

SHOW JUMPING

Hisham Hattab

Secretary General & President of the Technical Committee of the Egyptian Equestrian Federation, Board member & President of the Technical Committee of the Pan Arab Equestrian Federation



The 11th Pan Arab Equestrian Games were brilliantly organised and managed given the absence of the Pan Arab Equestrian Federation for more than a year; the election of the Federation took place on September 5th 2007, just two months before the games. With joint efforts and cooperation between the Egyptian Equestrian Federation and the Pan Arab Equestrian Federation, most Arab countries managed to meet in order to participate in those games. This is also the first time for this event to host three different disciplines aside to show

jumping such as dressage, endurance and tent pegging; it's a huge achievement and we will continue on hoping for more events in the years to come.

Furthermore, the games this year were under the supervision of the International Equestrian Federation with international qualified judges and that is due to the high levels of riders and horses. The Egyptian Equestrian Federation cooperated with all Arab countries to gather accredited judges which added more enthusiasm to the event. Cairo and Alexandria hosted up to 300 horses with the cooperation of the President of the National Sports Council, Eng. Hassan Sakr, who facilitated in building stables at the Cairo Equestrian Stadium; his consistent presence during the games indicated his delight for his efforts that paid off.

Moreover, the President of the Egyptian Olympic committee Gen. Monir Sabet was very glad with the 14 different medals that were received by the Egyptian riders which gave them and the committee huge moral support enabling them to aspire for more future achievements. Regarding show jumping, our riders are very experienced but unfortunately they have normal horses. However, with their hard work and the excellent management from their trainers and the Egyptian Equestrian Federation, I am sure the best is yet to come.



IRAQ

HISHAM HATTAB

*Board member & President of the
Technical Committee of the Pan Arab
Equestrian Federation*

“It was a great honour to receive members of the Iraqi team. Iraq has just been re-listed in the International Equestrian Federation and is ready to resume their usual activities in the equestrian sport. Although they did not qualify for the Grand Prix, the games would not have been the same without their participation.”



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LIBYA

HISHAM HATTAB

Board member & President of the Technical Committee of the Pan Arab Equestrian Federation

“The Libyan team performed quite impressively even though they lacked a bit of ring craft, yet the riders were very capable and the horses they rode were definitely up to the standards which showed good management on behalf of their federation. After more exposure and continuity, we’ll see this team in the top level of the sport internationally.”



▲ Abdulfatah Militan

▼ Abdulmagid Abushkiwa





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Abdulmagid Abushkiwa



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▲ Tarek Sbei

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KUWAIT

HOSSAM RAGAB

Trainer of the Kuwaiti team

“Preparations for this event started late during the hottest season in Kuwait and as the biggest class of show jumping locally in Kuwait still has not reached the level that was at the games, it was a step up for all the Kuwaiti rides to jump such a big and technical track; however it was a very good experience for the whole team.”



▲ ▼ Khalid Al Khobeissi



▲ Marzo Al Saeidy





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▲ Hossam Al Kadra



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▲ Abdul Rahman Al Fozai



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QATAR

JOS LANSINK

*World Champion and trainer of the Qatari team
interviewed during the Nations Cup*

"This is my first time in Egypt. In regards to this event I must say I am impressed with the performance level of the riders. I am currently training the Qatari team; they are young and they lack experience that's why they performed normally but I think they are on the right track. The other teams are very good as well and I am sure I will see greater performances in the years to come."



© Jacques Toffi

▲ Sheikh Mohamed Al Thani



Jos Lansink ▲



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JORDAN

HANY BESHARAT

Competing for Jordan interviewed during the Nations Cup

“This is a very important event and it was well prepared;
All the teams and the riders have prepared their horses and themselves well.
The competition levels are high and we didn’t do so well on the first round
of the Nation’s Cup.”



▲ Saeed Aboura



▲ Hany Besharat



▲ Ghassan Kassar



▲ Ibrahim Besharat



▲ Ghassan Kassar



SINAN NASHASHIBI

*Member of the Jordanian delegation
interviewed during the Nations Cup:*

"I usually attend the event every year and this year it was great! The levels of competition have risen and the teams are doing well. The Jordanian team did well, but they had some laps which happen unfortunately."

▲ Like father like son; Hany & Ibrahim Besharat

UAE

ALICE DEBANY CLERO

*Trainer of the Dubai team
interviewed during the Nations Cup*



“We didn’t have the best start; we had two riders who rode well and two that rode nervously which was unfortunate because it put us behind. We did gain a little ground today on the Nation’s Cup with a borrowed horse. The competition from the other teams is very high, and I think the Middle East is getting better. It’s no longer all about the Saudi team! Egyptian riders are living in Europe most of the time so it’s like competing against Europeans frankly, Syria is doing absolutely well, and Qatar has been at it for a while...yes they’ve had their troubles but they are doing well. We are missing some riders like Sheikha Latifah who is preparing for the Olympics and Mohamed Al Kumayti. Furthermore, some of our horses have had a few injuries, and on top of that we have a rider that’s riding a borrowed horse! So we have had our difficulties but I think we are doing well.”



