

# HORSE TIMES

no. 53

SPRING 2017

THE LEADING EQUESTRIAN MAGAZINE IN THE MIDDLE EAST



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[WWW.NEFERTARICOMPANY.COM](http://WWW.NEFERTARICOMPANY.COM)



## FAMILY

### Chairman:

Khaled Assem

### Managing Editor:

Aya Amr

### Senior Editor:

Bridget McArdle McKinney

### Assistant Managing Editor:

Menna Loutfy

### Marketing Executive:

Noha Hafiz

### Writers & Contributors:

Judith Wich-Wenning

Lynn de Rest

Piotr Wawrzyniak

Theo Woodham-Smith

### Photographers:

Boody Fawzy

Cara Grimshaw

Cymon Taylor

Dirk Caremans

Driss Benmalik

Dubai Racing Club/Andrew Watkins

Dubai Racing Club/Neville Hopwood

Jacques Toffi

Jennifer Ogden

Menna Loutfy

Mohamed Kormod

Saleh Mostafa

### Art Director:

Salonaz Sakr

### Graphic Designer:

Radwa Saeed

### Concept & Production:

HORSE TIMES

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### HORSE TIMES Head Office:

EQUICARE Company: 2 Bahgat Ali Street, Zamalek 11211, Cairo – Egypt

Tel: +20227356939

Fax: +20227354348

Website: [www.horsetimesegypt.com](http://www.horsetimesegypt.com)

Email: [info@horsetimesegypt.com](mailto:info@horsetimesegypt.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/HORSETIMSMagazine](https://facebook.com/HORSETIMSMagazine)

Instagram: [instagram.com/horse\\_times\\_egypt](https://instagram.com/horse_times_egypt)

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# TWENTY YEARS

*HAVE ALREADY GALLOPED BY!*

How did that happen? Truly, I don't know, but I can say that the journey has been sweet, exciting and extremely rewarding; it didn't feel like work to me at all. I look back and remember every article, every interview and every turning point. I have to credit the team I am working with; everyone has been so enthusiastic about giving, developing, and innovating. We feel that we nourish the sport with facts, information and delightful stories of success, effort and second trials.

As the Equestrian sport is an intrinsic part in the fabric of society in every country around the world we realised that our content has to include more about celebrities within and outside the sport, the world of art, photography and more. Our vision is to complete the circle of culture, to bond the sport to the pulse of life that is constantly pumping in our hearts and to keep the horse as a divine idol for hope and happiness through different means and approaches. Through art, science, medicine, history, events and people who occupy our special world, this vision became a reality.

We have tried and we will continue to try to follow our passion and love for that idol - *'The Horse'*.

*Our Motto:*

*"Small achievements put together create a remarkable result."*

In the coming preview, we will try to share with you some of the icons we have interviewed who impact the sport, places we have visited to cover events, friends that have grown through time and finally books that tell stories that live through time.

We sincerely hope that you enjoy this 20th Anniversary edition of Horse Times.

Read on!

*Khaled Assem*







## HRH PRINCESS HAYA BINT AL HUSSEIN

“I STILL DREAM OF SEEING OUR SPORT RETURN TO THE TOP 10 INTERNATIONAL SPORTS...I FEEL SO STRONGLY THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO REACH FOR THE STARS.”



# RIDERS' PROFILES

THE CROSSROAD OF PASSION AND TRAINING





# RIDERS' PROFILES

## A LIFE IN THE SADDLE





# RIDERS' PROFILES

“IT IS NOT A HOBBY, IT IS A LIFESTYLE.”





