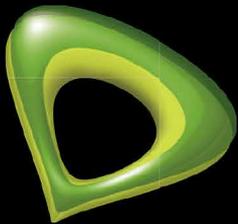




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VIEW POINT

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Readers and Viewers,

Welcome to 2019!

A new year, with new resolutions, goals and aspirations

We have started our new year with a fresh new look to our **website** created to suit the new era, becoming more and more mobile friendly for easier access and interface, while maintaining all of the features you like and have come to depend on (www.horsetimesegypt.com)

We also started our new year with a new **HT** energy. This is a very special issue. In it **HT** has profiled and interviewed some of the top riders worldwide: **legendary Edwina Tops** winning the **LGCT Grand Prix**; amazing **Abdullah Al Marri**, winner of the **Longines CISO4* Al Shira'aa Grand Prix**; **William Whitaker** of the famous Whitaker showjumping dynasty, winner of **London Olympia International Horseshow**; Egypt's own **Nayel Nassar** and his recipe for success with some truly incredible wins in 2018; and the very talented **Jad El-Dana** and his astounding Canadian showjumping career.

We also highlight not one, but **two stops** of the International Friendly Club competitions, the first at Egypt's **Equicare Riding Center, Platinum Club**, and the second at India's remarkable **Mayo College**.

Author **Frank Waters** offers us a blast from the past with **Anelli Drummoud-Hay** by creating a link between the past and the present of showjumping through his book **The Golden Age of Showjumping**. Also in this issue, we present an exclusive **HT** report on **The Morocco Royal Tour** and its unique blend of equestrian characters.

We hope you will enjoy our technical medical and legal segments: a medical case study by equine veterinarian **Dr. Ashraf El-Kalla**, an important article on the use of natural supplements by a young apprentice who has researched the topic to provide us with more depth on the subject, and a legal insight with **EUAEL International Equine Law Congress 2019**.

We end with our **"Art Corner"** with Osborne Studio Gallery showing the best of equine art. There's a whole lot to like in this issue.

Read on and Enjoy!

Khaled Assem

THE ART OF EQUITATION

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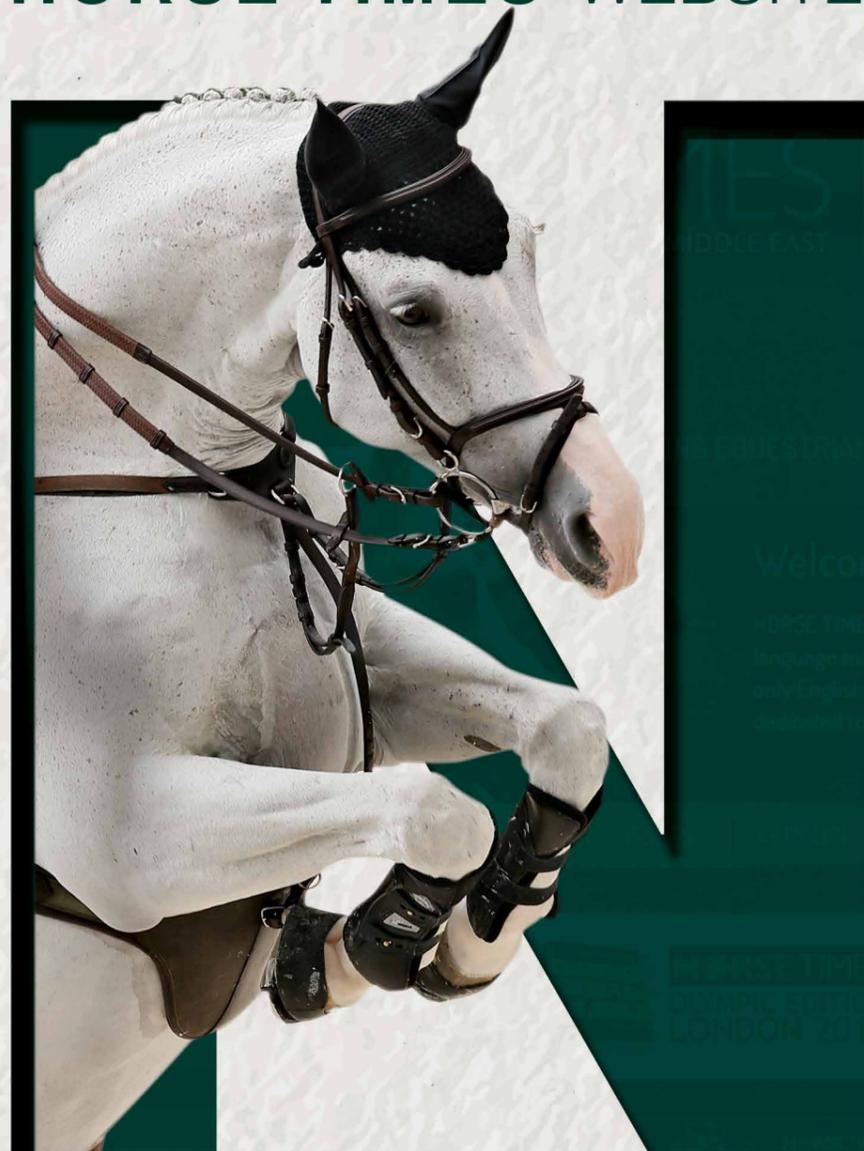
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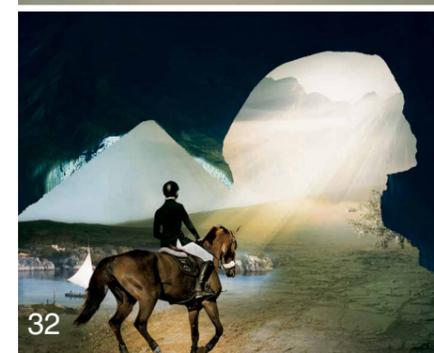
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NAYEL NASSAR

A STAR IS BORN

PART 1

By KHALED ASSEM

MY PERSONAL HISTORY WITH NAYEL STARTED MANY YEARS BACK; I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF HIM AS A SPECIAL YOUNG RIDER WITH LOTS OF TALENT. HE IS A STANFORD GRADUATE IN ECONOMICS, SPEAKS FOUR LANGUAGES AND STAYS IN TUNE WITH HIS MIDDLE EASTERN IDENTITY. HE HAS A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR HIS HORSES; HE TREATS THEM NICELY AND TREATS PEOPLE NICELY AS WELL. I SAW IN HIM ALL THE HORSEMAN VALUES THAT WE TALK ABOUT BUT DON'T SEE MUCH OF.

AFTER SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH HIM IN EGYPT AND OUTSIDE WE CAME TOGETHER AGAIN TO DISCUSS HIS VIEWS ON HIS EQUESTRIAN BUSINESS, HIS RIDING CAREER AND HIS PERSONAL FUTURE. WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE DECISIONS THAT CRITICALLY AFFECTED HIS CAREER. I'VE SEEN A LOT OF COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION IN THIS GENTLEMAN RIDER AND I AM HOPING THAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR HIM A LOT MORE PROSPERITY THAT HE WELL DESERVES.





for long time, so we know each other very well. He's very fast, very light, understands the game, very scopey for his size, a bit unconventional in how he jumps yet we learned how to accommodate that together.

Being so different, none of my coaches at the time was approving my selection of Lordan, especially as he had already been **returned** by his 1st purchaser! I just had to trust **my own feeling** that I got when I jumped him, and I knew with no doubt whatsoever that this is the one and only horse for me out of the other 20 horses I had tried that December freezing cold day. That I will never forget!

For my next partner, I will always look for **similar characteristics** in terms of lightness, speed but most importantly a good mind; **the horse has got to want to win as much as you do.**

YOUR NEXT EQUESTRIAN GOAL, YOUR NEXT BUSINESS PROSPECT. IS THERE AN OVERLAP BETWEEN THE SPORT AND THE BUSINESS?

There is **balance** between 3 main elements, the sport, training and sales.

Early on, I needed to focus on the sport to establish a name for myself, get some results, and grow my knowledge base before I transfer that to other people. The last couple of years I started to train more.



Nayel and Lordan

WHO WOULD YOU SAY WAS MOST INFLUENTIAL ON YOUR RIDING CAREER?

First and foremost, I have to thank **my parents**, they staged the initial path. I got a lot of good training and was exposed to a lot of diversity with so many accomplished coaches. My first trainer ever, who had introduced horses and horse care to my life, was **Noaf Bin Essa**. She always insisted on having me plat my own horse's mane, while even standing on the highest stool at the stable, my firey 5 year old mare's mane was still out of my reach. However, this taught me the importance of getting so much closer to my mare. I then got the chance to train with **Markus Beerbaum, Jos Lansink, Piet Raijmakers, Jörg Naeve** and **Laura Kraut**, who was not just a trainer but a mentor as well. Luckily working with such accomplished trainers gave me very strong basics, not just in the sport but in the business as well.

Having all such acquired knowledge and training under my belt at such an early stage of my life, I felt that I can afford to spend some time on my own settling down and trying out what works best for me away from further coaching, especially that I also realized that asking accomplished riders at big events or

during course walks for ideas and help, one gets extra exposure to different strategies and perspectives.

It all started when I qualified for the World Cup final on my stallion **Brutus**; we won the League and we won the following year's League as well. I felt that I was at a point in my career where I had ridden so many Grand Prix, and trained with some of the best trainers in the world, so I realized that neither my ways, nor my outlook on how to do things were going to be altered that much.

The horses continued to develop, and before I knew it, **I won the million!** It was just me, **my mum, Linda** and **Lordan**. I decided I must be doing something right and the horse I have is obviously very special, so now we need to be doing this more professionally and consistently. That was when I decided to go fully professional and give this a go.

TALKING ABOUT A SIGNIFICANT PARTNER IN YOUR CAREER, WHO WOULD THAT BE?

It's **Lordan**.

He is such a modern type of horse. I have had him



As for sales, at the beginning of my career I started by sourcing my **own horses**. With time I realized that some of these horses weren't going to suit me further down the road, or weren't going to be good enough for the **top sport** that I have started to aim for, yet can still be quite useful to other riders at different stages than mine of their riding careers. Accordingly they had to be sold to such riders. I had good success with developing these horses and later selling them with a marginal profit, but my **prize money** is the main fund to my career, so far.

Basically, all the top riders have managed to balance business and sport together; **diversity pays off when the right balance is achieved.**

AS FOR YOUR PERSONAL FUTURE AND PROSPECTIVE SPONSORS?!

Wait for Nayel's answer in part 2 in our coming issue!



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LGCT 2018

EDWINA TOPS ALEXANDER WINS SUPER GRAND PRIX STUNNER

BY LGCT PRESSE

EDWINA TOPS ALEXANDER AND CALIFORNIA FACED DOWN PHENOMENAL PRESSURE TO WIN THE FIRST EVER LONGINES GLOBAL CHAMPIONS TOUR SUPER GRAND PRIX AS RUNNER UP LUDGER BEERBAUM DECLARED THE NEW GC PLAYOFFS A “MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF SHOWJUMPING”



The €1.25 million showdown took place in front of a sell-out crowd at the O2 Arena in Prague with victory for Edwina greeted with a standing ovation after the Australian rider and her amazing mare clinched victory.

Celebrating her win Edwina declared her mare California "incredible" "and said: **"I really didn't think I had won, I couldn't see the scoreboard. After I had the fence down I thought I have just got to go for it. I can't believe it, I've had the most amazing three weeks of my life and to finish by winning the LGCT Super Grand Prix is incredible."**

Speaking about the event Ludger said: "The setup is something really special. The sport, the drama. For me, being in the sport for many years, it is a new feeling. I am quite sure this is a milestone in the history of show jumping."

