but after a great ride by Mohamed Talaat (Connaught) who returned with just a single time fault, the Egyptians were in with a chance of finishing with just five faults if last-line rider, Sameh El Dahan, could leave all the fences up with Suma's Zorro. In a contest in which the anchor riders were under the most immense pressure however, 12 faults put paid to that.

Although Sameh did his best, Zorro's bad virus, that she picked up before Dublin, prevented them from sparkling above the fences. They ended up on 12 faults to finish the team's first Nations Cup finals in fifth place.





Via: FEI

The Belgian team clinched the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping 2015 title in the finest of style with a fantastic performance in the final round at Real Club de Polo in Barcelona (ESP).

They threw down the gauntlet when topping Thursday's opener in which they pinned Germany and Sweden into joint-second place. But it was the British who emerged to fill runner-up spot this evening, pinning the rampant Dutch back to third when the clock decided the

final placings. USA, Ireland and Germany were next in line, also separated only by time when they also finished on an equal scoreline, while Sweden lined up seventh ahead of Switzerland in eighth.

The city of Barcelona certainly

arms once again, and before the competition began FEI President, Ingmar de Vos, made a special presentation to Mr Carles Villarubi, Vice-President of FC Barcelona who provided access to the world-famous Camp Nou stadium for a

The competition was so intense than lived up to expectations, with fortunes fluctuating wildly and the result once again decided by the very last rider into the arena.

welcomed the world with open special photo-shoot ahead of the The crowd was spell-bound with spectacular jumping from many of the world's greatest athletes and horses, but the Belgians were the shiniest stars of all, with Judy-Ann Melchior and Gregory Wathelet producing two of just six clear rounds on the night to clinch it.



VIA: FEI

Qatar won the aptly-Longines named Challenge Cup at the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Final 2015 at Real Club de Polo in Barcelona, Spain tonight where, once again, the competition was a cliff-hanger to the very end. And, for the second day in a row, course designer, Spain's Santiago Varela, set them a super-tough track that tested judgement, jumping ability and nerve in equal measure.

The winners finished on a nine-fault scoreline while Australia, Brazil and France shared second place when all three sides posted a total of 12 each. Once again the one-round format produced a class filled with unpredictability, the result eventually decided by the very last horse-and-rider combination into the arena.

The Furusiyya series is not just about crowning the best Nations Cup team of the year however, it is also about drawing new nations into the fold and encouraging their participation and development. So it was exciting to see Egypt, who at one stage look set to create a real sensation, sharing fifth place with the much more experienced Italian side when both finished on 13 faults at the end of



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Championship down to the wire after Luciana's Vienna victory



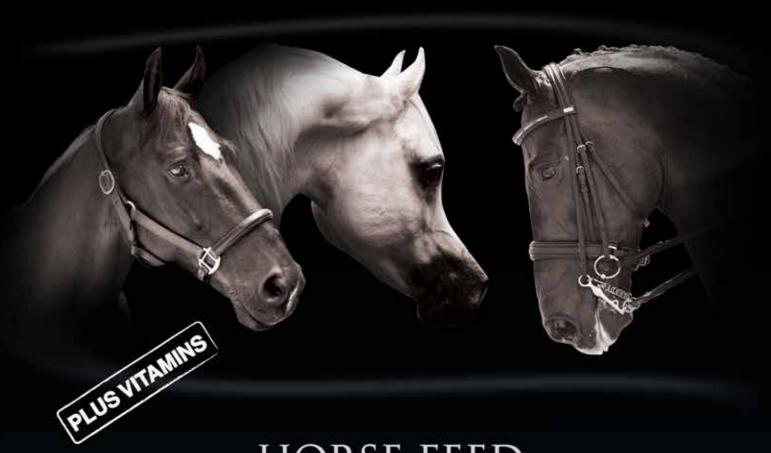
Via: LGCT

The 2015 championship comes down to the wire after an astonishing Grand Prix cliffhanger in Vienna was won by Luciana Diniz (POR) setting up an epic series climax.