# RIDERS' PROFILES

## THE PRIDE OF A NATION





# BLUE BLOOD ADDICTED TO HORSES

IT STILL TAKES SWEAT & EFFORT TO BE RECOGNISED







# BEHIND THE SCENES

WHERE TECHNICALITY MEETS TALENT





CELEBRITIES WITH PASSION FOR HORSES

# WHEN VANITY AND CULTURE COME TOGETHER





# TRAINING TIPS

*“A FLOWING RIVER OF KNOWLEDGE.”*



*HT PARTNERS - PHOTOGRAPHERS*

*WHERE ONE PICTURE IS  
WORTH HOURS OF DEDICATION*





# HT SPECIAL PRODUCTIONS DOCUMENTARIES & REFERENCES

Special Olympic Edition *Rio*, 2016

<http://tinyurl.com/laq5hjd>



## Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games

*Normandy, France*

2014

<http://tinyurl.com/hw9twtf>

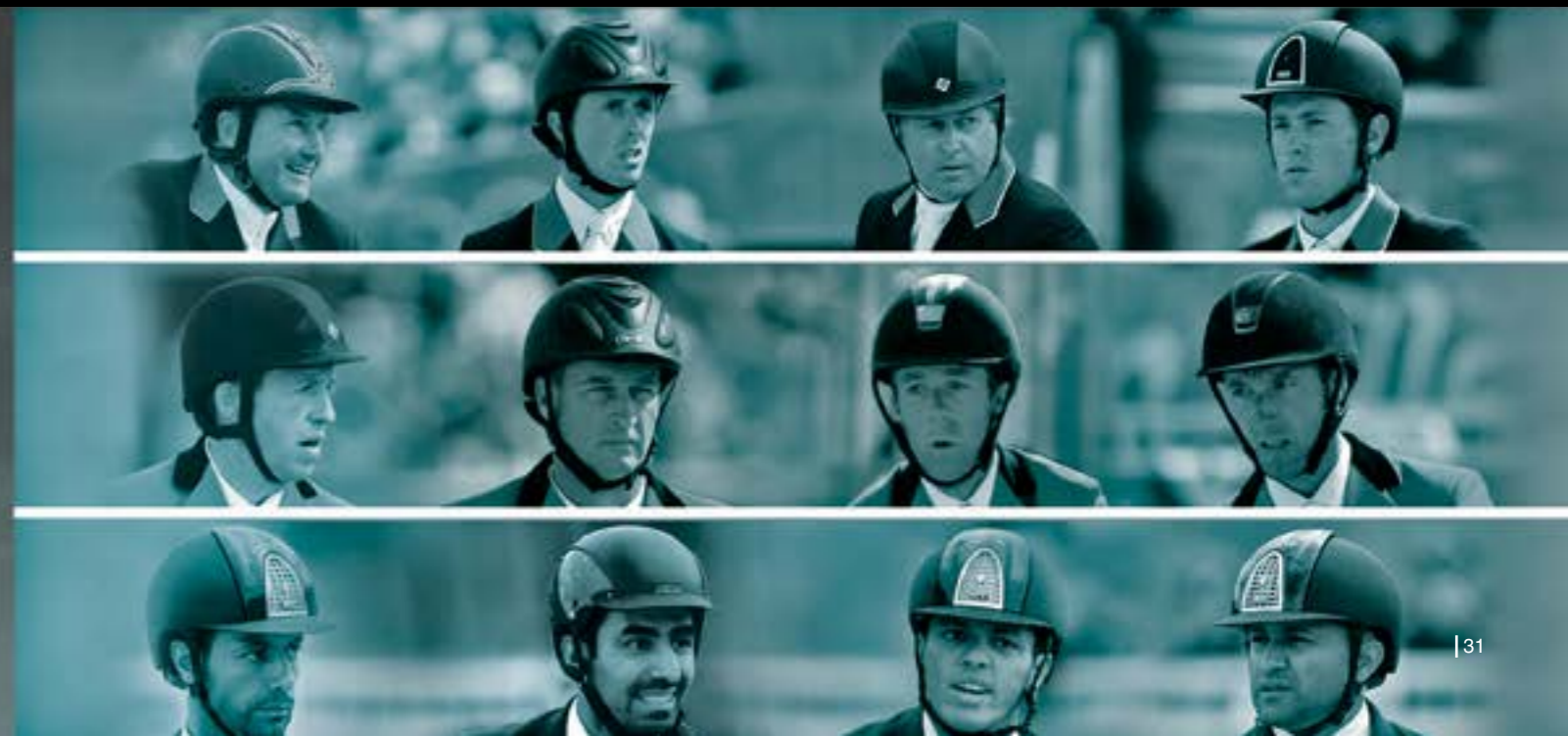


## Olympic edition

*London*

2012

<http://tinyurl.com/lnr6f33>





# THEN AND NOW

*ENDURING BEAUTY – DR. NASR MAREI AND HIS  
LEGACY AL BADEIA STUD OVER THE YEARS*

By Bridget McArdle McKinney







*“A true horseman does not look at the horse with his eyes; he looks at his horse with his heart.”*