The first-ever LGCT Super Grand Prix featured the 16 top riders who qualified during the 2018 LGCT championship series and the extreme pressure to go fast and clear produced electrifying sporting drama from start to finish.

Earlier the passionate crowd was thrilled by the dazzling Walk of Champions opening ceremony with flaming torches lining their parade in the arena adding a touch of show business to show jumping. Olivier Philippaerts said the event had set a new benchmark in the sport: **"Before we got here we did not know what to expect because the Playoffs are new and in a new city, but they have pulled it off, amazing. The shows are something we have not seen in our sport before and it has brought it to a different level."**

Courage, skill and determination was required to conquer all in this fierce battle set over two rounds and the **16 elite contenders** were set a formidable 1.60m first round track by Uliano Vezzani in this indoor sand arena. Airy verticals and gaping wide oxers were strategically placed for the ultimate challenge, with the fearsome Longines treble combination coming towards the end of the course, meaning horses still needed to be on full power to clear the oxer-vertical-vertical test. A skinny oxer on a blind bend away from the in-gate was the final trick up Uliano's sleeve and it all made for an intriguing first round

contest.

As the countdown began, the anthemic We Will Rock You blasted out, the spotlights focused and the doors opened; let battle commence

Uliano had predicted five or six clears from these world class contestants in the opening round but pressure told and there were some surprisingly high scores.

The first to prove the course was jumpable was fourth-drawn Shane Breen from Ireland, who rode for his life on the chestnut gelding Ipswich van de Wolfsakker, leaving all the fences standing but adding just a single time-fault.

One of the shock results came from 2018 LGCT season champion Ben Maher with his multi-winning Explosion. With two rails down they were one of four combinations to finish on eight faults in round one

But the pivotal round was to come from the world number one Harrie Smolders. An electric clear round with Zinius propelled them straight to the top spot.



"He was amazing, he was fighting for every fence — but then so was I," said Harrie, with a huge smile on his face.

As tensions rose, the pressure told amongst competitors and it wasn't until the penultimate rider that Harrie was forced to surrender his lead to the marginally quicker clear set by Australia's Edwina Tops-Alexander and mare California.

This pair qualified for the GC Playoffs early in the season in Miami Beach and this course rode well for California, who has a relatively short stride but is agile and ultra-careful. Edwina squeezed her round every inch of the track and her clear in 70.54s gave her the edge over the Dutchman's 71.15s.

So at the conclusion of round one, with scores carried through to round two, Edwina was perfectly poised in pole position, but with Harrie snapping at her heels for top honors. Shane Breen was primed for a strong challenge in third spot on one penalty; ahead of the five-strong chasing pack of four-faulters including Ludger Beerbaum and double LGCT Grand Prix winner

Nicola Philippaerts on his tremendous partner H&M Chilli Willi.

With a clever shake-up of the track for the second round, tensions sizzled for the ultimate showdown. The early riders were on a recovery mission and both Lorenzo De Luca of Italy riding Ensor De Litrange LXII and Ben Maher of Great Britain on Explosion W rose to the occasion, bidding for a far bigger share of the prize money by jumping quick and clear to remain on eight faults.

New leader Ben Maher said: **"Today wasn't our day. It's easy to forget Explosion W is only nine and has limited experience indoors but I'm happy he grew so quickly in the second round. I can't be disappointed when he's had such an amazing year."**

Nerves of steel were required as the competition intensified and, proving that anything can happen in this sport, drama came at the final fence for well-placed Belgian rider Gregory Wathelet when Iron Man van de Padenborre refused to jump the final Longines wall, resulting in elimination.

As the raft of four-faulters came forward, Frank Schuttert of the Netherlands immediately produced a mesmerising clear on Chianti's Champion to post a two-round total of four and secured the coveted top spot.

Germany's Daniel Deusser and Tobago Z are usually one of the most reliable combinations at the top level but added an unlucky rail before it all unraveled for Paris victors Sameh El Dahan and Suma's Zorro, who came home on a total of 17 faults.

Ludger Beerbaum rode with his trademark precision and soared ahead of Frank Schuttert by over 3s.

And then there were three. But on a night of fluctuating fortunes, Shane Breen, carrying through just the one penalty on Ipswich Van De Wolfsakker, sadly elected to retire when the rails started falling.

All eyes turned anxiously to Harrie Smolders, the first of the two riders on a zero score. But in an excruciating repeat of events on day one, his ride Zinius ducked out at the Rolls Royce





vertical at fence nine and the world number one hit the deck. As quick as a flash, Harrie's chance for glory had vanished.

So it all came down to Edwina, who has been riding the crest of a wave recently, with several big wins to her credit. **She needed to jump clear for victory; one down and she had to beat the time of 61.56s set by Ludger Beerbaum. She set off with typical determination but, agonisingly, a rail at fence eight tumbled. Edwina's agenda immediately switched and she accelerated down the final line and soared over the finish, crucially less than half a second quicker than Ludger.**

And so history was made, with Edwina Tops-Alexander crowned the brilliant victor of this revolutionary new competition that has showcased showjumping at its very best. Ludger Beerbaum was thrilled to finish runner-up and "top rookie" Frank Schuttert placed third.

Special effects never seen before in show jumping entertained the crowd as the arena was filled with a

fantastic sound and light show for the first LGCT Super Grand Prix prize-giving ceremony, with VIPs arriving in a horse-drawn carriage. International course designer Uliano Vezzani was presented with a special medal for his extraordinary skill challenging the world's top riders and horses at the GC Prague Playoffs and throughout the season.

To the anthemic song "Legendary" the winning riders mounted the podium as flames shot up into the air behind them in a podium extravaganza. There were huge cheers from spectators as Edwina triumphantly raised the beautiful silver LGCT Super Grand Prix trophy, which was presented by Longines President Walter von Känel.

There was special recognition for the grooms as they received a medal after leading the champion horses into the arena for the closing moments of the awards ceremony and the rousing lap of honour.

At the press conference LGCT President Jan Tops said: "It could not have been better. From A to Z it was fantastic and a great atmosphere. Big

applause for the organisation team in Prague."

Edwina agreed: **"It is a huge honour and one of the most prestigious Grand Prix I have ever won. This competition is unique. Every class in this whole show has been pressure for the riders and that's what makes it so exciting. I really have to thank the organisation in Prague for pulling this off, it is amazing."**

Runner-up Ludger said: **"It was quite emotional even for an old guy like me. Today we have seen the future in terms of athletes, modern venue, technical, it is something really exciting. To me it is a milestone and I enjoyed being part of it."**

Frank said it felt "unbelievable" to finish on the podium "I am so happy, my horse jumped amazing today," he said. **"I had only one chance with so many good riders around me. I'm very lucky I am here, it is such an amazing show - the opening ceremony and the Walk of the Champions, it was amazing."**



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By MENNA LOUTFY





Puis Schwizer - Switzerland



Ghali Bouka * Morocco

course. World class course designer **Uliano Vezzani** built a technical course requiring high concentration and precision. Even top international riders like Germany's Marco Kutscher and France's Simon Delestre had difficulties with the course with four penalty points each.

The second round witnessed eight riders fighting for the best time. The first to achieve a double clear round was the French Emeric George, riding Chopin des Hayettes with an excellent time of 37.64 seconds, which no rider managed to reach during the rest of this second round.

"The course was delicate, which is often the case with Uliano Vezzani's ones. Here, the poles are quite light, we cannot afford many mistakes, and we need be precise and choose the right distances. The course focused on both height and technique. In the jump-off, I think I saved some time on my turn behind the vertical N° 2, with Qatar colour. Chopin managed to turn very fast, he was willing, and I could ride him during the course by taking all the risks. I had an advantage, riding a smaller horse, with those tight

*curves. Chopin is in great shape, and I am thinking about riding him again in the Nations Cup on Sunday. I will also count on him to the CSI4*W in El Jadida next week," he said.*

The winner of the previous edition of this Grand Prix, Belgium's Jérôme Guery, finished in second with a time of 38.22 seconds, followed by Switzerland's Yannick Jorand in third.

The following day was the Nations Cup with eight countries competing for the title.

SECOND NATIONS CUP TITLE IN A ROW FOR SWITZERLAND

It was a rainy day in Rabat but the crowd was present to support their teams and to attend the Nations Cup that everyone awaited.

Eight teams made it to Rabat to take part in the competition. These teams were Belgium, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Italy, Switzerland, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, France and Morocco.



Team Switzerland - Nations Cup Winner



Simon Delestre - France



Abdel El Kabir Quaddar - Morocco

THE ROYALE GARDE OF TETOUAN

BREATHTAKING HOME WIN FOR GHALI BOUKAA

It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon when The Morocco Royal Tour offered its first 4* Grand Prix win to the Moroccan Rider Ghali Boukaa.

Riders and supporters of Boukaa rushed to him with tears to carry him in triumph with non-stop applause from the audience, a very moving moment that will give anyone inspiration.

"This audience really carried me today and recognized me as the hero of the day. It's more than extraordinary: a win at home, in Morocco, for my first CSI 4, finally. I had already participated in the 'four-star' Bourg-en-Bresse where I was able to qualify for the World Championships, but here it's different. I am more than happy and I thank His Majesty King Mohammed VI who supports horse riding in Morocco, Charif Moulay Abdellah Alaoui and the Moroccan Royal Federation of Equestrian Sports as well as our national coach, Marcel Delestre."*

When asked about the difficulty of the course he said.

"It was really a very very hard course. And indeed, the Italian course designer Uliano Vezzani had proposed difficulties closer to a '5-star' with obstacles reaching a height of 1.60, so that among the ten finalists, only eight riders, out of forty-four at the start, could achieve a faultless round. And only three of them were able to double the stake."

The following weekend brought us to Rabat for the Nations Cup and another Grand Prix.

A FRENCH WIN IN RABAT GRAND PRIX

The second leg of the Moroccan Royal Tour was held in the Moroccan Capital Rabat (Dar es Salam). After fierce competition between forty two participating riders in Princess Lalla Amina 4* Grand Prix, France's Emeric George won the Gold.

Only **seven riders** managed to finish the first round without any penalty points due to the difficulty of the



Philippe Rozier and Father Marcel Rozier - ElJadida



Simon Delestre - ElJadida



Ghali Bouka - ElJadida

The first round carried some difficulties for most of the teams; while France, Belgium and Switzerland excelled with very close scores of 4, 0, 4 points. The second round carried very exciting moments with the French team of Pierre Alain Mortier, Emeric George, Olivier Perreau and Nicolas Dezeuses achieving very close scores to round one with only one rider stepping down. And Belgium's team had a weaker performance than the first round with Dominique Hendrick, Virginie Thonon and Stephanie Andries despite Jerome Guery who made a double clear. On the other hand, the Swiss team clinched the competition with three clear courses by Puis Schwizer, Elian Baumann and Yannick Jorand along with Pauline Zoller who only had four penalty points which guaranteed the Gold for Switzerland.

"Rabat is a wonderful competition and we are always very welcomed. I composed a team mixed with young riders in need for experience and others, more accomplished. The scores were tight after the first round and I asked my team members to focus on their riding, I really wanted them to enjoy their time in the arena. We could count on Pius, the backbone of this Swiss team, to deal with pressure and to sign the last clear round we needed for victory," _Team leader Andy Kistler.

