



AYA KADRY AND THE EQUESTRIAN SPORT SPORT VS. INDUSTRY

By: Nermin Marwan

THE EQUESTRIAN SPORT HAS BEEN FACING THE CHALLENGE OF FUNDING SINCE A WHILE BACK, BEING ONE OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE SPORTS. TODAY, THE SPORT HAS BECOME AN INDUSTRY DUE TO ITS EXPENSES SUCH AS A GOOD HORSE, TRAINING, ENTRY FEES, VETERINARY CARE AND MORE.

TODAY WE ARE MEETING A PROMISING CHAMPION, WHO IS SPONSORED BY "saib" BANK WHO SUPPORTS HER TO SHINE AND DISCOVER HER TALENTS. AYA IS A LIVE PROOF THAT WHEN A TALENTED RIDER RECEIVES THE NEEDED SUPPORT, HE/SHE COULD SUCCEED. HAVING THAT SAID, WE HAD TO MEET WITH THE 28-YEAR-OLD AYA.

TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF, AND YOUR EDUCATION.

My name is Aya Kadry, I'm 28 years old. I work in the IT department at Saib bank.

I got my bachelor's degree in computer science in 2016, majoring in software engineering, and started horse riding since I was 5.

DID YOU HAVE ANY HORSE RIDERS IN THE FAMILY?

Yes, my mother was a horse rider who competed in dressage, and my grandfather was also a horse rider.

HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE HORSE WORLD?

When I was young and I saw my mother riding horses and also competing, so I started loving horses and started getting into their world a bit early, which made me love them with all my heart.

AS A YOUNG RIDER, WHO WAS YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE HORSE OR PONY?

My all-time favourite horse was Ginger who was my first horse, my grandfather bought it for me for my 11th birthday and there was a very strong bond between me and ginger that was the main reason that made me love horses.

HOW DID YOUR PARTNERSHIP WITH SAIB BANK BEGIN?

I am working in the IT department at Saib bank and when the Chairman Mr. Tarek El Kholy, who is always keen to support sport talents, knew that I got first place in my last competition, he decided to start a partnership between me and the bank to sponsor me.

I will always appreciate that Mr. Tarek has been one of my greatest supporters who always believed in me. I also owe a lot to the CIO Mr. Moustafa Marzouk who also supported me and pushed me forward



achieving more and more whether in my sport or in my working career.

HOW DID SAIB BANK HELP YOU?

They have supported me since 2019 and they are pushing me to compete internationally, in addition to joining summer camps to get prepared for the upcoming season.

WHAT ARE YOUR COMING PLANS TOGETHER?

We are trying to reach together the A1 in Egypt, then start competing internationally to win more competitions worldwide

IF YOU EVER DECIDE TO STOP RIDING PROFESSIONALLY, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Didn't decide yet, but one of my biggest dreams is to build the biggest stable in Egypt to let all horse lovers find their passion in a professional, beautiful place.

WHAT DO YOU DO TO HELP CALM YOUR NERVES BEFORE GOING INTO THE RING?

I am always keen to be surrounded by my supporters from family and friends.

I also make sure that my horse is okay and ready for competing.

WHAT LEVEL OF COMPETITION ARE YOU COMPETING AT NOW?

I have just finished the Egyptian cup placing the first place, in addition to the championship.

I am now getting ready for the finals for the season

THROUGH YOUR LONG ROAD, WHO HAS BEEN THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSON?

My grandfather as he owned Arabian horses while he was too young and he was a dressage rider.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR UNFORGETTABLE SUCCESSFUL MOMENT.

Winning the Egyptian cup.

We were facing very difficult moments. When my corona virus PCR just turned negative days before competing and I was so tired so wasn't my ideal time to compete. But I was startled by my performance and by Bambino's performance after achieving 5 clear rounds. I finished in first place and it was such a happy moment.

WHO IS YOUR ROLE MODEL?

Ben Maher as I always found something different in his way of riding and he will always be one of my favourites.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST MOTIVATION?

Waking up every morning and starting my day by running around my house and then going to the gym.

This motivates me throughout my day and gives me the energy to continue.

WHAT'S YOUR BIG DREAM?

My biggest dream is to compete in the Olympics but one day it will not be a dream anymore, as I am working so hard to make my dreams come true. 🐾

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“My biggest dream is to compete in the Olympics”



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