*~ Author Unknown*

Celebrating our 20th Anniversary we look back at the people, horses, events, and topics covered in HorseTimes, a true walk down Memory Lane. It reminds us that while so many things change, so much remains the same - our passion for horses, our love of horse sport in all of its forms, and our admiration for all of the stalwarts, experts and heroes of our profession who persevered through good times and bad to breed, train, and compete for the love of horses. One such hero is Dr. Nasr Marei, one of Egypt's greatest Arabian horse breeders, renowned Arabian horse judges, and published equine photographers, a horseman of great achievement and history, knowledge and grace.

#### **AL BADEIA ARABIAN HORSE FARM**

HorseTimes has been proud to showcase Dr. Nasr Marei over the years. Indeed, we've interviewed, highlighted and learned from Dr. Marei in no less than seven articles, starting with HT's very first issue, in an article entitled, *“An Arabian Affair”*.

Twenty years ago we wrote that Al Badeia Arabian Horse Farm is considered to be the oldest private breeding farm in Egypt. Located in Tere'et El Mansoureyia in Giza, the farm has specialized in breeding pure blood Arabians since it opened in 1935. Describing Dr. Marei we explained that he is an active member of the Egyptian Arabian Horse Breeders Association (EAHBA), and helps organize local shows as well as participate in them.

About his programme at that time he said, *“We breed according to the horses type and quality... It's been 10 years today since I started introducing my horses to local shows and the overall results are very honorable, a reassurance that I'm on the right track.”*

In March 1998, Sakkara Country Club hosted the Tenth Annual Show for the EAHBA and Marei himself, participated with 14 of his horses. *“This is the 4th time in a row to win 1st place as far as number of classes and championships are concerned”* said Marei proudly. 13-year-old stallion Farid Al Badeia was a favorite among the judges. Having won 4 consecutive shows, his offspring too have had their share of success in the show ring.

#### **HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF ARABIAN HORSE BREEDING IN EGYPT**

Over a decade ago for our February 2006 Issue No. 19, Dr. Marei gave HT an exclusive in-depth interview that is a classic primer on the history and development of Arabian horse breeding in Egypt and Dr. Marei's own experience, extensive knowledge and breeding programme. Here are a few gems from that interview.

*“I think a breeder is an artist in a way. With the gene pool you have in hand, I think that each serious breeder tries to portray or interpret a vision of what an Arabian horse should look like. I give you a canvas and a brush, provided you can paint, but everyone will draw a different Arabian horse. The talented or successful breeders have to be artists. They should have a feeling for the sense of beauty, balance, agility, and movement which composes a good horse. Some people are fixed on certain characteristics of an Arabian horse. Let's say, the head, beautiful big eyes, good forehead, small head, small ears, big nostrils and big jaws, which is really the description/quality of the perfect Arabian horse. But many breeders are really fixed on the head, completely forgetting the body and other elements that make a good horse. The horse is not a head, the horse is a WHOLE.”*

*“My program is very dynamic I change every day. I have to be very thankful to what my father and grandfather did as I learned a great deal from them. When 'change' occurs, it should mean 'improving' and I do this without significantly affecting the characteristics of the 'Albadeia' type. The stagnant breeder in my view is not a good breeder. Once you are critical of yourself and your horse, then you shall improve.”*

#### **THE CLASSIC ARABIAN**

Next, over the course of 2006 and 2007, Dr. Marei graced our HT readership with a three-part series on a subject he knows best, *“The Classic Arabian”*, detailing the attributes, characteristics, and qualities of the Arabian show horse from an expert and experienced judge's point of view, including the chief points of judgement: type, movement, and head and neck. An Arabian horse judge's textbook on the subject written in his delightful and down-to-earth style, a true classic.