EL-JADIDA

VICTORY FOR THE OLYMPIC CHAMPION PHILIPPE ROZIER

Down to the final yet most exciting leg of the tour, El-Jadida held an amazing Finale for this equestrian spectacle.

The 4* Grand Prix of El-Jadida was built to a high technical level by Uliano Vezzani, the course designer

which was pretty close to a 5* level. In the first round, with thirty nine riders entering, only four managed to make a clear round with no faults including Philippe Rozier, Olivier Perreau, Abdullah AlSharbatly and Perdo Junquiera Muylart.

Ten riders were there to participate in the second round with Puis Schwizer, Henk Van De Pol. Pierre Allen Mortier, Alberto Marques, Roberto Arioldi and Simon Delestre added to the list with four and single faults.

This second round was against the clock with riders still carrying their first-round scores. At the end, only the Olympic Champion Philippe Rozier made the double clear round of the class, earning him this amazing victory.

Philippe Rozier has also been the Moroccan national team coach for many years.

*"Emotionally, it is an important victory for me," he said. "It is amazing, I love those feelings and it is why I get up every morning, even after thirty-five years! Cristallo A*LM is a small wonderful horse. He has a big heart and will give anything to please his rider. He arrived at the perfect time in my career, Rahotep de Toscane [his Olympic Games horse - ed.] was hurt for almost a year and Cristallo took over from him with brio. I am really lucky that the Laiterie de Montaigu believed in me and entrusts me this horse. I cannot wait to go back to competitions with both Rahotep and Cristallo in the beginning of next year, it will be incredible!"*

The final results of the indoor Grand Prix were as follows, the Italian Roberto Arioldi came in second place with Dundee van het Marienshof and the French Simon Delestre followed in third, riding Ulane Belmaniere. 🏆



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AZIZ AKHANNOUCH - Minister of Agriculture with DR.EL HABIB MARZAK



Tbourida



DR. MOHAMED MACHMOUM with EGYPTIAN ACTOR MOSTAFA SHAABAN



UPON OUR FINAL STOP IN EL JADIDA TO ATTEND THE CSI4* SHOWJUMPING COMPETITIONS,; WE COULDN'T MISS THE WORLD CLASS EQUESTRIAN EXHIBITION "LE SALON DU CHEVAL". IT'S ALWAYS MESMERIZING TO GET TO ATTEND AND WATCH ALL THESE EQUESTRIAN FESTIVITIES ALL AT ONE AMAZING PLACE LIKE MOROCCO.

WORD OF THE PRESIDENT

CHARIF MOULAY ABDELLAH ALAOU

Since 2008, Le Salon du Cheval d'El Jadida » has contributed, under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, to the development of the equine sector in the Kingdom of Morocco. Several national and international high-level competitions or exhibitions related to horse activities are organized to attract audiences from all over the world.

The varied program that organizers have created consists of many equestrian, cultural and artistic activities help to attract diversified and bigger crowds.

Le Salon du Cheval d'El Jadida, has become the showcase of our rich culture heritage related to the

equine patrimony. It is also an occasion for Moroccans to express their attachment towards this noble creature, which is the principal factor in the development of the equestrian activities and horseracing professions in Morocco. This horse assembly is an inescapable platform for key players in the horse sector to meet and exchange competence.

At an international stage, Le Salon du Cheval d'El Jadida » has gained a strong reputation. It stands among the most famous horse exhibitions in the world thanks to the activities proposed and the numerous opportunities that it provides to the participants. It is a compulsory event for many foreign attendees every year.

WORD OF THE COMMISSIONER

DR.EL HABIB MARZAK

Under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, the 10th edition of Le Salon du Cheval d'El Jadida was held from 16th to 22th of October. The global organization along with the program was conceived to give a special touch to this edition.

At such an important step, we are aiming to celebrate this edition, by highlighting the evolution and the progress of the event since its first edition in 2008.

Dedicated spaces are established for this purpose.

The theme "Le Salon du Cheval, 10 years of pride and passion" gives an idea of the direction of the 2018 edition and reflects the permanent commitment of all the stakeholders involved in the rise of the equine sector in our country.

The high-level program included an International Arabian Horse Show featuring world-class horses, the International Barb-Horse Championship, a unique competition in the world where Barb horses from the Morocco and Europe compete, and the International show jumping CSI 3 *W qualifying Grand Prix for the World Cup, Africa and Middle East area, and representing the 3rd round of the Morocco Royal Tour.

A remarkable equestrian show was also within the program and held for two nights during the event, in addition to cultural and scientific conferences related to the theme of this edition.

In the Tbourida area, the best Sorbas of the Kingdom exhibited their skills every afternoon and competed for the 2nd edition of the prestigious "Grand Prix De Sa Majestè Le Roi Mohammed VI De Tbourida ".

**PRESENTING THE THEME
EQUESTRIAN SPORTS IN MOROCCO**

This year, the Salon du Cheval d'El Jadida highlighted all the interveners in the national sector engaged in the promotion of the horse through equestrian sports. Indeed, if the horse is generally associated with cultural activities like the "Tbourida", his skills, including those of the Barb race, which make him the perfect companion for many modern sports activities.

Thus, training, teaching of horse riding, endurance, aerobatics, polo or equestrian tourist hikes forms a set of activities that highlight the use of the horse and contribute to socio-economic development of our regions, especially our rural areas. Beyond the traditional competitions,

This Eleventh Edition is the opportunity to discover and better understand the horse role and challenges in the consolidation and implementation of new wealth-creating activities. In El Jadida, owners, breeders and operators are here to meet and discuss their experiences, in the perspective of a joint reflection on the future.

Photos by Salon Du Cheval D'ElJadida PRESSE



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IN DEPTH WITH ABDULLAH EL-MARRI

WINNER OF CSI4* LONGINES AL SHIRA'AA GRAND PRIX

QUESTION 1: HOW DOES IT FEEL, WINNING AL SHIRA'AA GRAND PRIX?

It is a dream come true, it's the 3rd edition this year and I was really close to winning it in the 1st edition back in 2017. I had the last fence down in the jump off and we finished 4th. It's been a long wait for me and Sama ,so we are really happy to win it this year.

QUESTION 2: TELL US ABOUT THE MARE YOU WON WITH, SAMA?

Sama Dubai is a mare I bought as a 4 year old. She has all the talent in the world to jump bugbear fences and I always believed she is going to shine on the big stage. She was on the team that won the Barcelona final in 2017, but I always believed she deserves an individual crown suited for her.

QUESTION 3: TELL US ABOUT YOUR SPONSORS

Al Shira'aa Stable has been sponsoring the UAE team and myself for the last two years in order to step our game in the big sport. they also work on setting a good foundation of young riders, juniors and Children. It's a big operation with a **full team of vets, stable managers, farriers and staff.** They work endlessly with our horses and provide them with best care possible ,so we can concentrate on **riding at the highest level.**

QUESTION 4: YOU MUST HAVE A SPECIAL TRAINING PROGRAM

For sure we do, but in this sport I believe you always have to learn new things and evolve with the sport as it progresses.

QUESTION 5: WHO'S COACHING YOU NOW?

I work currently with **Al Shiraa Team trainer** and **Olympic medalist Khaled al Eid**, we have been working for two months already and it's been a great experience for me.

QUESTION 6: HOW WAS 2018?

I think 2018 was good for us but in some ways we haven't been lucky with a few things; **Sama Dubai got injured** early in the year which made us miss the Asian games and WEG. But we need to always look forward in this sport and we had the perfect start in 2019.

QUESTIONS 7: PLANS AND HOPES FOR 2019.

Our biggest aim is the **Olympic qualifications** with the UAE Team, so hopefully we will have a strong team to qualify when the time comes. Hopes are high in the UAE camp and we have a group of **super talented horses and riders.** 

IFCC EGYPT 2018

A NEW STOP IN THE LAND OF THE PHAROAHS

By MENNA LOUTFY

AFTER THE AMAZING EXPERIENCE WE HAD IN THE RUSSIAN CULTURAL CAPITAL ST.PETERSBURG; IT WAS TIME FOR A NEW JOURNEY TO THE HEART OF THE MIDDLE EAST. IN NOVEMBER OF 2018, THE INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY CLUB COMPETITIONS HEADED TO EQUICARE RIDING CENTER IN PLATINUM CLUB LOCATED IN EGYPT'S CAPITAL, CAIRO.





Ahmed Fahmy

Khaled Assem and Olaf Peterson



Mahmoud Mowafy

Jenna Hamer

Alexandra Kartazaeva

Harsh-Pal shekhawat

Eight teams representing Bulgaria, India, Jordan, Russia, South Africa and Egypt were there to participate in the International Friendly Club Competitions. Three riders representing **8 clubs** with a total of 24 riders from Mayo College, Southern Riding Club, Derby Club, Olympys Club, Forrest Hill Equestrian Centre and Equicare Riding Center Platinum Club got to meet the horses they'll ride on day one to prepare for the competitions.

At night riders, officials and event organizers headed to the beautiful **Rabab Stud** owned by Arabian horse breeder **Mr. Khaled Ben Laden**, who welcomed the teams with great hospitality and care. A group camel ride started with an amazing night view of the Pyramids as the riders ascended a desert hill to enjoy a barbecue and dinner followed by Bedouin tea which everyone found very special.

The next morning riders headed back to Equicare to meet with their new partners for a new brief ride just to get more acquainted with the horses. In the afternoon they enjoyed a swim in the club's pool where the teams had fun playing games together.

Later at night it was shopping time! The buses carrying the teams took off to **Khan El Khalili** which is a major old market located in the historic center of Islamic Cairo. Everyone got a chance to taste the vintage side of Cairo and they bought a variety of souvenirs, antiques and jewelry.

On Thursday November 1st an opening class was held with the presence of international FEI judge **Yuri Valev** assisted by Nouran Medhat. The course was designed by Germany's international course designer **Olaf Peterson**. And the results were as follows,





Eng.Hesham Hattab and Khaled Assem

1. Ahmed Fahmy & Dragon– PLATINUM CLUB
2. Habiba Ahmed & well done – PLATINUM CLUB
3. Anna CHERNYSHOVNA & Whiskey – DERBY CLUB
4. Aleksandra Kartazaeva & After hour – OLYMPYS CLUB

That night everyone enjoyed candle light dinner on sailboats in the **Nile River with music.**



Irina Nikolova - Bulgaria



Mahmoud Mowafy and Khaled Assem

TEAM COMPETITIONS

The next day was a very big day for **IFCC Cairo** due to its busy yet well-tailored program.

A thrilling **1.30** class took place with the participation of top Egyptian riders in addition to **Marco Jaspers** and **Rens Spreuwenberg** who represented Netherlands and **Louisa Peterson** who represented Germany. The winners were Egypt's **Mohamed El-Gayar** and **Mohamed Taher Zeyada** who had an amazing performance.