With a €1 million bonus at stake at the final in Qatar, three of the world's top riders have the chancetotaketheLonginesGlobal Champions Tour crown. Luciana's blistering victory in Vienna on her aptly named Grey Stallion Winningmood, has closed the gap on ranking leader and World No1 Scott Brash (GBR). Luciana is now only a wafer thin two points behind Scott and as she celebrated

her latest win, she threw down the gauntlet and said: "I am going to be pushing you."

Swedish Champion, Rolf-Göran Bengtsson, is only another eight points behind Luciana and the three-way fight is set to produce a dramatic dream sporting finish to the season. It was a night of intense number crunching in the Austrian capital with the possibility that Scott could have taken the championship if he had jumped clear and Luciana and Rolf had scored zero points. But it was not to be and Scott's four faults in the Grand Prix means the fate of the championship will only be decided on the final day of the final event of 2015.



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LONGINES FEI EUROPEAN EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIPS:

THE QUEEN CROWNS MICHAEL JUNG AND GERMANY AS EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS

Via: FEI

German riders were simply the best on the final day of the Longines FEI European Eventing Championships at Blair Castle (GBR) where, in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, who presented the medals, they won team gold by more than 50 penalties and the matchless Michael Jung captured the fifth individual title of his career.

All four team members – Jung, Sandra Auffarth, who also took individual silver, Ingrid Klimke and Dirk Schrade – went clear in the Jumping phase to give Germany a fifth successive team title. Their winning run began at the 2011 FEI European Eventing Championship at Luhmühlen (GER) and has included three European titles plus Olympic and world team golds.

Jung confirmed his place in Eventing history as one of the world's greats when he equalled Ginny Elliot's (GBR) record, set in the 1980s, of three European titles on three different horses. He has, however, now beaten her record of six consecutive individual medals – this is

his seventh since his senior championship debut in 2009.

This third European title was perhaps the hardest fought, as it came on an inexperienced eight-year-old horse and after a Cross Country phase run in the most testing of weather.

"Now I can say I have a champion for the future," said a visibly thrilled Jung, in a warning to the rest of the world that he is not planning to give anyone else a chance just yet. "fischerTakinou is a really good horse and I think he has the quality for the next championships."

Great Britain, the silver medallists, have not been beaten at a home European Championship since 1959, but they faced a mountainous task when they had to add Nicola Wilson's Cross Country penalties after the retirement of William Fox-Pitt.

"I feel rather fraudulent sitting here," joked Fox-Pitt, who was competing at his 10th European Championship and has only once failed to bring home a medal. "But the girls did so well. They really deserved the silver."

RICHIE MOLONEY AND CARRABIS Z TAKE TOP HONORS AT LONGINES FEI WORLD CUPTM JUMPING IN NEW YORK

Via: FEI

An accurate jump-off effort from Richie Moloney (IRL) resulted in the only clear round in a six-man field and earned the win at yesterday's Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping \$215,000 American Gold Cup in New York.

The impressive, 1.60-metre track designed by Alan Wade (IRL) featured 14 obstacles arena's graded terrain and natural barriers, Wade's course managed to hold 31 horseand-rider pairs, out of the original field of (RUS) aboard Veyron was the second in the order of go, and navigated a rail-free round, but with less than a second over the time allowed she recorded the only onefault score in the first round.

Otherwise, rails fell in a variety of places a clear round."

throughout the course, with increased incidents at the triple and double combinations. "Wade is a horse-friendly, competitor-friendly designer," according to Frank Madden, the class' commentator and resident trainer. "He uses no gimmicks and no trickery."

Daniel Bluman (COL) and Conconcreto Sancha LS recorded the first clear as the with 17 jumping attempts. Utilising the third horse-and-rider team to enter the ring. "I had an early draw today in the first round, so I couldn't really see many people jump before me," Bluman said. "I just wanted to 37, from the final round. Liubov Kochetova ride my plan. I found it extremely technical and careful, and it took extremely good horses and riders to jump a clear round today. I was very satisfied with the way my mare jumped. We've been together for five or six years, and it never gets old to jump





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FEI EUROPEAN ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2015:

SPAIN CONTINUES DOMINATION WITH TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL GOLD IN SAMORIN

Hot off their superb win at the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games[™] in Normandy (FRA) just over a year ago, Spain continued its reign at the top of the Endurance world when Jaume Punti Dachs took individual honours and led the Spanish to team gold at the FEI European Endurance Championships 2015 in Samorin (SVK) on Saturday 12 September.

