

Headlines

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YET AGAIN,

DANIEL DEUSSER IS WORLD NUMBER ONE!

Via: FEI

Germany's Daniel Deusser goes into 2017 as the new world number one in the Longines rankings, overtaking fellow-countryman Christian Ahlmann who has enjoyed a lengthy period in pole position. America's Kent Farrington (3rd) and McLain Ward (4th) have relegated Simon Delestre to fifth spot ahead of his French compatriot Kevin Staut. Germany's Marcus Ehning remains in seventh place while Canada's Rio Olympic individual bronze medallist Eric Lamaze has slipped slightly from sixth to eighth.

Deusser was lying third at the end of the

previous rankings period, and a great run during the London International Horse Show at Olympia just before Christmas where he won the Grand Prix with Equita van T Zorgvliet, has helped promote him to the top slot. With 3,076 points, the 35-year-old heads Ahlmann by a full 70 points (3,006), while Farrington (2,950) just shades Ward (2,940). There has been little dramatic change in the top 10, although Frenchwoman Penelope Leprevost has dropped one place to 10th, while former world number one, Great Britain's Scott Brash, has moved back into the top 10, up from 13th to ninth spot.

The new rankings reflect some super-

competitive performances from riders who have the Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping 2017 Final in Omaha, Nebraska (USA) in their sights. Deusser, who took the 2014 title and who, along with Ahlmann, was a member of the bronze medal winning German side at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, still has some work to do to earn his place on the starting blocks at the Final. Switzerland's Steve Guerdat, 11th in the New Year rankings list, will be going for a back-to-back hat-trick of Longines titles when the Final gets underway on 27 March. ♠

Photos by Jacques Toffi





CSI BASEL GRAND PRIX NIELS BRUYNSEELS, REWARDED WITH VICTORY

The 33-year-old Belgian Niels Bruynseels won the Grand Prix of CSI Basel with his mare Gancia de Muze. The runner-up spot went to the British champion, John Whitaker, with Ornellaia and in third place, Australia's Edwina Tops-Alexander with Lintea Tequila.

THE LEADING RIDER IN BASEL GOES TO

JOHN WHITAKER

So near, yet so far. Less than a second prevented John Whitaker from taking victory in Basel's 5* 1.60m grand prix. But he went home with a brand new car as the leading rider of the show.







France's Adeline Hecart and her mount Pasha du Gue were the champions of the Longines Grand Prix at Al Shira'aa International Horse Show, Abu Dhabi; while KSA's Khaled Abdulrahman Almobty with ZYPERN 4 finished in second and third place went to Bahrain's Khalid Hilal Al Khatri with AWAL BDF.



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