Next was the **IFCC** team competitions which was also very exciting with 8 teams competing for the title and the results were as follows,



Team Derby - Nile Cruise



Mohamed Khalifa and Khaled Assem

1. Platinum Club 2 – EGYPT
2. Kaloyan Club – BULGARIA
3. Platinum Club 1 – EGYPT
4. Southern Riding Club – SOUTH AFRICA
5. Olympys Club – RUSSIA

On Saturday November 3rd the **1.10m Grand Prix** witnessed a strong competition between the 24 riders and the results was as follows,



Aly Sabbour presenting the trophy

1. Habiba Ahmed – PLATINUM CLUB
2. Ahmed Fahmy – PLATINUM CLUB
3. Anna Angelova – KALOYAN CLUB
4. Anna Chernyshova – DERBY CLUB

That was not the end of it, the arena then was modified to host a polo match sponsored by **Kings Polo El Sewedy.**

Later at night was the Gala dinner where everyone spoke of his/her experience in Cairo, exchanged souvenirs and gifts, danced, laughed and made some unforgettable moments. 🍷



Olaf Peterson and Louisa Peterson



Tatina Molchanova - Russia



Polo Match





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IFCC INDIA 2019
SHOWJUMPING AT ITS BEST IN
MAYO COLLEGE

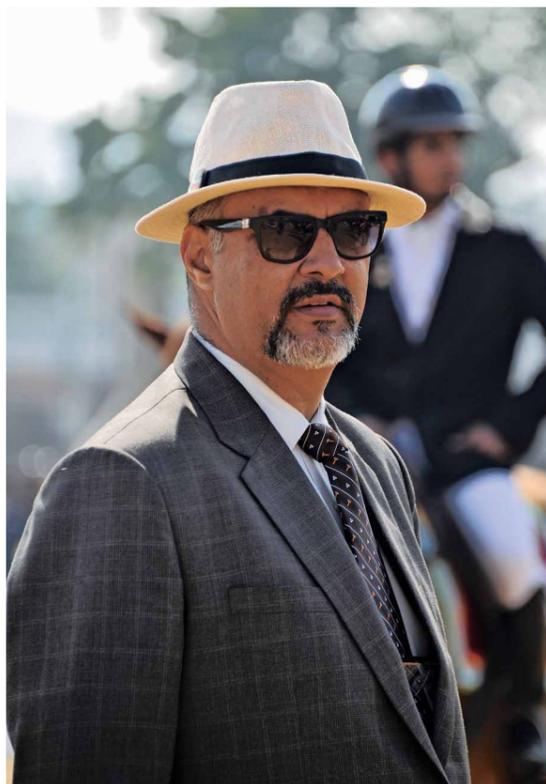
BY LARISSA HILLS



JANUARY 2019 SAW THE INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY CLUB COMPETITION LEAGUE JUMP INTO THE FIRST EVENT OF THE YEAR. FOUR CLUBS COMPRISING 5 TEAMS COMPETED AGAINST EACH OTHER IN THE BREATHTAKINGLY BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS OF THE PRESTIGIOUS MAYO COLLEGE THAT IS LOCATED AT THE FOOTHILLS OF MADAR IN THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF AJMER, RAJASTHAN, INDIA.



Trophies



Col Alankar Bhardwaj (Retd), Bursar, Mayo College



All Participants



Riders at the jump



The Jury



The Indian Contingent



The Egyptian Contingent

Founded in 1875 by the Viceroy of India and the 6th Earl of Mayo, This college was originally built for royalty of princely states with the intention to create an "Eton of India". In October of that year Mayo's first student, H.H. Maharaja Mangal Singh of Alwar, arrived at the school gate on an elephant back accompanied by an entourage of 300 men, horses, camels and tigers.

With the sprawling college campus stretching over 200 acres of lush green gardens, sports fields and facilities, and Indo-Saracenic architecture one cannot help but fall in love with the rich history and culture that Mayo College has to offer.

The host, Col. Alankar Bhardwaj (Retd.), and his team put together a jampacked and fun filled itinerary for their guests of which the main event

was the Show Jumping Competition.

The competition consists of 3 events over a 3-day period and the heights jumped are 0.90m, 1.00m and 1.10m respectively. All 3 events count towards individual results with the Team Event as part of the 1.00m individual event. Riders accumulate scores for each placing and the overall winner is the rider with the highest score. All the courses are designed by world renown course designer Mr. Olaf Petersen and judged by International 3* Judge Mr. Yuri Valev.

The 0.90m competition saw most riders going into the fences with great caution and sometimes a bit of apprehension. Technical difficulty was low and it was a flowing course with easy distances between fences. Out of the 15 riders Mayo College took most of the podium places with Anirudh Deo Singh (Mayo

College A, India) on Laryssa coming first, Chineque Smith (Southern Riding Club, South Africa) on Chetak second, Rochak Sobti (Mayo College A, India) on Poles Apart third, Devvrath Singh Ranawat (Mayo College B, India) on Daishonin fourth and Jai Sud (Mayo College A, India) on Ocean Myth fifth.

On the second competition day (1.00m) tension started to mount – riders and coaches were super focused as all knew that they were competing for the coveted Team Title. Despite the competitive spirit amongst the teams, the camaraderie between all, and especially the riders, was spectacular – everyone cheered when there was a clear round, everyone held their breaths when a pole was knocked and everyone applauded when a rider went through the finish line.

The results for the Individual 1.00m Competition started to level out with Mayo College (India), Derby Club (Russia) and Southern Riding Club (South Africa) taking podium places. First place went to Devvrath Singh Ranawat (Mayo College B, India) on Daishonin, second Jai Sud (Mayo College A, India) on Ocean Myth, third Vasilisa Erastova (Derby Club, Russia) on Lil Windy, fourth Chineque Smith (Southern Riding Club, South Africa) on Chetak and fifth Marco Bianchi (Southern Riding Club, South Africa) on Regal Opportunity.

For the Team Competition there was a tie for first and second places which led to a jump off between Maria Lopota (Derby Club, Russia) on Secret Talent and Chineque Smith (Southern Riding Club, South Africa) on Chetak. The silence was deafening as they raced around the arena. Maria



Russian Team at Art School



Mr Alok Sharma, Director of Sport, Mayo College and Mr Yuri. Dinev Valev, Jury, Bulgaria



Jury With mementos



Lt Gen SH Kulkarni (Retd), Director, Mayo College



Day 2 Winners



Day 1 Winners



Jai Sud with his Award



Noran and Rana - The Egyptian team



Wall Climbing



The Participants



44 | Yoga sessions



Yoga sessions

and Secret Talent were just too fast for Chineque and Chetak and Derby Club (Russia) walked away as the winning club of the competition. Southern Riding Club (South Africa) placed second and Mayo College A (India) third.

The third and final day of the competition was the Grand Prix event at 1.10m. By now all riders were confident on their horses and it showed in their performance and skill as they navigated their way around a testing course. Nail biting stuff with riders racing against the clock and trying to jump clear rounds.

Chineque Smith from Southern Riding Club (South Africa) scooped the Grand Prix title with the only clear round jumped in a time of 70.75 seconds (time allowed 79 seconds). Devvrath Singh Ranawat (Mayo College

B, India) on Daishonin placed second, Jai Sud (Mayo College A, India) on Ocean Myth third, Vasilisa Erastova (Derby Club, Russia) on Lil Windy fourth and Harsh Pal Shekhawat (Mayo College B, India) on Sansani fifth.

Chineque was also awarded over-all Champion of the 2019 IFCC India competition.

Apart from the aim of this concept of giving young riders the opportunity to compete Internationally at a friendly level, emphasis is also placed on the interaction of young people from different backgrounds and cultures visiting each other's countries to experience their respective cultures and establishing lasting friendships. Col. Alankar Bhardwaj (Retd.) did just that and more. He exceeded every expectation with his introduction of Incredible India to his guests.



Chat between Mr Gautam Kotwal, old Boy and Bhawani Singh President Old Boys society (OBS)



Ms Larissa Hills, Official, South Africa accepting the Memento from the Director



Mr Merit Fanous, official, Egypt accepting the Memento From The Director

India is known for its temples and dargahs and hence the most memorable cultural sights of this tour.

Nareli Temple is situated on the outskirts of Ajmer on the Aravali mountain range. It is a Jain temple with exquisite architecture, intricate stone carvings and sculptures. There are 24 miniature temples at the top of the hill overlooking the main temple and the view from there is absolutely breath taking.

Next was visiting the Dargah of the Great Sufi Saint Khawaja Gharib Nawaz who is a symbol of love, harmony and truth. A spiritual place where locals flock to in order to make offerings and receive blessings.

Pushkar is an amazing site, from the vibrant vibe in the market to the spiritual ambiance of the Brahma Temple to the sacred Pushkar Lake. A sensory overload that leaves you awestruck.

The Cultural Programme performed by Mayo College students was also a highlight of the tour where traditional Indian dances and music entertained all. A colourful festival of Indian traditional music and dance.

All became very brave and daring at the Xcapade Adventure Park where activities included riding a bicycle on a tight rope, rolling down a hill in a big beach ball, paint ball shooting, zip-lining and quad biking. This made for some good laughs but most of all forging friendships.

Lasting memories were made with yoga at 7am every morning, savouring traditional Indian cuisine and Sophie, the Indian elephant who gave all the opportunity to experience an elephant ride.

In closing, a quote from Keith Bellows, VP - National Geographic Society: *"There are some parts of the world*

that, once visited, get into your heart and won't go. For me, India is such a place."

Not only because of the breath-taking landscapes, beautiful architecture, spiritual sites and sensory overload of colour, taste and smell, but also for the warmth and hospitality in which we were received at Mayo College where old friendships were rekindled and new friends were made, till we meet again.

"It was a great pleasure and privilege to host the International Friendly Club Competition -an International Equestrian event at Mayo College from 24th to 29th January 2019. Hosting delegations from three different countries gave us a platform to share with them the magical saga of India through a multi-cultural bouquet of events including sightseeing, Yoga sessions, exhibitions and an evening of a cultural extravaganza of lively folk dances and mellifluous songs.

The impeccable planning and relentless efforts of staff in executing the same bore fruit when the delegations left Mayo College with lifelong memories. The positive feedback and words of appreciation for hospitality, conduct of the competition, the variety of experiences with an all-inclusive itinerary, the cultural immersion and an above all looking for an opportunity to visit Mayo and India again gives us immense satisfaction. I am sure riding clubs from more countries would join this competition in the future which will give platform to the riders to showcase their equestrian skills. Moreover an event like this promotes interaction between different cultures and develops a better cultural bond and harmony among countries" _ Col Alankar Bhardwaj

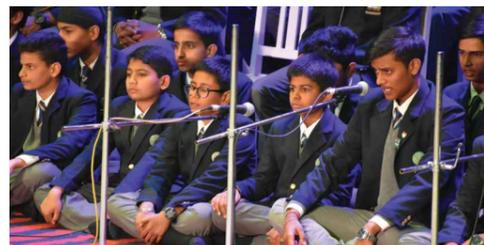
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etisalat sports

Supporting all Egyptian Champions



Kalbelia Dance by girls of Mayo College Girls' School



The Mayo Classical Song Chores



Yoga Dance



Chari Dance

THE GOLDEN AGE OF SHOW JUMPING

ANNELI DRUMMOND-HAY

OUR EQUESTRIAN HERO

BY FRANK WATERS

ANNELI WAS BORN IN SCOTLAND ON THE 4TH OF AUGUST 1937 AND RODE BEFORE SHE COULD WALK. HORSES AND THE EQUESTRIAN WORLD ARE HER ENTIRE LIFE. SHE IS THE ONLY RIDER IN THE WORLD TO HAVE COMPETED AT THE VERY HIGHEST LEVEL IN EVENTING, DRESSAGE AND SHOWJUMPING. HER PASSION AND DEDICATION, 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK, ARE THE REASON PENNY PLACE IN JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA IS THE SUCCESS IT IS.

