



New President for Ferosia Club

Mr. Ahmed El Maghraby the chairman of the chain Accor Hotel companies has recently been elected as President of the Ferosia club in Gezira. There was a unanimous agreement during the general assembly held on September 2001 welcoming Mr. Maghraby to the presidency post. Mr. Maghraby was very touched to hold the same position after the late General Abd Allah El Gazairly his father in law.



A new born African Equestrian Federation

This year celebrated the initiation of a newborn equestrian federation to host most of the African countries. The first general assembly for the African Equestrian Federation took place during mid February 2002 in Cairo at the Intercontinental Hotel. The African Equestrian Federation originated as a flash by Eng. Abdel Fattah Ragab the president of the EEF in Egypt.

Eng. Abdel Fattah Ragab was elected as president of the African Equestrian Federation and Eng. Hisham Hattab as Treasurer.

Among the visitors who attended the general assembly from various countries were Mr. Fouad Mekki from Sudan, Mr. John Roger Pearce from Zimbabwe, Mrs. Veronique Portier from Niger, Mr. Jean Yves Camenen, Mr. Francois Lucas and Mr. Francois Bouhyer from France, Mr. Jean Michel Turlot from Belgium, Mr. Neil Fitt from Botswana, Mr. Kabirou Mbodge and Mr. Ardo Sow from Senegal and Mr. Giles Girouard from Mauritius.



In fact, the allocated base for the federation will be "King's Ranch", which is the new equestrian center in King Mariout owned and built by Eng. Abdel Fattah Ragab according to the latest international measures. It is a riding heaven for any rider with its large grass arenas as well as the fiber sand ones. It is by all means royal.

The countries members in the African Equestrian Federation are 22 countries including; Egypt, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Senegal, Niger, Mauritius, Mauritania, Nigeria, Cote de Voire, Congo, Mali, Zambia and Botswana.

An Internal Affair

A recent change has occurred at the equestrian section of the Alexandria Sporting Club.

Dr. Hisham Sadek is now in charge of the equestrian department in replacement of Eng. Alaa Ragab. Eng. Alaa Ragab who was a strong competitor in the past and still is very much in shape today was supervisor for the past seven consecutive years, during which he created a strong team spirit, a sense of belonging and affiliation between all the members. The results of the Alexandria sporting club rated very highly in the Federation tabloid and a strong generation of young riders has offspringed which indicates the fertility of the environment available.

Eng. Alaa Ragab, the prominent and successful businessman believes that, "One should always try to give and not just take.. to my my club and my sport." It's a personal discipline and belief.

Dr. Hisham Sadek, a renowned rider with a huge riding career and tremendous mileage in the game and in particular with his mare "Manar" marked a very rich C.V. is now in charge. "I realize the effort that has been done, the input and the achievement. I intend to compliment what has been done and lead on the same way with my own perception."

It appears that the deep friendship, the common understanding and the love for the sport that is shared between Dr. Hisham and Eng. Alaa has paved way for a link between a strong past and a bright future.



The Sunshine Takes A New Dimension

By Eng. Samir Abdel Fattah



Eng. Samir Abdel Fattah

For the first time there was such a gathering of horses and riders to compete over five weekends from Feb 12th to March 17th. There were 1600 horses competing in the showjumping and 100 in the dressage. There were 43 nations from as far north as Norway and Sweden, as far south as New Zealand and Australia, as far east as Brazil and the Argentine and west as Philippines and Japan. The Arab nations were represented by 3 nations: Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

These kinds of gatherings were only known to happen in the US. But the European equivalent Sunshine Tour (SS Tour) has over taken the American idea by the number of nations participating. The show is comprised of 3 different groups of competitions. Young hoes group: 5,6 and the 7 year old competitions with heights 115, 125 & 135cm receptively. This competition usually runs

over 3 consecutive days Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of every week. On the Friday, Saturday and Sunday we found the small and big tour competitions with height 115, 125 and 135, and open to any horses and riders. The big tour with heights of 130, 135-140, 140-145 and 150+, also open to any rider on any horse. The only limitation is that the rider who rides the big tour cannot ride the small tour. With this type of mix in this time of the year where the rest of the European countries have very bad weather that does not help in training and producing young horses (the rest of the world Hungary to mingle) and compete with the worlds best, one can understand the attractions and the benefits of the SS Tour.