Arif Ahmed ▲
Abdullah Al Muhairi ►



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▲ Mofteh Al Zawahry



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▲ Abdullah Al Marri

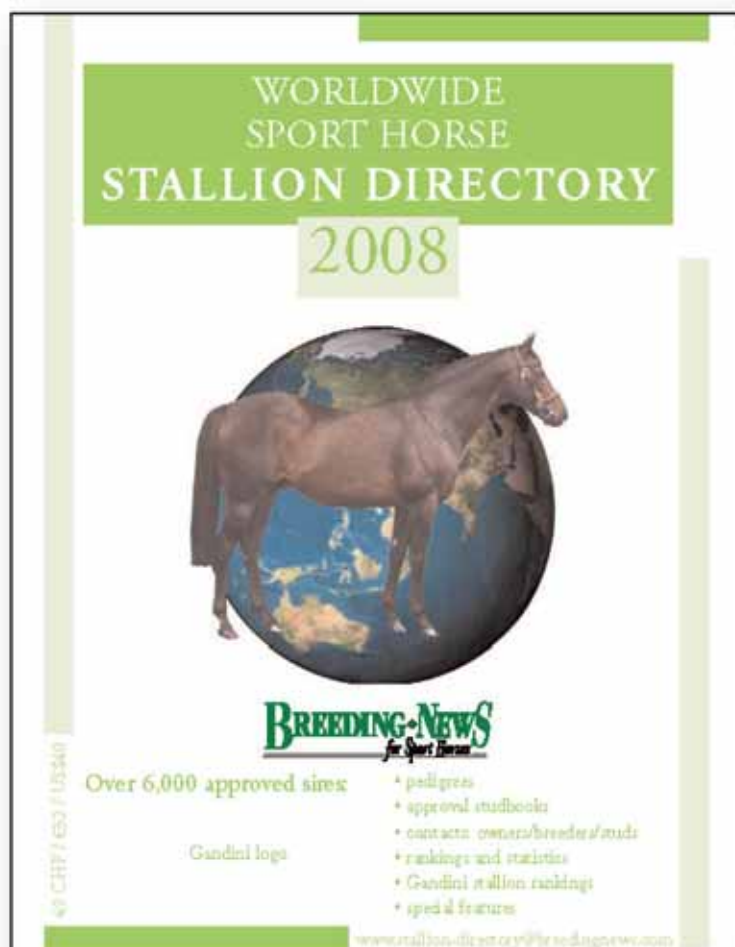
▼ Arif Ahmed



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SYRIA

TEAM BRONZE

NORBERT NUXOLL

Trainer of the Syrian team interviewed during the Individual level

"The Syrian team have not done badly; Shadi Gharib was very good and all round clear until the final round on his nine year old horse. it does not have much mileage although it's still a good jumper. For the next round I hope they perform better."



▲ Fadi Al Zbib



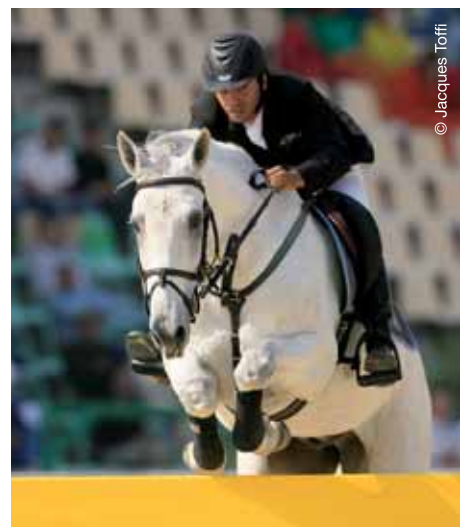
▲ Shadi Gharib



▲ Shadi Gharib



▲ Yasir Charif



▲ Tareq Arnaout



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SHADI GHARIB

*Competing for Syria
interviewed during the Individual level*

"I did not do well during the first round and I do not really know what has gotten into my horse! I was very nervous because it lacks experience. We as team are very happy about winning a medal which is a good step forward."



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▲ Yasir Charif



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▲ The Syrian team with their trainer Norbert Nuxoll

YASIR CHARIF

*Competing for Syria
interviewed during the Individual level*

"The show is very nice but it was difficult starting with the team's competition going onto the Individual level; the other teams are highly competitive and their horses are fantastic. The Syrian team has also developed due to the excellent horses we got from Shockemohle stables. I think we are on the right track to develop even more."

KSA

TEAM GOLD

RAMZY AL DUHAMI

Competing for Saudi Arabia interviewed during the Individual level:

"I have been part of the Saudi team for a while and I think the other teams have been competitive. We had two good rounds during the Nations Cup, but our horses lost a bit of condition during the Individual level. We will try to keep riding well and keep the pressure on. The other teams have also developed on the horse and rider levels and they are starting to acquire more experience which will give the upcoming years more tougher competition."

