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# Headlines



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### ON THE COVER: SAMEH EL-DAHAN

PHOTO BY: JACQUES TOFFI

## SAMEH EL DAHAN AND SUMA'S ZORRO FLY TO VICTORY IN \$126,000 IMPERIAL CHALLENGE AT SPRUCE MEADOWS

**Via: Spruce Meadows** 

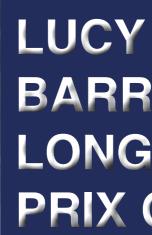
The 2015 'Canada One' Tournament at Spruce Meadows concluded with an electrifying jump-off in the \$126,000 Imperial Challenge and a win for Egypt's Sameh el Dahan riding Suma's Zorro. The pair topped an eight-horse jump-off, last to go, with a courageous gallop to the final fence.

Shane Sweetnam (IRL) and Chaqui Z finished second; Olivier Philippaerts (BEL) and Armstrong van de Kapel placed third.

Owned in partnership by Joanne Sloan-Allen and Sameh el Dahan, Suma's Zorro is an 11-year-old Irish Sport Horse mare sired by VDL Douglas. A small chestnut with a big heart, Suma's Zorro carried her rider to one of the biggest wins of his career. This was El Dahan's first 4\* grand prix victory.

"I did not see anybody go," EI Dahan said of the jump-off. "I just had Joanne at the ring watching for me. She came to me just before I went and said I had to get the nine strides from the combination to the water tray oxer. It worked out really well for me because I was a little slow from jumps one to two because the mare was slipping a little bit. I got the nine strides up there and then Joanne said I had to go as fast as I could down to the last fence. She said, 'Be brave, your mare is careful and she is going to go over it.' That is what I did and I think it paid off."





LONGINES Longines Grand P. Port of Rotterdam 2015

## LUCY DAVIS AND **BARRON WIN THE** LONGINES GRAND PRIX OF ROTTERDAM





Lucy Davis took the title of the Longines Grand Prix of Rotterdam jump-off riding the 11-year-old Barron. She was almost 0.4 seconds faster than Daniel Deusser and Cornet d'Amour who settled for second place.

Germany's Marcus Ehning finished third, and Joe Clee and Utamaro D Ecaussines finished fourth.



## **BRITISH MAKE IT** A FURUSIYYA HAT-TRICK IN ROTTERDAM











### Via: FEI

In a competition that was very definitely a game of two halves, the team of Ben Maher, Joe Clee, Jessica Mendoza and Michael Whitaker sensationally secured the third British win of the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup<sup>™</sup> Jumping 2015 Europe Division 1 League at Rotterdam in The Netherlands.



Team Germany looked set to cruise home effortlessly after confidently taking the lead with four foot-perfect performances in the first round, but as can often happen in this most testing of competitions it all fell apart for them second time out. At the end of the day they had to settle for fourth place behind Sweden in third, while it was last year's winners from France who filled runnerup spot.

The Dutch, who despite being the reigning Furusiyya and World champions have never won the Nations Cup on home ground at Rotterdam, lined up fifth ahead of Switzerland in sixth, while Belgium and Brazil shared seventh place at the end of their relatively high-scoring day.

Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup<sup>™</sup> 2015 Europe Division 1 Standings (after Round 5 at Rotterdam, the Netherlands):

- 1. France 310
- 2. Belgium 250
- 3. Sweden 210
- 4. Ireland 205
- 5. Great Britain 200
- 6. Netherlands 195
- 7. Italy 155
- 8. Germany 140
- 9. Spain 135
- 10. Switzerland 90





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## **KRISTEN VANDERVEEN**

MAKES MARK AT TRYON **INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTER** WITH SECOND CAREER FEI WIN



Kristen Vanderveen (USA) and Bull Run's Eternal flew to the top of the leaderboard in the \$34,000 1.50m Speed Stake at Tryon International Equestrian Center, collecting her second career FEI win at the venue. Ljubov Kochetova (RUS) and Balou Du Reventon finished second and Wilton Porter (USA) and Delinquent JX followed in third. The \$34,000 1.50m Speed Stake marked the start of the FEI competition at the Tryon Summer Series.

# **DOUBLE OF WIN** FOR ANDREW WILLIAMS ON DAY ONE AT HICKSTEAD



#### Via: HORSE & HOUND

Andrew Williams successfully opened his Equestrian.com Hickstead Derby meeting campaign with two wins on the opening day.