At 81, Anneli competes in the 1.30's and is still a force to be reckoned with. She and her two beautiful Belgian Warmbloods, **Black Tiger** and **Apollo**, really do give the competition a run for their money and are still regularly winning classes.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- At the age of 16 she won the *European Pony Championship* and was the leading rider of combined training in Britain for 3 years.
- She won both *Badminton* and the first ever *Burghley Horse Trials* and was 2nd a remarkable 5 times.
- She changed to Showjumping and won *many Grand Prix's* including: Brussels, Geneva, S'herthogenbosch, Paris, Berlin, Toronto, Chile, Luxembourg, Monaco, Madrid, Mexico, Amsterdam, South Africa, Palermo and Great Britain. 2nd in Aachen, Rotterdam and the La Baule Grand Prix.
- Anneli won the *Rome Derby* on 2 occasions, *The Hickstead Derby*, *The Geneva Derby*, *The Berlin Derby*

and the South African Derby twice.

- Toured America and won the **Grand Florida Championship**, The Madison Square Garden's Championship and the All American Showjumping Championship.
- Represented Great Britain for 14 years on the Olympic Nations Cup Team and was awarded the **FEI Badge of Honour**.
- Won the **European Show Jumping Championship**.
- British Sportswoman of the year 3 times and South African Sportswoman of the Year 8 times.
- Awarded the "**Premio Caprilli**" by the Italian Equestrian Federation for her outstanding

achievements.

- Awarded the "**Golden Spurs**" by the French Federation in conjunction with the Cadre Noir for her contribution to Showjumping
- Won the **FEI/Samsung World Challenge** on 4 occasions.
- She holds the **Ladies World High Jump** record at 2.36 meters.
- The only rider to be **shortlisted** at Olympic Level in Dressage, Showjumping and 3 day Eventing for the same Olympic Games.
- She trained the **Dutch Junior Showjumping Champion** in 2000 and 2001 whilst based in Holland.



- Trained the Runner-up in the Junior European 3 Day Event in 2004.

- She Holds the **B.H.S.I. Qualification**.

Anneli returned to South Africa in 2007.

On the 19th of October 2010, Anneli, or as she is known internationally, Anneli Drummond-Hay, was inducted into the **British Horse Society Equestrian Hall of Fame**. The award ceremony was held at The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment in Knightsbridge, London.

After a wonderful tour of the barracks, as well as being treated to watching the Queen's Life Guards dismount, Anneli was presented with her scroll by

Desi Dillingham MBE, President of the BHS, in the Officers' Mess. Desi, herself a great fan of Anneli's, gave a moving speech outlining Anneli's vast achievements and the extensive contribution she has made to the world of Equestrian sport. Anneli was also given the scroll for her very famous horse, Merely-a-Monarch, who was inducted in 2005.

The Hall of Fame was launched at Hickstead in 2005 and opened by the Princess Royal. Its purpose is to give public acclamation to equestrian heroes, both human and equine. The two 2010 nominees were selected by a prestigious 6 person panel under the chairmanship of Patrick Print. Plaques are displayed outside the **Knightsbridge Barracks**.

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OLYMPIA INTERNATIONAL HORSESHOW 2018

WILLIAM WHITAKER WOWS THE CROWD WITH EMOTIONAL WIN

BY LOUISE PARKES/FEI

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A BIG WIN IN FRONT OF THE HOME CROWD TO TRIGGER THE EMOTIONS, BUT GREAT BRITAIN'S WILLIAM WHITAKER WASN'T THE ONLY ONE WITH A TEAR IN HIS EYE AFTER HE REIGNED SUPREME IN THE EIGHTH LEG OF THE LONGINES FEI JUMPING WORLD CUP™ 2018/2019 WESTERN EUROPEAN LEAGUE AT OLYMPIA IN LONDON. THE PACKED STADIUM OF SPECTATORS WENT WILD WITH DELIGHT WHEN THEIR OWN MAN SOARED TO VICTORY OVER A WORLD-CLASS FIELD IN AN 18-HORSE JUMP-OFF THAT WAS A NAIL-BITER TO THE FINAL FOOTFALL.



© OLYMPIA/TONY PARKES

“It’s surreal! Since I’ve been coming here as a kid this has been a dream, and I can’t believe it actually happened!”, Whitaker said after posting the biggest result of his career to date, pinning Belgium’s Karel Cox into runner-up spot while American star, Laura Kraut, lined up in third.

With so many jumping clear over the first track presented by Portuguese course designer **Bernardo Costa Cabral** it was never going to be easy to come out on top, but Whitaker had no doubt about his plan. “The World Cup at Olympia is like a Championship, you get one shot at it every year and it’s all got to come together on the day. And he certainly didn’t when seventh to go with Utamaro d’Ecaussines.

He’s long had a superb relationship with the courageous **14-year-old stallion**, and when the pair set the target at 37.02 seconds with the smoothest of fast rounds in which every fence seemed to come up in exactly the right spot, and every turn was pure perfection, then that really put it up to the rest of them.

However two horses later it seemed Karel Cox and the nine-year-old Evert might just catch them when

galloping down to the last. But the clock showed 37.21 to leave the Belgian contenders trailing by two-tenths of a second. Whitaker could hardly bear the tension.

“It was torture! Especially the last few - every one that goes by you get closer to the win, and it’s not just anyone, it’s the best riders in the world!”, he said.

Third-last to go was the magical German and world no. 4, **Marcus Ehning**, with his Geneva winner Pret a Tout. But when they turned too tight to the penultimate vertical they paid the price with a pole down in the quickest time of 36.03 seconds.

Australia’s Edwina Tops-Alexander and Vinchester, winners of the previous leg at La Coruna in Spain two weeks ago, made a wider turn there to come home clear in 38.17, but Laura Kraut and Zeremonie looked a real threat when last into the ring. The pair who helped clinched team gold for the USA at the FEI World Equestrian Games in September stormed home with a determined run, but their time of 37.70 seconds would only prove good enough for third. It was destined to be William Whitaker’s day, and he

could hardly believe it.

He was of course following in a proud family tradition. His uncles, John and Michael Whitaker, have enjoyed many major successes in the world-famous Grand Hall at Olympia during their spectacular careers. Following in their legendary footsteps means a great deal to their nephew.

“I have memories of watching John and Michael winning the World Cup here - one of the things that got me out of bed in the morning was thinking that someday I could do it too!”, William said this evening. And he was full of praise for Utamaro.

“It helps when you’re on a horse like him, he has such a good brain and mentality. In the collecting ring I was struggling to get him into canter, but he just lights up when he goes in the ring, he grows a foot! I’m delighted for the horse and the owners, Jasmin and Ludwig Criel - he’s had fantastic results over the years but we never won a Grand Prix and I can’t believe it’s this one!” Whitaker said.

He’s got some changes coming up in the new year when he will be relocating to Germany, so he’s not quite clear if he will be in a position to line out in further World Cup qualifiers. “We’ll sit together after Christmas and make a plan”, he said this evening.

FACT BOX

The first International Horse Show took place in the Olympia halls in 1907. Olympia, The London International Horse Show, the event we see today, was started by Raymond Brooks-Ward in 1971. The show took place on 17-23 December 2018 in the Olympia Exhibition Hall, located in West Kensington, London. The show played host to a packed timetable of all things equestrian and welcomed over 90,000 visitors. It is regarded as one of Europe’s oldest and most prestigious equine competitions. The show mixes top class equestrian action, including FEI World Cup™ Jumping, Dressage and Driving with family entertainment, such as the Osborne Refrigerators Shetland Pony Grand National and The Kennel Club Dog Agility.



© OLYMPIA/TONY PARKES

POLO

KING'S POLO ACADEMY

HT EXCLUSIVE SNEAK PEEK AT EGYPT'S NEWEST
STATE-OF-THE-ART POLO FACILITY

BY BRIDGET McARDLE McKINNEY

WITH THE GRAND OPENING PLANNED FOR SPRING, THE FINISHING TOUCHES ARE BEING MADE AT A FAST AND FURIOUS PACE TO COMPLETE EGYPT'S FIRST AND ONLY PURPOSE-BUILT LARGE-SCALE POLO AND EQUESTRIAN FACILITY. HT TAKES YOU ON AN EXCLUSIVE VIRTUAL TOUR OF THIS INCREDIBLE NEW FACILITY.





This ambitious project is the brain-child of **Mohamed El Sewedy**, a 2-goal player and captain of industry, with a passion for horses and a passion for polo. But it was not his alone. The polo community - spear-headed by the legendary **Farouk Younes**, former President of the Egyptian Polo Federation, its current President **Dr. Mohamed El Shamy** as well as **Karim Loza**, Region Ambassador of the Federation of International Polo - has long recognized the need to carry forward the Federation's programme to redevelop the sport of polo in Egypt, with its focus on player training, polo pony breeding, and polo field excellence. And to this end the next step was the construction of a facility where these aims could be met.

The 120 acre facility includes two regulation-size polo fields, a stick-and-ball field and training area, a massive exercise track, a **Polo Academy** arena, paddocks, cryobath, three barns, a club house, gym, restaurant, and luxe accommodation for pros, grooms and guests.

The barns are truly amazing. Designed by the famous architect **Ricardo Balzano**, they are a dream of simple clean lines and efficiency. Each barn holds 32 stalls in four 8-box sections, perfect for tending to a 4 or 8 pony string and opening easily out to washing, training, and exercise areas. The first barn is reserved for outside players and rentals, the second for the Polo Academy, and the third for the Club's own ponies. Each barn has its own dedicated day grooms and night grooms. The space and ambiance are so serene and clean that it feels somewhat like a spa. Yes, the ponies are well-cared for, indeed, pampered. Even the feed is bespoke; high protein and aromatic alfalfa is trucked in all the way from Toshka!

The polo fields are an engineering marvel. Like a lush oasis in the arid desert, as you enter the facility the verdant green expanses of Field #2 come directly into - and overwhelm - your view. The playing field is 320m by 170m, the area of approximately six soccer fields. Supervised by South African polo player and King's Polo head coach, Gavin Chaplin, the obvious difficulty in creating a regulation polo field in the desert was ensuring a sustainable and level playing surface of international caliber. But these challenges have been successfully met and the first practice matches have begun.

The Polo Academy has been in existence for several years, training up young male and female players at Farouk Younes' Abu Seir Farm. The Polo Academy at King's Polo will continue this mission to establish and grow continuing generations of players in Egypt. As Farouk Younes has said: "These young people are the future".

But that is not all! The Club has a comprehensive show jumping facility as well. With purpose built stabling for **100 horses** with lovely light and air, the facility includes a show jumping arena, stadium seating, paddocks, wash areas, office, trainer's apartment, dedicated vet, farrier and grooms rooms, and its own entrance.

Once the basics are in place the Club plans to include a sports complex and an elegant boutique hotel to cater to Club members and international guests attending polo in high season, a short drive from the new airport.

The dream of re-energizing and growing the sport of polo in Egypt is being realized. 🐾



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POWER

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SPORTING HERO

60 SECONDS WITH JAD DANA

JAD DANA

DATE OF BIRTH: February 13, 1995

STAR SIGN: Aquarius

PROFESSION: Show Jumper

TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF

I have a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the American University of Beirut. I rode in **Lebanon** all my life and **won the Lebanon national championship 6 times**, I trained in Holland with Karim Fares every summer and then I got the opportunity to ride and train at Spruce Meadows so I've lived in Calgary, Canada for 2 years .

DESCRIBE YOUR TYPICAL PRACTICE?

I believe a good warm up is very important for all horses to supple and loosen their backs and legs. Sometimes I put the horses on the **lunge line for 10 minutes** before I get on or take them for a long walk around the barns before I start working. I include a lot of ground poles and small jumps in my day-to-day work.

WHERE IS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE FOR PRACTICE?