**“THE ARABIAN HORSE OF EGYPT” - DR. MAREI’S BOOK OF EQUINE PHOTOGRAPHS**

On top of being a top breeder, judge, and all-around good guy Dr. Marei is an expert equine photographer as well! In our summer 2010 edition we profiled his book of photographs in our article “Capturing a Free Spirit”. In 2010 Dr. Marei launched his impressive book of photographs entitled “The Arabian Horse of Egypt” published by American University in Cairo Press.

When asked what inspired him to publish such a book, Dr. Marei explained, *“My pictures capture some of the essence of this noble creature. It is my way to capture the free spirit, pride, beauty, and charisma of the horse and freeze that instant in time. By doing this I can relive it for years to come and share the passion and beauty with everyone. It satisfies my artistic and aesthetic love of the beauty that abounds in nature.”*

Which shows that Dr. Marei is a poet as well!

**ARABIAN HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

In the Summer of 2013 (Issue 42) HT warmly applauded and congratulated Dr. Marei for his newest accolade and achievement, the prestigious 2013 Arabian Horse Breeders Association (ABHA) Lifetime Achievement Award. In offering its highest award, the ABHA paid tribute to the remarkable contributions and achievements of Dr. Marei with these words:

After obtaining his PhD in the USA, Dr. Nasr Marei returned to Egypt and a career as a professor in business. But his heart was always with the horses, and in 1990 Albadeia breeding programme began a new era under his direction. As the third generation Arabian horse lover dedicated to the breeding programme, he felt a great responsibility to carry on the heritage and legacy of Albadeia. Yet, Dr. Nasr Marei did much more than simply preserves the breeding programme. Through his discerning eye, astute breeding choices, and pure passion for the Arabian breed, he elevated Albadeia programme to new heights.

The rich and concentrated gene pool of the Albadeia herd ensured that the farm’s horses had a distinct look, yet Dr. Nasr searched the world to carefully add the blood of selected stallions that would refine and improve the existing qualities of the herd. His breeding decisions resulted in horses that garnered multiple national and international championships throughout the show rings of Egypt, Europe, and beyond, including the exquisite World Champion mare, Gelgelah Albadeia. The extraordinary horses bred by this historic farm have been exported to more than 17 countries around the world, and are influential not only in the realm of Egyptian Arabians, but within many of the world’s most notable breeding programs.

Along with the world-wide success of the Albadeia breeding program, Dr. Nasr Marei remains a tireless ambassador for the Arabian breed. Along with his father and brother Hassan, he was a founder of the Egyptian Breeders Association. He is also a life member of the World Arabian Horse Organization (WAHO), has held numerous positions within the European Conference of Arab Horse Organisations (ECAHO), including member of the Executive Committee and head of the Judging Systems Revision Group, and is a long-time member of The Pyramid Society, the premiere international breeders organization dedicated to the preservation, perpetuation and promotion of the Straight Egyptian Arabian horse.

As one of the most highly sought-after Arabian horse judges in the world, Nasr has judged more than 200 shows on five continents since 1990. These shows have included the breed’s most prestigious competitions, such as the World Championships in Paris, which he has judged six times, the Nation’s Cup, which he has judged 5 times, and many other important national and International shows.

The Arabian horse world is fortunate indeed for the enduring contributions of Dr. Nasr Marei and Albadeia Stud.

Indeed, he is! 🏠

*‘I congratulate HorseTimes on its 20th Anniversary. I love the magazine and I love what Khaled has done. It’s an excellent magazine. He has done an excellent job’.*  
**Dr. Nasr Marei**