Ramzy Al Duhami ►
HRH Prince Faisal Al Shalan ▼





HRH PRINCE FAISAL AL SHALAN

Competing for Saudi Arabia interviewed during the Individual level

"I love this sport and I hope it gets bigger and bigger in this region. The show is good for the time being, but I'm sure the organisers and riders will have enough experience to modify the important details in the future. The stables are good as well as the footing and I think in general the show has been super. The competition levels this year have been the highest and I see tough and challenging riders which I think is excellent because it's fulfilling. This sport is also strange because today the horse and rider can do well but tomorrow they won't; I am very happy with the team's Gold medal and I wish everyone the best during the Individual level."

◀ ▼ HRH Prince Abdullah bin Meteb Al Seoud (Individual Gold medallist)



▲ HRH Prince Faisal, Abdallah,
HRH Prince Abdullah & Khaled Al Eid

KHALED AL EID

Team Manager & Olympic Bronze medallist interviewed during the Individual level:

"The show is very good and all the riders have done well due to the high levels of competition. I cannot really point my finger at a winner because the performance keeps changing."



◀ Abdallah Al Sharbatly



ABDALLAH AL SHARBATLY

Competing for Saudi Arabia interviewed during the Individual level:

"I am so happy the team won the gold medal! There is lots of competition going on which is excellent, and I hope it continues on this level because it's all exciting which could probably be the best for all riders! The organisers deserve a thank you because it's a very nice show and I hope we have similar shows in Saudi Arabia."

“I am very glad with our win. I have expected good results and some luck was on our side. Our horses are a squeezed lemon with little juice left...compared to other countries that are supported by their governments in getting the best horses. We aspire to get the same support in the future.”



Abdelfatah Ragab

EGYPT

TEAM SILVER

ABDELFATAH RAGAB,
President of the Egyptian Equestrian Federation

On Samir Abdelfatah: “Samir Abdelfatah has done a good job in regards to technicality and management with all the turmoil surrounding him.”

On horses being owned by the federation: “The problem is if we take any money from the federation to buy a horse, we will not have much left for preparation and training, but hopefully it could be an option to consider; it’s not easy, but we can stay positive!”

On Karim El Zoghby: “It’s unimaginable how touched I was by him! We have a reliable soldier here.”

▼ **Abdul Kader Saeed**
(Individual Bronze medallist)



▼ **Karim Hamdy**





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▲ Karim El Zoghby
(Individual Silver medallist)

SAMIR ABDEL FATAH,
*Technical Manager of the Egyptian team
interviewed during the Nations Cup*



On the general performance: "I expected that the Egyptians would be in a good position for a medal of any kind. Even though the favourites for

the team gold were the Saudi's, the silver for our team is a good achievement."

His views on the Egyptian team: "There is no space for mistakes and the riders must be able to reserve their performance and this is what the team did."

On winning a medal: "We always have to stay positive because a win of any medal does not mean we got ten out of ten, there constantly has to be room for more and more development. We have to improve our horse power and our technical know-how because our goal should not be limited to the Arab games, it should be extended to international championships."

◀ Mohamed El Boraei



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ANDRE SAKAKINI

Egyptian Olympic rider interviewed during the Nations Cup:

“The Egyptian riders have done well so far, and I hope they will be able to do better on the Individual level especially when one’s nerves are bound to start kicking in. The riders have trained here a lot and the grounds are maintained very well which is a plus. The general view is that the other teams are highly competitive and have excellent horses. The Saudi’s for example train in Europe and they ride superbly; they also follow a meticulous system. The most organised team is the Syrian team, they are trained by German trainers from Shockemohle’s stables and they are starting to acquire more experience. In regards to the Individual level, I feel that Abdallah Al Sharbatly is an excellent rider and has an excellent horse.”



Karim El Zoghby



Abdul Kader Saeed



Karim Hamdy



Mohamed El Boraei

ABDUL KADER SAEED

Competing for Egypt and Individual Bronze medallist interviewed during the Nations Cup

“It’s very nice to see all the riders performing here at higher standards. I am currently riding with Team Harmony and being trained by Emile Hendrix. My parents are supporting me financially on this sport and I hope I do well on the Individual level.”



▲ Abdul Kader Saeed



◀ Karim El Zoghby

KARIM EL ZOGHBY

Competing for Egypt and Individual Silver medallist interviewed during the Nations Cup

“I am so happy to be part of the Egyptian team! I was worried at the beginning of the event because the horse I was supposed to ride got ill. We all had a fright! The horse I am currently riding is not qualified for this jumping level but thankfully all went well eventually. We were also apprehensive about the skilful performance of the Saudis, Qatari’s, Syrians and the Emirati’s. We did well as a team but the Saudi’s did better. (Smiling) However I am naturally biased to Egypt of course and I’m hoping on coming out with a medal during the Nation’s Cup.”



KHALED ASSEM

Former member of the Egyptian National show jumping team:

"This competition has added to the achievements of the Arab riders as a whole, and I am positive that the future still holds much more advancement."

◀ Karim Hamdy, Karim El Sobky, Abdul Kader Saeed, Samir Abdelfatah, Karim El Zoghby and Mohamed El Borei