I enjoy riding in a big grass field. I think horses are more motivated there too!

No matter how many places I ride in, it's always special going back to the stable I rode in since I was 5 years old, **Mechref Club in Lebanon**.

TELL US ONE OR TWO THINGS IN YOUR TRAINING THAT CONTRIBUTED TO YOUR SUCCESS.

This year I got to train with **American Olympian Leslie Burr-Howard**. I do not think that I could have had a better trainer for myself. She made me a better rider and a better horseman!

The last two years, I got to ride a few talented horses that I successfully built a strong bond with. They definitely contributed to my success. I could not have competed at the 5* level without these horses.

WHAT WAS THE BEST ADVICE YOU WERE GIVEN?

I think the best advice I was given lately was to **believe in myself and enjoy my sport**. I was told to stay focused and set a clear goal, and most importantly ,to worry about where I need to be, to get to where I want to be.

What advice would you give to young athletes?

Stay humble, follow your dreams, work hard and never give up. **Respect your horses and treat them with care**, work with them, listen to their body language and find a way to make them feel as good as possible.

WHAT IS YOUR BEST ACHIEVEMENT?

My best accomplishment is that I got to train and ride with one of the biggest stables and show venues in the world and **that is Spruce Meadows (2016-2018)**. To live, ride, and show there is absolutely incredible. It's an opportunity of a lifetime!

WHAT ARE THE GOALS THAT YOU ASPIRE TO ACHIEVE?

I have been pursuing this sport for the past 17 years; having competed at the 5* Level, I am highly motivated and ambitious to make my way to the **highest level** of this sport.

WHO HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST SUPPORT?

My parents have been my backbone. They believe in me and give me so much confidence. They push me and support me all the way. I am so blessed!

WHAT ARE YOUR GREATEST MOTIVATIONS?

Achieving good results and seeing the horses improving are my greatest motivations. Riding talented horses and having a strong team behind me definitely motivate me to become a better rider/competitor and bring the best out of these horses.

WHO IS YOUR SPORTING HERO?

Swiss rider **Steve Guerdat**, He is very competitive and manages to stay at the top.

And my trainer, **Leslie**, I look up to her in every way. She's an incredible rider and trainer and an even better person!

WHAT IS YOUR SECOND FAVOURITE SPORT?

Skiing.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE GENRE OF MOVIES?

Action , Comedy.

WHAT KIND OF MUSIC DO YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO?

Depends on the mood .

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD?

Lebanese food.

WHAT IS THE MOST MEMORABLE PLACE YOU EVER VISITED?

Spruce Meadows. The facility is beautiful and everything is well thought out and is done as best as possible; stabling, footing, organization. Riding and showing there gives me a feeling like no other.

WHAT IS YOUR STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS?

I am optimistic, determined and very driven and passionate about what I do. I give it all my time and effort and believe that one day I will reach the top.

My weakness is that I sometimes **get emotional** and it could affect my performance.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST REWARD YOU EVER GOT?

The support I get from my parents and my team. The recognition of my talent from successful horsemen that I look up to has also been a great reward.

IF YOU HAD THE POWER TO CHANGE SOMETHING IN THIS WORLD, WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?

I would set laws to alleviate the geographical and financial constraints that sometimes hinder sportsmen from reaching utmost potential.

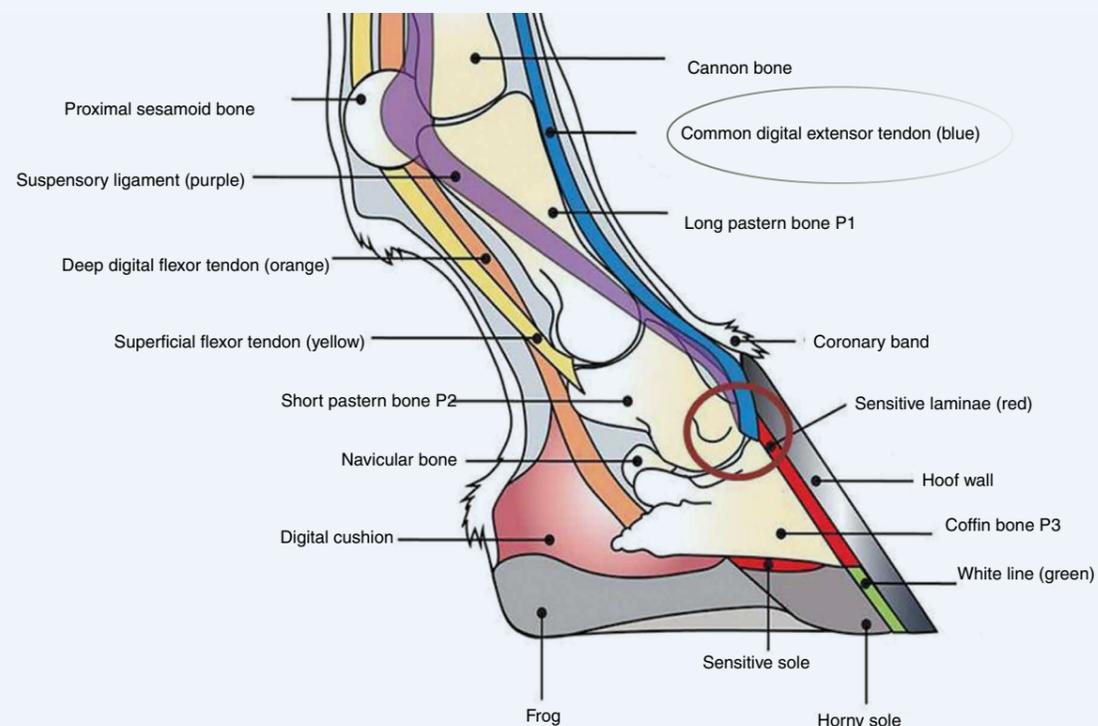
IF THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE, WHAT WOULD THAT BE?

I wouldn't change anything about myself. I have my strengths and I have my weaknesses; **they form my identity and make me who I am.**

A CASE STUDY

WHAT ARE EQUINE ENTHESOPHYTES?

BY DR ASHRAF EL-KALLA



ENTHESOPHYTES ARE ABNORMAL BONY PROJECTIONS AT THE ATTACHMENT OF A TENDON OR LIGAMENT.

They can cause inflammation and tearing of the insertion of the Common Digital Extensor (CDE) tendon causing severe lameness, as you can see in the next illustrative image of the horse foot CDE tendon (the blue one). It originates from the Common digital extensor muscle to the end in the extensor process of the first phalanx (the dark red circle).

WHAT ARE BONE SPURS?

Bone Spurs are abnormal newly formed bony projections that develop along bone edges. Bone spurs can be OSTEOPHYTES (which occur in joint spaces) or ENTHESOPHYTES (which occur at the tendon or ligament attachments).

A 12 years old female for eigner-bred horse had become lame on her left forelimb. The owner called us, **Cavelvet Equine Clinic**, for evaluation. On our arrival we performed several lameness tests such as trotting on hard and soft surface, lunging, flexion tests and nerve blocks.

The horse started to show signs of lameness on his left front leg, so we decided to make further diagnosis using the X-ray.

Radiographic images were taken on the lamed limb showing Enthesophytes on the extensor process of the distal phalanx, as shown in the next figure.



Enthesophytes can be seen on the extensor process of the distal phalanx (arrow) (slightly oblique lateromedial view).

The treatment of this case was handled by our team through administering intra-articular injection, intra-venous injection (Biophosphonat) and regular conservative treatment, including:

1- NSAID (Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs)

2- Complete rest in well bedded recovery box

I also recommended Cavalor ArtiTec for such cases as these athletic horses are prone to

ABOUT ARTITEC

The substance is dissolved in water and readily available for absorption. It contains a higher concentration of active anti-inflammatory and joint-supporting ingredients.

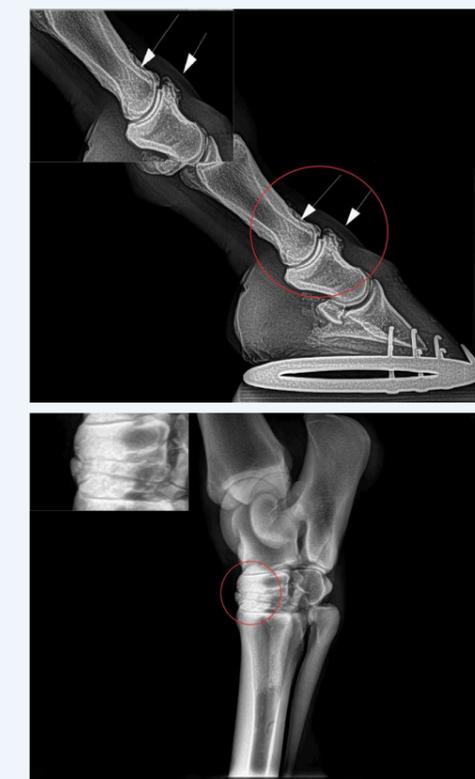
After 3 weeks of treatment this mare was radiographed by an X-ray which showed that the horse was **healed** well as shown in the next figure. The lateromedially view of the distal phalanges shows substantial improvement by analgesia of the distal interphalangeal joint.



BISPHOSPHONATE

This medication is administered intravenously and regulates bone metabolism through bone resorption and other mechanisms. This case has now made a complete recovery and this mare is back again in riding condition to date.

Here are some different cases showing the variation of shape that may occur.



EQUINE SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL

PROPER COLLECTION IS

THE KEY TO YOUR SUCCESS

PART 1

BY CARLIJN PONTENAGEL



IN THE PREVIOUS ARTICLE, WE TALKED ABOUT STRAIGHTNESS, TEMPO AND POSTURE CONTROL. IS YOUR HORSE NOT SLOWING DOWN OR SPEEDING UP WHEN YOU AREN'T GIVING HIM AN AID? CAN YOU RIDE YOUR HORSE IN ANY POSITION AND FRAME THAT YOU WANT WITHOUT HIM GETTING STRAINED OR TIGHT? THEN YOU AND YOUR HORSE ARE READY FOR THE NEXT STEP, COLLECTION!



WHAT IS COLLECTION?

We all seem to agree that training must first and foremost contribute to the physical development of the horse. Ultimate collection not only asks for a great deal of straightness, flexibility and coordination. It also asks for tremendous **mental concentration** and contribution of your horse.

Very briefly, in collection you want the horse to shift his weight, which means that the energy you put in is not going forward but more upwards. You want the horse to put more pressure on the hind legs and lift his front.

Roughly, we can distinguish three stages of collection

The **natural balance** of the horse, which refers to 3/5 of the horse's weight, is on the front legs and 2/5 of the weight is on the hind legs. When the horse carries a rider, there is even more weight on the forelegs. In the beginning, when breaking a horse, this is how the weight is distributed.

In the second stage, the horse has equal weight distribution; its weight is evenly divided on four legs. This is referred to as horizontal balance.

It is up to the rider to train the horse and to encourage the horse to distribute the weight better and eventually move the gravity to the rear. **This last stage** is called the ultimate collection.

DURATION OF THE SCHOOLING CAREER

Each horse has a different conformation and nature, so the following is not a golden rule, but more a guideline to make you realize that **it takes a lot of time, sweat and tears** before you and your horse are advanced.

Ultimate collection comes at the end of a long schooling career, after the horse has done the necessary bodybuilding and is able to respond correctly to all

the aids.

Both mentally and physically the horse needs to be prepared and ready to show the ultimate collection. In the beginning, a stride or four might be enough for your horse.