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# LEGAL + MEDICAL

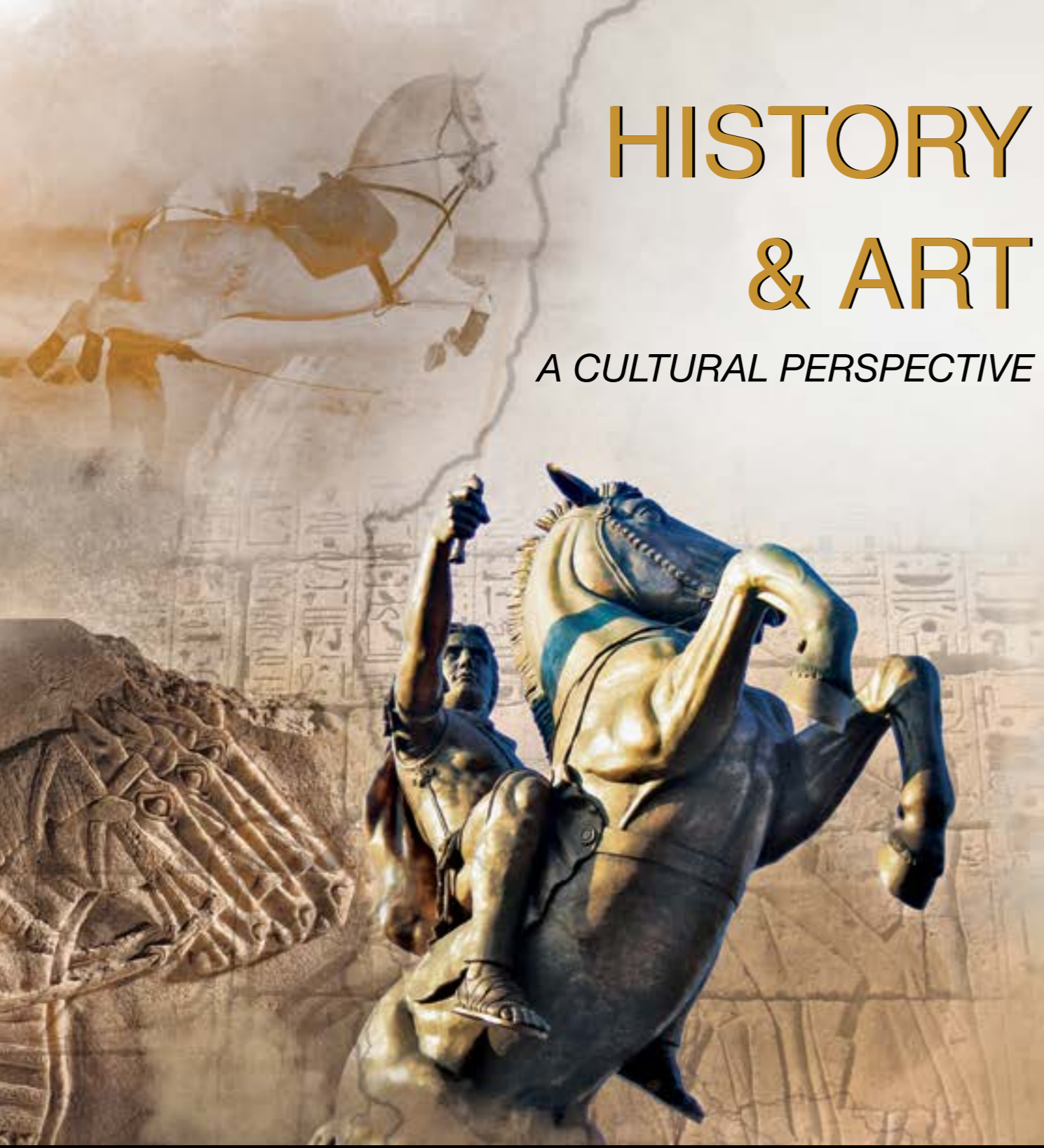
*NOT JUST NEWS, BUT KNOWLEDGE YOU CAN USE!*

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# HISTORY & ART

*A CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE*







# EVENTS

*WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EQUESTRIAN SPORT TODAY*



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# 13<sup>th</sup> EDITION DUBAI INTERNATIONAL HORSE FAIR

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16 March 2016	17 March 2016	18 March 2016
11 am - 8 pm	2 pm - 8 pm	10 am - 8pm



# A JEWEL ON THE THRONE OF HORSE RACING THE WORLD'S RICHEST RACE DAY: DUBAI WORLD CUP 2017

By Menna Loutfy



*Arrogate (USA) (Bob Baffert – Mike Smith) winner of the Dubai World Cup*



IT WAS A RAINY DAY IN THE CITY OF DUBAI BUT THIS DID NOT CHANGE ANY OF THE PLANS MADE FOR UAE'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS SPORTING EVENT. HELD IN THE STATE OF ART, MEYDAN RACECOURSE, I WAS THRILLED TO BE HT'S REPORTER IN THE WORLD RICHEST RACE DAYWORTH US\$30 MILLION.