The Arab nations Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan were very good ambassadors for the Arab world in terms of presentation, behaviour, standard of riding and results also were of a good amount. We always had at least 1 rider or two in the prize giving of each class apart from the young horses were there was not enough horse power.

Our senior rider Andre Sakakini so far had a good show with many placings 2nd, 3rd and 4th. But he is using the show so far for preparation for his horses like Casper, Landy, and Lady for the big ones this summer and his main horse Careful, saving him for the finals which is expected to be quiet big as a first step preparation this year for the world equestrian games which will be held also in Jerez which is 70 KM. away from where we are right now.

The second Egyptian representative in this show, Hadi Gabr who travelled to this show with the blessings of our federation where he is competing with 5 horses. One very young 5 year old that has never been in a show before coming to the SS tour which jumped more than her fair share of clear rounds in her first show ever. And with the other four horses in the Big Tour with the big boys where he did not look far behind and in my opinion towards the end of the period he would have gained a lot of experience on different horses at that level of competition which will play a major part of his development in this sport. He also had a few minor results which sounds minor like being 11th, 15th and 20th, but when one compares that the smallest competition had at least 140 horses, this is not minor by any means.

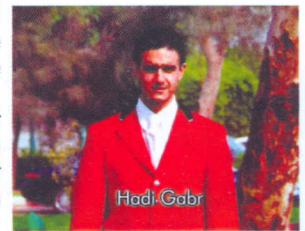
The Saudis were here with six riders, but the apparent notice that were short of horsepower. I think they were using the opportunity to try and find horsepower but so far people are asking too much money for what they have (it is a good trade opportunity, but I think the benefits and the maturity of any kind of deals will be shown at the final week or a month or 2 after this competition). They also had good results with Ramzy El Duhamy winning a couple of classes with his Olympic horse Seif El Adl and Khaled El Eid the Olympic bronze medalist on his second horse Belino whom he had to upgrade to his number one status in his stable after the retirement of his Olympic horse Khasm Al Ain (Eastern Night). Fahd El Eid and Fahd El Geaid also had some minor placings. Mohamed El Mahlasy only jumped for 2 weeks and called back home for endurance responsibilities. Prince Badr Bin Mohamed was the most unlucky of the whole team since his horse got lame after the first week of jumping. Princess Haya of Jordan, representing the 3rd Arab country in this competition, arrived late from her gulf tour competitions and I expect she will start having good results in final week.

The latest edition to the family of showjumping, Khaled El Jeraisy, who has been training for the last 18 months under my supervision had very good results coming 9th, 15th and 22nd out of a class of 120 riders in his first ever serious competition in the small tour A.

Now we are waiting for the start of the final week of the finals. I expect that will have some good results from Sakakini and Ramzy El Duhamy in the very big finals and from Hadi Gabr, Khaled El Eid (on his second horse), Fahd El Eid, and Fahd El Geaid and Princess Haya in the medium ones and from Khaled El Jeraisy in the small ones.

The finals for all levels were run over the last week from March 12th to March 17th.

The results of the whole show and the comments on the final week of the finals will be reported to you in the next issue. Therefore please wish us best of luck and we are all keen and ready to meet with you at home.



Hadi Gabr

EEF Promoting Dressage And Creating Eventing Congratulations, you deserve it...

By: Dr. Mohamed El Sherbini

Member of the Board of the EEF

International Candidate Judge of Showjumping

Vice President of Dressage & Eventing Committee

Dressage is a basic demand for all kinds of equestrian sport. It is defined as "The harmonious development of physique and ability of the horse". A definition which is considered a must in successful horsemanship. Knowing this fact; the dressage and eventing committee, with its president Eng. Abdel Fattah Ragab and vice president Dr. Mohamed El Sherbini decided to push this sport forward. A seminar was held at the EEF by Dr. El Sherbini to qualify national dressage judges. Eleven candidates were included; both males and females. All were selected according to certain parameters and being previous or current dressage riders. This seminar covered all aspects of study of FEI rules for dressage. Evaluation of those new judges included performance, attendance, language, practical and written exam. The EEF invited an international judge of dressage and eventing "Mr. Toni Anspach" to lecture those candidates together with the senior judge to improve their knowledge and gain experience. The next topic will include the new sport in EEF: "Eventing".



B.G. Shihab Mourad now is the executive manager of the Army Cavalry Club starting 01-01-2002 replacing B.G. Salem Saber

who has done a tremendous effort in the previous period.

B.G. Shihab Mourad is a national approved judge by the EEF. We wish him success in his new post.