In order to achieve collection many muscles need to become stronger. The horse has to be able to shift the center of gravity towards his hind legs. By doing this, the angle in the hocks and knee joints increases. Therefore, the horse lowers his hindquarters, strides get more elevated and the movement gets more 'upwards' than 'forward'. This is often referred to as "**the horse shortens his frame and moves more uphill**". You can always keep in mind that the horse needs to become 'shorter' in the part behind the

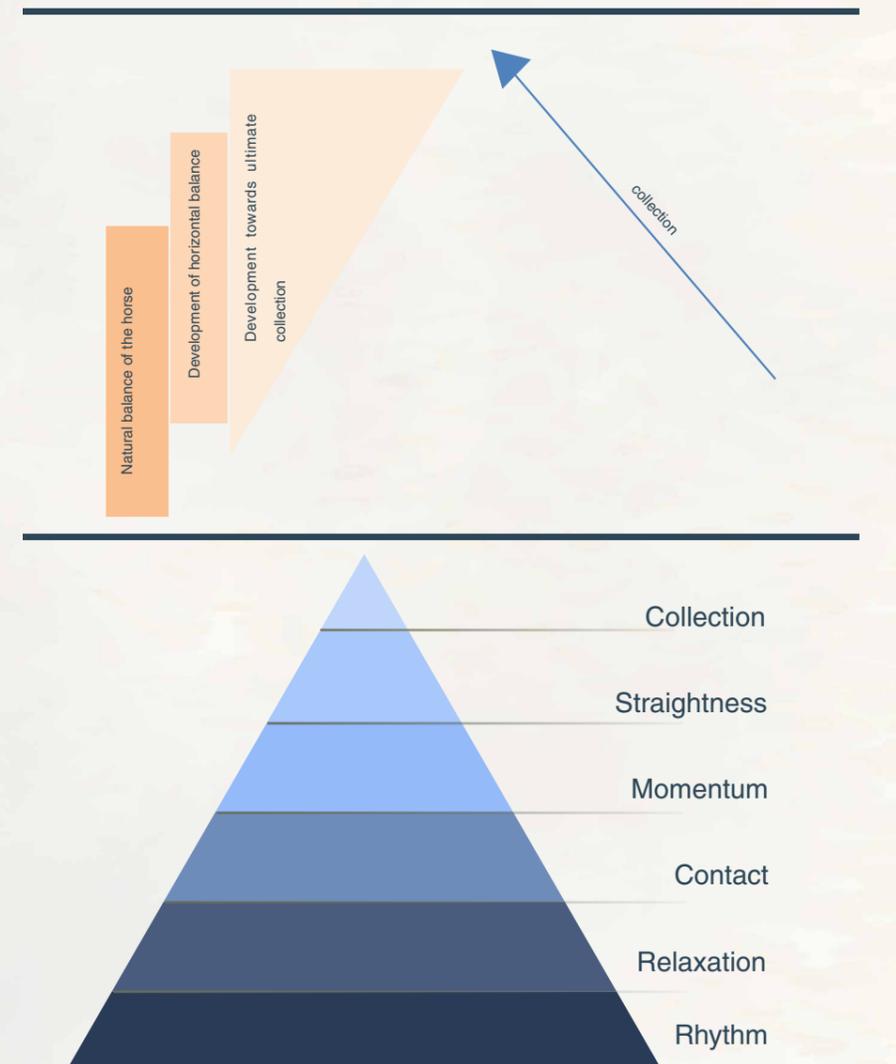
saddle and not be cranked in a short head position.

Unfortunately, there are no shortcuts. Many horses need four to five years of training to become skilled and able to really handle both mentally as physically the ultimate form of collection.

Besides, not all horses have the mental and/or physical talent to accomplish top level in whatever discipline.

Keep in mind that **there is always room for improvement**, both towards collection and in collection work. Different horses take more or less time to get ready to start playing with collection work.

It might be of help to train according to the "**Scala der Ausbildung**". This training schedule gives you methodical support over a longer period of time.





NATURAL SUPPLEMENTS FOR YOUR HORSE

BY ABDEL RAHMAN KHALIL

MOTHER NATURE HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND WILL ALWAYS BE OUR PRIME SOURCE OF NUTRITION. IT IS THE ONLY SOURCE OF NUTRITION FOR ALL CREATURES ON EARTH. HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A CHEETAH RELY ON SOME SORT OF STORE BOUGHT SUPPLEMENTS TO RUN AS FAST AS 120 KM/H? THE DEFINITE ANSWER IS NO. SO WHY CAN'T WE STICK TO THE BASICS AND SEE WHAT MOTHER NATURE HAS TO OFFER TO US AS NATURAL SUPPLEMENTS FOR OUR BELOVED HORSES ?

First we need to take a step back and determine **whether our horse is in need of supplements or not**. There are mainly three distinct reasons why horse people give their horses supplements. The first and overt reason is that the horse is growing older and naturally his biological structure cannot produce as much effort and high efficiency as before. Also his body is not as capable of easily extracting the minerals it needs from his normal food. In addition, senior horses (typically 15+ years) have a problem in storing and using energy, where senior horses tend to lose energy at a much faster rate than younger horses. That is where supplements come into play in giving the horse the essential minerals in an easy way and supplying extra energy to compensate for the fast rate energy is depleted. The mineral status of your horse can be either adequate, deficient, toxic or

unbalanced, where the only mineral status that results in "optimal health" is adequate.

Which brings us to the second reason **why your horse may be in need of supplements**, which is when your horse's mineral status is not adequate. The third and final reason is just an honest ambition to make sure that our beloved horses are taking in the best nutrition available, where most of us decide to give our horses supplements based on no more than a "gut feeling".

Whatever the reason that you think your horse needs a supplement, there is always a cheaper and more natural approach which is using **natural supplements**, for what follows in this article are some examples of natural supplements for your horse and the area in which they excel.

CORN

Corn is a very popular grain in the world and can offer your horse the most energy among grains (even more than oats). Corn can be bought straight or cracked, but be sure to introduce it to your horse slowly and double-check that it is free of mold. **If your horse has digestive problems it is not preferred to give your horse a lot of corn since it is difficult to digest.** Also old horses that need the most energy will find it difficult to chew straight corn; steamed or rolled corn can make it easier for them. Add as much corn as you wish to your horse's diet provided that the diet consists of at least 50% hay.

CORN OIL

Extracted from corn, corn oil is an exceptional source of fat for your horse to burn into energy. The addition of fat can also have a calming effect on your horse and it also provides more calories without adding additional grain. A far cry from corn, corn oil can be easily digested by your horse. **With the additional bonus of being great for the coat and hooves of your horse,** corn oil also supplies your horse with the essential fatty acids, mostly Omega-6 and some Omega-3. Beware to introduce corn oil slowly to your horse (7 to 10 days to adjust) and not give him too much for the reason that there is a far higher content of Omega-6 than Omega-3. This imbalance can create inflammation to your horse's tissues.



Barley

Barley is a grain that looks similar to oats, but it is lower in fiber and higher in energy. Barley sits directly between corn and oats in the grain family. In its raw form, barley can be very **hard to chew for horses** so it is commonly rolled, crushed or cooked before feeding. Some horses might not like its taste so cooking it before feeding it to your horses can make the taste better.



CHIA SEEDS

Chia seeds are one of the most highly nutritious seeds you can buy. They are perfect for humans and also amazing for horses. Chia seeds are high in fiber and protein which will help in repairing muscle tissues, growing stronger ones, and reducing soreness of muscles after a hard training session. Beside that chia seeds are filled with antioxidants and are found to diminish respiratory inflammation. Moreover, **chia seeds have the ability to calm down hot tempered horses due to the high content of fat chia seeds possess.** They also have high levels of Omega-3 which would be perfect if combined with corn oil due to the imbalance corn oil has between Omega-6 and Omega-3.



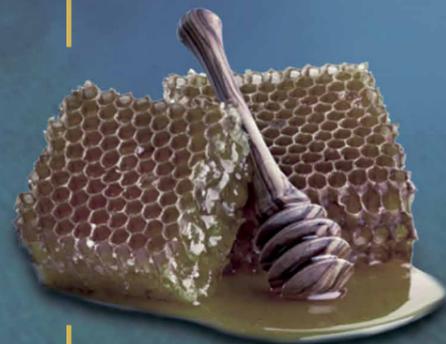
OATS

The almighty oat as we know it, is a marvelous source of fiber, protein and sugars for your horse. Oats also have the added benefit dissimilar to corn of being easily digested by horses. The protein and fibers in oats will build your horse's muscles and strengthen the tissues. **Oats excel more than any other grain in having a balanced nutritional content and being high in protein and fiber.** Feed them whole, rolled or crushed. The meal can also be balanced with a more high sugar content food such as corn or honey.



HONEY

Honey is like an elixir for most of the living creatures on earth including humans and horses. It has a ton of health benefits plus the added benefit of being a high energy food and having a sweet taste that will encourage your horses to eat all of their rations (no worry for picky eaters). Honey has a high content of glucose and is filled with antioxidant; which is why it is an energy supplement and is a sickness fighter. Honey can be partnered with garlic oil which is good for the cardiovascular and respiratory system of the horse or as mentioned above with oats. **Beware not to put large portions because like humans honey can raise sugar content in the blood suddenly** which can cause problems to your horse.



Other natural supplements

MUSHROOMS

SUNFLOWER SEEDS

FLAXSEEDS

In conclusion, most of the supplements you see in stores are either the above natural supplements mixed with each other or the extraction of the vitamins from the natural source. **Horses are herbivores which means they graze grass and they are meant to eat these natural foods.** So why do we pay more where we can give them the natural source and mix between these natural supplements ourselves and save the money for more shows or new horse boots? In a nutshell, we tend to pay more if the product is in a fancy box where we can get the same benefits for our horse from the natural source itself. 🐾





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EUAEL INTERNATIONAL EQUINE LAW CONGRESS 2019

THE DUTCH MASTERS-INDOOR BRABANT HORSE
SHOW IN'S-HERTOGENBOSCH, NETHERLANDS

BY PIOTR WAWRZYNIAK

THE DUTCH MASTERS – INDOOR BRABANT HORSE SHOW IN'S-HERTOGENBOSCH, THE NETHERLANDS, TO BE HELD FROM 14 UNTIL 17 MARCH 2019 SHALL AGAIN FULLY FOCUS ON THE CRÈME DE LA CRÈME OF THE INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN SPORT. THE DUTCH MASTERS IS, TOGETHER WITH CHI GENÈVE, CSIO SPRUCE MEADOWS 'MASTERS' AND CHIO AACHEN, PART OF THE ROLEX GRAND SLAM OF SHOW JUMPING AND BELONGS TO THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL TOP EVENTS. EUROPEAN US ASIAN EQUINE LAWYERS COULD NOT MISS THIS EVENT.





EUAEL International Equine Law Congress 2019

Schelstraete Lawyers, the founder of the Alliance European US Asian Equine Lawyers, will organise the **EUAEL International Equine Law Congress** for the first time during the Dutch Masters – Indoor Brabant with the theme: ‘**Does your horse survive the pre-purchase exam?**’ The ongoing increase of equine related matters and the discontent within the equine industry due to many sport horses not passing the pre-purchase examination, are the reason the EUAEL has organised this congress. Schelstraete Lawyers has received various requests from those in the equine industry for an informative meeting where the EUAEL, as specialists in the field of equine law, would discuss a number of topics. The congress will have an international character because the mentioned issues are of global concern.