FEATURING NINE RACES, FASHION STAKES AND A MUSICAL CONCERT BY WORLD CLASS SINGER SIA, SPORT ENTHUSIASTS GATHERED FROM ALL AROUND THE GLOBE TO WITNESS THE MIND-BLOWING EQUESTRIAN SPECTACLE. AT RACE TIME, YOU COULD ACTUALLY FEEL THAT YOUR HEART BEATS WERE SYNCHRONIZING WITH THE THUNDERING HOOVES OF THE HORSES AS THEY SWEEP THEIR WAY TO THE FINISH LINE.

Annually held on the last Saturday in March, this year's 22nd edition of DWC was a meeting point of the world's finest horses, most talented trainers and jockeys, as well as thousands of spectators who gathered in world's longest single-structure grandstand at Meydan Racecourse.

"We believe in the power of dreams and the importance of committing to a vision and what you see before you today at Meydan Racecourse is the tangible proof that truly great things can be achieved when dreams are followed." HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

The Style Stakes were the fashion highlight of the day that grabbed the attention of fashionistas and stylists. Prizes were offered to men, women and couples for the best hat, most creative hat, best dressed couple, best dressed man and lady. Celebrity expert judges from the fashion industry and media like Kelly Lundberg, Lucy Wildman, Dom Bagnato, Daniel Higgins and Saufeeya Goodson were present to choose the lucky winners.

"Be brave, but not brazen; sophisticated, but not showy; elegant but not edgy. Remind yourself that you will be mingling with royalty at the world's richest horse race, and your look will be seen by millions across the globe – so this is the day to put 150 percent into your outfit, and dress like the whole world is watching you!" Lucy Wildman when asked for advice to contestants.



Second Summer (USA) ridden by Patrick Dobbs winning the Godolphin Mile



The World's longest single-structure grandstand at Meydan Racecourse



I personally admired the sophisticated outfits and how everybody looked so elegant. Then it was time for the moment everyone was waiting for, and excitement elevated ahead of the opening race. All eyes were on the field as the jockeys came out riding their horses and trainers stood by between hopes and fears. Photographers and broadcasting channels pointed their cameras toward the racecourse as it was ShowTime!

**RACE 1: THE GODOLPHIN MILE 1600M (DIRT), SPONSORED BY MEYDAN SOBHA.**

With 13 participant horses and jockeys, the opening US\$1,000,000 race for the Dubai World Cup night resulted in a great victory for Second Summer (USA) ridden by Patrick Dobbs. Giving the UAE champion trainer Doug Watson his second Godolphin win in a row, winning last year's title with One Man Band.

It was a very exciting twist when Sharp Azteca (USA) had the lead until suddenly at the final 400m, Second Summer and Ross (IRE) snatched it away from him taking the first and second place.

"He broke slowly. I had to use him up a bit earlier than I wanted. When he kicked on I thought we had it but he got tired in the last 50m. The start cost me." Edgard Zayas - jockey Sharp Azteca 3rd

**RACE 2: DUBAI KAHAYLA CLASSIC – GROUP 1 – 2000M (DIRT), SPONSORED BY IPIC**

Despite receiving his invitation only one week before the race, the Purebred Arabian Reda gave Qatar the title of the Dubai Kahayla Classic, storming at the final 300m to beat Rb Burn (US) who was heading to the finish line in first place. Trained by Julian Smart and ridden by Harry Bentley, Reda's first place win in the US\$1,000,000 race was a great result for His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani.

"For the amount of kickback he was getting he faced it brilliantly. I was quite a long way back. He just kept persevering and around the bend. He was so full of running and it was just of matter of when he'd get there." Harry Bentley

**RACE 3: DUBAI GOLD CUP 3200M (TURF), SPONSORED BY AL TAYER MOTORS**

Vazirabad (FRA) nailed his second consecutive win in the Dubai Gold Cup when he overtook Beautiful Romance (GB) by a neck in the final 50m of the race. Trainer Alain de Royer-Dupre and jockey Christophe Soumillon brought France the title of the US\$1,000,000 Dubai Gold Cup in addition to Vazirabad's new title, being the first dual winner of the race.

