

VIEW POINT

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



This is a special issue...one that is closest to my heart. Firstly, it's the tenth anniversary for our publication Horse Times; ten diligent years of dedication and struggle to bring you substantial information about the equestrian world from a global perspective and a Middle Eastern passion.

Secondly, Egypt hosted the 11th Pan Arab Games and Horse Times dedicated this issue for covering the equestrian events. This issue is different from any other; stride through the pages to view the golds, silvers and bronzes distributed amongst riders from our neighbouring Arab countries. Horsemen from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya and Egypt glorified the sand fields with their horses.

The professional lens of Jacques Toffi caught moments to be made historical of show jumping, dressage, endurance and tent pegging.

What made the event even more spectacular was the participation of Iraq in the games; a country that from the midst of her hardship rose to compete. In these games we missed the participation of Sudan and Palestine, and we hope they will be present in the next games.

It is unlikely for me to tell you why I chose a particular cover for this issue of Horse Times, however this picture says more than a thousand words...it captures the event; the head of the Pan Arab Equestrian Federation, behind him a female Arab silver medallist, and a pair of hands gesturing the symbol of unity...Arab unity at the Pan Arab Games.

Read on and enjoy...

Sincerely,
Khaled Assem
Chairman

Chairman

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HONOURING

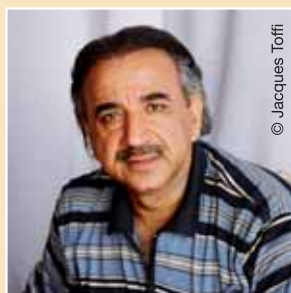
THE 11TH PAN ARAB EQUESTRIAN GAMES



SHEIKH MISHAAL BIN HAMAD BIN KHALIFA AL-THANI

President of the Pan Arab Equestrian Federation

“Today all Arab nations gather in Egypt to revive the traditional equestrian sport. I extend my wishes of success to all competitors reminding them that the most important thing in these championships is not the triumph, but the struggle, and it is not an individual success, but an Arab success that unites all of us as sons and daughters of one nation in one Arab World.”



ABDUL HAMEED ABBAS DASHTI

Secretary General of the Pan Arab Equestrian Federation

“The equestrian games lashed out to an incredible start this year with more than eight countries from the Arab world competing in a well organised and exiting championship. The 11th Pan Arab Games took place a bit after the election of a new President for the Pan Arab Equestrian Federation; Sheikh Mishaal bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani. With the help of many experienced executives in the Arab and international equestrian field, the event was brilliantly organised.

The implementation of some of our aspirations were achieved with dressage, endurance and tent pegging. These disciplines were not held before aside to show jumping and I think having them was a good step forward; credit should be given to the Pan Arab Federation and its Board of Directors for their efforts to construct new and exiting events.

Sheikh Mishaal's efforts to emphasise that the whole concept of the event was to unite all Arabs as one on Arab grounds were of great help to the success of this event. And in light of what's happening in our Arab world, this event has proven to deter the attention away from the political scene and focus on a sport that brings everyone together. The Egyptian Equestrian Federation was tremendously enthusiastic, hospitable, and courteous at managing this event professionally to the last detail.”