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## FEI WORLD CUP JUMPING STAGE IN A CORUÑA Edwina Tops-Alexander is the absolute winner

#### Via Casas Novas

Longines FEI World Cup returns to Casas Novas, after its premiere last year. The level was very high; proof of this was that only 8 riders qualified for the jump off.

In this exciting jump off, in which emotion was not lacking from beginning to end, Edwina Tops-Alexander won riding her new 10-year-old mare California with a time of 40.08 seconds in a very fast performance without any penalty. The audience could enjoy again with the Australian horsewoman after her rest of the competitions last year. Elena Orozco, Director of Longines in Spain, give to Edwina the trophy.

Edwina declares that "it's very exciting and a fantastic feeling" to win here and, about her mare she explains that "It is her second victory in a Grand Prix and although it's always hard to compare we match and we are doing good things". About the jumping show, Tops-Alexander said that Casas Novas has an "unbelievable atmosphere, it's always full house." no



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## CASAS NOVAS INTERNATIONAL JUMPING SHOW SAMEH EL DAHAN FLIES IN THE LONGINES GRAND PRIX

The first big competition in Casas Novas International Jumping Show was the Longines Grand Prix. Fans enjoyed a really exciting struggle among some of the best riders of this modality.

In the jump off, the rider Sameh El Dahan got the first position on the back of Suma's Zorro with a time of 33.61 seconds in the jump off. It was the first victory of the Egyptian in Casas Novas.

After receiving the trophy from the Elena Orozco's hands, Director of Longines in Spain, El Dahan was very happy and said that "I always believe we'll have a good result". Regarding the course, he thinks that "It was a difficult course from start to finish. Santiago Varela did a good work". In his view, his horse, Sumas Zorro "is really careful, she always fights for me and that's how she manages to finish it".

#### **VIA CASAS NOVAS**

## FEI WORLD CUP™ DRESSAGE 2017/2018

## WEL SCHNEIDER AND SAMMY SCOOP THE HONOURS IN SALZBURG

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It takes two to tango as every top-class Dressage rider knows, and Dorothee Schneider (48) and her lovely 11-year-old gelding Sammy Davis Jr. nailed it with the harmony they showed in their tango-themed test that won today's fourth leg of the FEI World Cup™ Dressage 2017/2018 Western European League at Salzburg in Austria.

> "Sammy wants to present himself and he loves to dance, so he's the perfect Freestyle horse! He's goodlooking with a character to match, and today was our best score so far - it's exciting because we are coming together as a pair more and more!", said the delighted German double-Olympian.

In a start-list of 12 combinations from seven countries, Frenchman Ludovic Henry took the lead when posting 75.673 percent with After You when seventh to go, but Schneider and Sammy blew the class wide open when next to go, putting 83.415 on the board. "I could feel in the warm-up that he was in really good shape - he's been doing an amazing job over the last month!" Schneider said of the horse that helped her claim individual 11th spot at this summer's FEI European Championships in Gothenburg, Sweden.

#### **VIA FEI**

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## VAULTERS SPARKLE IN SALZBURG

## A DREAM START FOR DREWELL, BÜTTIKER, AND VIEHAUSER AND KUSS

#### **Via FEI**

Defending champion Jannis Drewell (GER) returned to the FEI World Cup ™ vaulting stage in Salzburg, Austria, taking top honours and proving exactly why he is the reigning champion.

Nadja Büttiker (SUI) capped off an incredible 2017 season to win the female division, while Ruth Viehauser and Elisabeth Kuss (AUT) delighted the home crowd by winning the opening pas de deux qualifier.

All three winners made a huge impression in their FEI World Cup<sup>™</sup> vaulting 2017/2018 debut.

Returning defending champion, Germany's Drewell stormed to victory at the 3<sup>rd</sup> leg qualifier– drawing on all the strength and determination, which took him to his first FEI World Cup<sup>™</sup> vaulting title in Dortmund earlier this year.

He fought off tough competition with an outstanding performance of his freestyle which, set to music from Pirates of the Caribbean, is laced with moments of both drama and comedy – only highlighting his unmatched expression in the sport.

Whilst we are used to seeing Jannis lunged by his mother Simone Drewell on his usual steed Diabolus 3, this was his first time competing alongside lunger Lars Hansen and Feliciano.

Feliciano wowed on his vaulting debut by gaining a second round horse score in excess of 9, taking Drewell to a whopping total score of 8,826 - a horse to watch as this tournament progresses and a vaulting star of the future.



## FEI WORLD CUP DRIVING COMPETITION STOCKHOLM Defending World Cup champion takes another qualifying leg

Boyd Exell of Australia has taken yet another qualifying leg of FEI World Cup Driving competition, winning against a field of six in Stockholm, Sweden.

The defending World Cup champion, and multiple World Cup winner, Exell, competed last in the three-team drive off for a time of 149.71 with 5 penalty seconds. Teams in this qualifying event started the drive off fresh with zero accumulated time, and Exell was able to move up from his second-place finish in the first round of Day 2 driving, where he had a stellar clear run--the first of any team over the weekend--for a time of 148.45 seconds.

The Stockholm course for this event was tricky and varied, employing the usual cones and marathon obstacles, along with a bridge and a tight speed box built of dressage boards.

The first-place finisher for round one was home favorite and Swedish wildcard entry Fredrick Persson with a time of 152.30 after a beautiful clear run on this highly technical course. Persson was nudged into second place by Exell after the drive off, gaining 15 seconds of penalty time for a total of 164.15 seconds.



#### **VIA FEI**



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