The Samorin Elements Resorts, a state-of-the-art, multi-sport facility covering over 100 hectares, hosted the biggest event on the 2015 Endurance calendar and saw competitors from 20 nations gathering to challenge for the title of European champion.

de Jalima, silver medallists at the Games in 2014, were back to see if they could climb to the top step of the podium this time round, but with other strong combinations such as Jean Philippe Frances (FRA) with Secret de Mon Coeur, and four of the five members from last year's Spanish gold medal team, the bid for victory was never going to be easy.

This year's Championships differed from the usual format seen in Endurance events of late with linear sections and a remote Vet Gate providing a logistical challenge for both crews and officials alike. Loop 1 followed the course of the Danube River north, skirting around the Slovakian capital Bratislava and, 40km from the start line, arriving at the first Marijke Visser (NED) and Laiza vet gate, nestled at the foot of the

Little Carpathian Mountains.

Spain looked strong at this stage with all of their athletes within the top 10. Frances and Visser, along with three Hungarian competitors, were all within five minutes of leading rider Jordi Arboix Santacreu (ESP) aboard the 10-year-old bay gelding Aquiles.

The second loop was the toughest loop of all and climbed from 125 metres up to 550 metres and then descended back to the same vet gate, all within 33km. The difficulty of this section saw the leading speed of just under 23kph drop to 17.7kph. Visser (NED) took a 30-second lead over second-placed Frances (FRA) followed by the entire Spanish team, all of whom were less than three minutes behind the leading horse.



VILMOS LÁZÁR

TAKES INDIVIDUAL TITLE AND LEADS HUNGARY TO TEAM GOLD





The 16th FEI World Pairs Driving Championships at the Kinizi Horse Park in Fábiánsebestyén (HUN) witnesses a record in driving history. The home side's Vilmos Lázár was re-crowned as world champion, making this the 48-year-old's fifth world pairs gold –. Lázár's younger brother Zoltan claimed silver, while Italy's Jozsef Dibak took bronze.

Moreover, Hungary took team gold for the sixth time since the first FEI World Pairs Driving Championships in 1983, after victories in 1989, 1999, 2001, 2003 and 2013. Italy finishing with the silver and bronze went to Germany.

This exciting marathon course on the Kinizi grounds is Hungarian creation by the course designer Gábor Fintha. He designed all eight marathon obstacles — including two water obstacles and one with a water passage — requiring the best technical skills from the drivers.

Weather conditions were perfect but the earlier rain made the footing heavy and slippery. The Organising Committee put in a tremendous effort to improve conditions, including scraping off the top layer of mud from over six kilometres on the A-section of the marathon the night before, but it was well worth the trouble as it resulted in fit horses at the finish of the 16-kilometre long marathon.



Via: FEI

The German national anthem rang out yet again as the team were victorious at Waregem (BEL), seventh leg of the FEI Nations Cup™ Eventing 2015, where they beat the home side of Belgium by nearly 50 penalties.

This was Germany's third win this season, following victories at Houghton Hall (GBR) and Aachen (GER), but Britain, who have participated in the most contests, still head the FEI Nations Cup™ Eventing leaderboard by a significant nine points going into the last leg at Boekelo (NED) next month.

The Netherlands finished third, with the experienced Tim Lips their best rider in 17th place on Trademark, more than 50 penalties behind Belgium.

The Cross Country phase proved influential - especially the elusive optimum time - and considerably re-ordered the leaderboard, producing a surprise individual CIC3* winner in British team member Nana Dalton (GBR) on Abbeylara Prince.

FEI Nations Cup™ Eventing 2015 Leaderboard after 7 out 8 events

- 1- Great Britain 49
- 2- Germany 40
- 3- Australia 35
- 4- France 32
- 5- Netherlands 29
- 6- Belgium 17
- 7- Ireland 15
- 8- Sweden 10
- 9- New Zealand 9
- 10- USA 7
- 11- Spain 6
- 12- Poland 4
- 12- Canada 4



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