He scooped the first national class, the Horse & Hound senior Foxhunter first round with Nancy Phillips' 10-year-old grey Bodieve Toyboy.

Helen Wilson and the Alice Kent-owned diminuitive dun, Glendun took the runner-up spot. Scottish rider Douglas Duffin slotted into third riding Nicholas Morgan's Djoel.

Andrew did not have to wait long to be back in the prize-giving as he triumphed in the following class, the Spillers Grade C Championship, riding his own eight-year-old gelding Codar. He fended off Alex Gill and Cassa Z into second and Sharon Hunt settled for third, riding her own HSB Harriet.





## FEI NATIONS CUP™ DRESSAGE: DUTCH DELIVER AGAIN ON HOME TURF IN ROTTERDAM

### Via: FEI

The defending series champions from The Netherlands made it a back-to-back double on home ground at the third leg of the FEI Nations Cup<sup>™</sup> Dressage 2015 pilot series in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

With a new format on trial at this event; the competition began with a Grand Prix team competition, from which riders representing the five leading nations went through to the Grand Prix Special and Freestyle.

The consistent Dutch pipped Sweden by a decisive margin of almost 2.5 per cent, but Sweden's Patrik Kittel and his 16-year-old campaigner Watermill Scandic were the show-stealers when producing the highest individual score in the Grand Prix - 77.260 and then topping the Freestyle with a mark of 81.875.

Third place in the team competition went to the USA, with Belgium lining up fourth and Germany in fifth.



FEI CLASSICS™:

## **KLIMKE IS UNBEATABLE AT LUHMÜHLEN**

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### Via: FEI

Ingrid Klimke (GER) rode brilliantly to produce a clear round under huge pressure to win her home CCl4\* at Luhmühlen (GER), presented by DHL, for the first time and set up an unassailable lead in the FEI Classics™ 20142015/.

Jonelle Price (NZL) riding Faerie Dianimo finished second, Michael Jung (GER) and his wise 15-year-old gelding, La Biosthetique Sam FBW was third and Christopher Burton (AUS) on the rising star Graf Liberty settled for fourth place

FEI Classics<sup>™</sup> 20142015/ Leaderboard (after 5 out of 6 events):

- 1- Ingrid Klimke (GER) 42
- 2- Michael Jung (GER) 25
- 3- William Fox-Pitt (GBR) 23
- 4- Jonelle Price (NZL) 20
- 5- Jessica Manson (AUS) 15 6- Mark Todd (NZL) 14 7- Tim Price (NZL) 12

- 8- Andreas Dibowski (GER) 12
- 9- Megan Jones (AUS) 12
- 10- Jock Paget (NZL) 10



### SCOTT BRASH ROCKETS UP **CHAMPIONSHIP RANKING** AFTER MONACO GRAND **PRIX WIN**

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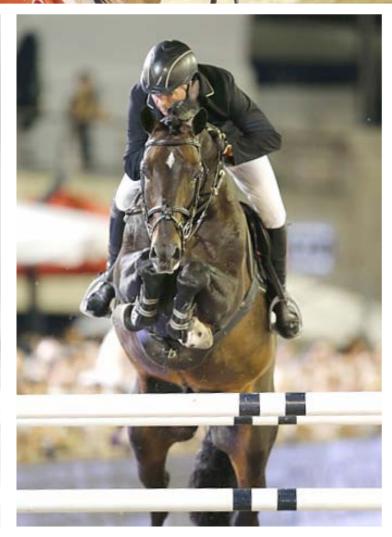
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### Via: GCT

Scott Brash (GBR) wins the Longines Global Champions Tour Grand Prix Du Prince De Monaco, sponsored by HSBC Private Bank (Monaco) SA in spectacular style with Hello M-Lady after an incredible jump-off featuring many of the very best horses and riders in the world. His victory catapulted him up the championship ranking into second place, and in touching distance of the leadership going into the eighth leg of the Tour in Paris.

John Whitaker (GBR) came a close second with his effortlessly agile Argento, the bay stallion galloping to the fences and giving everything in front of the packed grandstands. Emanuele Gaudiano (ITA) kept up his streak of success, riding Admara 2 home in third place.

Scott has now closed the gap to just 36 points behind ranking leader Luciana Diniz (POR) who now has 181 points. Rolf-Göran Bengtsson (SWE) is now in third place on 128 points, and Sheikh Ali Bin Khalid Al Thani (QAT) moves up to 4th with 123 points.®

Photos by Stefano Grasso