TOPICS

Interesting topics such as **international horse deals and the pre-purchase vetting** will be discussed. **Non-conformity and**

consumer sales will be a topic for discussion too, and with regards to this **international litigation** will be addressed as well. Last but not least, **the subjects of doping and VAT** in the equine industry will also be discussed.

SPEAKERS

The Congress will highlight a number of interesting speakers from the EUAEL network. **Mette Huldah** and **Malcolm Morley** from the **Federation of Veterinarians of Europe** will speak about the pre-purchase examination. Mette Uldahl graduated in 2001 from the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Copenhagen. **Her main interests are orthopaedics, biomechanics and systematic training** as well as build-up of the equine athlete, diagnostic work-up and prevention of traumatic lesions and wear in sport and leisure horses. Mette is very involved in pre-purchase examination across Europe being the co-chair of the **FEEVA (Federation of European Equine Veterinary Associations)** Pre-Purchase work group. She works

primarily with dressage, jumping, eventing and Icelandic horses. Currently, Mette is the FEI National Head Veterinarian for Denmark and President of FEEVA.

Malcolm Morley qualified from the University of Bristol in 1993. He started his career at the Liphook Equine Hospital and has also worked in Lambourn, Great Britain and Australia. Malcolm was a joint founder of Stable Close Equine Practice in 2003 and his main interest is pre-purchase examination. Malcolm Morley has extensive experience vetting all types of horses, from high level sports horses and racehorses to valued leisure horses. Malcolm has been a council member of the **British Equine Veterinary Association**, chairing their **Pre-Purchase Examination Committee** and he has lectured widely in the UK and Europe on all aspects of pre-purchase examination as well as founding the FEEVA European PPE meetings.

Lisa Lazarus is a Member of the New York bar and associated with the **law office Morgan Sports Law**

in London since February 2018. Morgan Sports Law is a boutique law firm devoted to sports arbitration and litigation. Before joining Morgan Sport Law, Lisa spent six years at the FEI as General Counsel and then as Chief of Business Development & Strategy. Lisa is specialised in **equine doping matters**, so her practice is focused on representing equestrian athletes in anti-doping proceedings before the FEI Tribunal and Court of Arbitration for Sport. She also acts for equestrian businesses and event organisers who can benefit from her deep strategic insight into equestrian sport.

Within the equine sector, topics such as **VAT, customs, corporation tax and income tax** are an everyday business. EUAEL has its own equine business tax specialist Rudolf Kaarsemaker. Rudolf is specialised in VAT, corporation tax and income tax issues. He has vast experience in dealing with big international stables, sponsors and financial institutions.

Dr. Burkart Fischer of Berner Fischer & Partner in Verden, Germany, equine

lawyer and former legal counsel of the Hanoverian Studbook. **Berner Fischer & Partner is the German member of the EUAEL.** Burkart is specialised in commissions and agency agreements in the equine business and shall discuss the German legislation and case law with regards thereto.

Dr. Monika Gattiker from Lanter law office in Zürich, Switzerland has been admitted to **the bar of Zurich** in 1997. Monika specialises in the fields of healthcare, life sciences and equestrian sports. She provides her clients with both advice and litigation in dealing with authorities, national courts and courts of arbitration. She has more than a decade of experience with equine doping and medication matters, **representing clients before the FEI Tribunal, the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the Swiss Federal Supreme Court.** She also covers a vast range of equine law issues, e.g. purchase contracts, pre-purchase vetting, lease, sponsoring, etc. Lanter is the Swiss member of the EUAEL.

Of course the other members of the EUAEL cannot be missed as speakers at the congress. The founding members Luc Schelstraete and Piotr Wawrzyniak from Schelstraete Lawyers and other Alliance members such as Agnieszka Cwajna from LexHippica in Poland will also have their talk at the congress.

Last not but least we shall have a panel discussion moderated by **Dirk Willem Rosie, chief editor from Eisma's www.horses.nl and the Paardenkrant.**

TICKETS

Schelstraete Lawyers offers you participation per part of the day or for the whole day with optional lunch. You can find more information about the congress and the ticket sales on www.internationalequinelawcongress.com

EUAEL hopes that you will be as enthusiastic as we are and is looking forward to meet you in 's-Hertogenbosch!

ALL PHOTOS BY ROLEX/ASHLEY NEUHOF / KIT HOUGHTON



THE PROGRAMME HAS BEEN COMPILED WITH GREAT CARE

08:45	–	09:15:	Welcoming morning programme
09:15	–	09:30:	Introduction by Mr. Luc Schelstraete
09:30	–	10:30:	Do's and don'ts in international horse deals
10:30	–	10:45:	Coffee break
10:45	–	11:45:	Non-conformity and lack of horsemanship
11:45	–	12:30:	Cross border litigation in horse deals followed by a break
13:00	–	13:30:	Welcoming afternoon programme
13:30	–	14:15:	How to protocol pre-purchase vettings, contractual agreements?
14:15	–	14:45:	How to protocol doping material at sale and purchase?
14:45	–	15:00:	Coffee break
15:00	–	17:30:	Does your horse survive the pre-purchase vetting? Recent developments in a legal and veterinarian perspective.

Panel discussion: proponents and opponents.



For the current programme , EUAEL kindly refers you to the congress website:
www.internationalequinlawcongress.com



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THE SOUND OF HORSESHOES FILLING THE WORLD

2018 CHCF CHINA GLOBAL EQUINE INDUSTRY SUMMIT

BY MERIT FANOUS

ON NOVEMBER 15-16, 2018, CHINA'S LEADING COMPREHENSIVE EQUESTRIAN MEDIA HORSEMANSHIP MAGAZINE SUPPORTED BY SPORT BUREAU OF ZHEJIANG PROVINCE AND ZHEJIANG EQUESTRIAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION HELD THE CHCF CHINA GLOBAL EQUINE INDUSTRY SUMMIT IN ONE OF HANGZHOU'S MOST ARTISTIC CONFERENCE VENUES, THE HANGZHOU DIAOYUTAI HOTEL. UNDER THE THEME OF "THE BELT AND ROAD, HORSEBACK LINKS THE WORLD", THE EVENT WISHED TO COMBINE FOREIGN AND CHINESE EXPERTISE, SHARE RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES AND OPEN NEW HORIZONS FOR THE EQUESTRIAN DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA.

JUST IN TIME FOR A CHANGE

RECENTLY, WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT RAMPING UP THE CONSTRUCTION OF "CHARACTERISTIC TOWNS", THE INTEREST IN INVESTING INTO EQUESTRIAN HAS BEEN GROWING RAPIDLY. THE NUMBER OF EQUESTRIAN CLUBS IN BEIJING, SHANGHAI AND THE FIRST-TIER CITIES IS RISING, NEW COMPETITIONS EMERGE COUNTRY-WIDE, NEW HORSE THEME PARKS ARE BEING FORMED, UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE EQUESTRIAN MAJORS AND COURSES

ARE BEING ESTABLISHED, AND EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCES AND SHOWS APPEAR IN BIG NUMBERS.

STATISTICS SHOW THAT BY THE MIDDLE OF 2018 THE NUMBER OF CHINA'S EQUESTRIAN CLUBS HAS INCREASED TO 1881, DOUBLING 2016'S DATA. HORSE OWNERS INCREASE BY AN AVERAGE 35% ANNUALLY, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION EVENTS AND FESTIVALS ARE BEING HELD IN 20 PROVINCES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.





COLLABORATIONS LEAD TO WIN-WIN SITUATIONS

In order to create a communication platform between Chinese and foreign actors of the equestrian industry, the event invited representatives of leading equestrian organizations from 5 continents, including experts, professionals and investors from racing, equestrian, western riding and horse polo fields, to share their organizations' operational and management methods.

During the first day of conference on the 15th, after Sport Bureau of Zhejiang Province and China Equestrian Association officially opened the event, Editor-in-Chief of Horsemanship Magazine Li Yanyang introduced the 2018 China Equestrian Industry Data Report, giving statistics based insights on the current situation of domestic equestrian development.

Following him, guest speakers covered topics that all target different segments of equestrian industry development. Former Secretary General of Chinese Equestrian Association Chang Wei described the challenges faced by the equestrian events of the 2022 Asian Games; International Relations Manager of the French Horse and Riding Institute Laurence Cornaille and Ecuyer-en-chef of Cadre Noir Patrick Teisserenc talked about their school's educational systems; CEO of Equuleus International Riding Club Michelle Wang gave insights on successful operational models for Chinese equestrian clubs; Chen Zhifeng inspired the audience how to use the tide Belt and Road initiatives offer in

exploring new opportunities for the Chinese equine industry.

The afternoon program hosted a signing ceremony of cooperation between the French Horse and Riding Institute and the Australian Jolong Park. Following, Co-Founder of Performance Sales International Ullrich Kasselmann unveiled details on how PSI became and international brand and a most successful business model in Europe; Director of Tang Polo Club Liu Shilai talked about the mix of industry and passion in polo; Director of Finance and Successor of TIMPEX Stud Istvan Tarbaly explained how can one built a successful breeding centre in 25 years starting from scratch; President of Polish Arabian Horse Breeders Association Krzysztof Poszepczynski let the audience know why Arabian horses are so uniquely special.

As the event is also organized in the hope of facilitating less formal communication between attending parties, a Gala Dinner was held in quite an entertaining style with traditional Chinese performances, and much focus on personal interactions.

As China has a lack of professional veterinary knowledge and veterinary educational patterns, Massey University Professor of Equine Clinical Studies Christopher Bruce Riley told us how educational and professional development influences New Zealand's equine industry positively. 🇳🇿

All photos by Horsemanship Magazine, China



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OSBORNE STUDIO GALLERY

HUBERT DE WATRIGANT

FRENCH EQUESTRIAN PAINTER WITH BREATHTAKING FLAIR

BY THEO WOODHAM SMITH



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Hubert de Watrigant was born in 1954 in the South West of France where his father bred and trained racehorses. He started sketching in his father's stables. At school he drew ceaselessly in the margins of his notebooks. Self-taught, he possesses an extraordinary gift to seize a fleeting moment, and to capture the transient effects of light. Watrigant uses a wide variety of materials including charcoal, pastel, watercolor and oils, and works on many different surfaces, sometimes including collage.

Influences on Watrigant's work include Delacroix, Gericault, and Rene Princeteau, the first teacher of Toulouse-Lautrec, another artist of noble family with a 'passion cheval.' Watrigant has a distinctly impressionist approach to the world of racing, allowing us freedom to interpret his vision.

Watrigant has been exhibiting his work since 1976, several times at Osborne Studio Gallery in London, but also in France, America, Spain, the Emirates and Japan. Private collectors include HM The Queen, HM the King of Morocco, HH Sheikh Mohammed al-Thani, and many other connoisseurs of equestrian

art, including Baron Guy de Rothschild, Lord and Lady Moynihan, the Wildenstein family, the Niarchos family, and David Naylor-Leyland.

In his own words:

"don't focus on the main events and principal actions, I prefer to linger on details. I am more interested in the jockey adjusting a stirrup, or the lad waiting with his horse. I pick up my binoculars when others put them down."

FACTBOX

Osborne Studio Gallery

2 Motcomb St, Belgravia

London

SW1X 8JU

Website: www.osg.uk.com

COLLECTED BY HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II, HM THE KING OF MOROCCO, AND SHEIKH MOHAMMED AL-THANI, AMONG MANY OTHER NOTABLES, THE WORKS OF HUBERT DE WATRIGANT ARE FIRED BY PASSION FOR HORSES, A CONSTANT THEME THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF EQUESTRIAN ART.



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