"On the last corner I just preferred to stay on the inside to drop some lengths there. And when I came into the straight I knew he was going to give me a good turn of foot but I was not really sure I could arrive to take the lead in the end. When he passed the two horses he started to shift in a bit but then when he felt the field in front of him he just kept running." Christophe Soumillon



Reda (QAT) ridden by Harry Bentley after winning the Dubai Kahayla Classic



Registered couple for the best dressed competition at the DWC Style stakes



Ladies participating in the style stakes for best hat.



Emirates Airlines "Thanks a Million" charity draw to win one million skywards miles.



**RACE 4: UAE DERBY 1900M (DIRT), SPONSORED BY THE SAEED & MOHAMMED AL NABOODAH GROUP**

Out of 16 horses and jockeys competing in the UAE Derby, it was down to Epichares (JPN) and Thundersnow (IRE) battling in the final 100m to cross the finish line with a few inches difference. Announcing victory of the US\$2,000,000 race for Godolphin's star Thundersnow.

"I was very confident before the race. He had good gate speed and jumped well, but he was startled by the lines on the ground or something and changed leads, shifting out for a few strides. I was able to get him focused again and thought I still had time to come back." Winning jockey Christophe Soumillon

**RACE 5: AL QUOZ SPRINT 1200M (TURF), SPONSORED BY AZIZI DEVELOPMENTS**

Another very exciting finish was for the US\$1,000,000 AL Quoz Sprint when French-trained The Right Man (GB) surpassed Long on Value (USA) by a nose. None of the spectators surely knew who the winner was until it was announced as they almost crossed the finish line together. Ridden by Francois-Xavier Bertras, The Right Man hit the lead at the final 100m of the race, followed by Long on Value and then last year's second place winner Ertijal (IRE).

"20 years ago I would never imagine I'd win a Grade 1 here. This is an amazing achievement in my career. The horse ran well last time in his prep race. The horse

is going to Hong Kong next if he's well and then maybe Royal Ascot." Didier Guillemin, trainer

**RACE 6: DUBAI GOLDEN SHAHEEN 1200M (DIRT), SPONSORED BY GULF NEWS**

Mind Your Biscuits (USA) won the US\$2,000,000 Golden Shaheen when he stormed down the center of the track in the final 200m to dominate the race with three lengths difference. Meanwhile Comicas (USA) came in second place followed by Morawij (GB), who maintained his 3rd place since last year. It was a winning gamble for the jockey Joel Rosario who had to risk racing in a wide turn to get a clear path between the 14 galloping horses.

"I think I got some ground in the turn, not much, and then for a second I thought we might not get there," Rosario said. "I was so wide on the outside. I was thinking, 'Is this going to work?' But he showed that he was the best horse in the race."

**RACE 7: DUBAI TURF 1800M (TURF), SPONSORED BY DP WORLD**

It was a happy night for Japan as they captured their second consecutive win in the US\$6,000,000 Dubai Turf, when Joao Moreira and Vivlos came out of the blue to prevail in the race during the final seconds. Heshem (IRE) was approaching the finish line in first place followed by Ribchester (IRE) when the Japanese filly Vivlos zoomed down in the final 50m to surpass them and win by three quarters of a length.

"She was brilliant, from the time that I sat on top of her on Friday, she gave me the feel that she was going to be very competitive. She was probably one of the lightest horses in the race. If the ground was soft, which is probably what the people were thinking about, she wasn't sinking (into the turf) the most. I think that is why she was able to let down and was able to get there." Joao Moreira.

**RACE 8: LONGINES DUBAI SHEEMA CLASSIC, 2410M (TURF)**

Godolphin's second victory for the night was through Jack Hobbs (GB) who won the Dubai Sheema Classic which offers a purse of US\$6,000,000. Trained by John Gosden and ridden by jockey William Buick, Jack Hobbs made a superb finish to overtake the lead from Seventh Heaven (IRE) who came second and last year's winner Postponed (IRE) who followed in third.

"I was travelling well in the right spot but he didn't let down like he can on that ground. But to be fair the winner was in a different league tonight. Our horse will come back." Andrea Atzeni (jockey, Postponed (IRE), 3rd)

**RACE 9: DUBAI WORLD CUP 2000M (DIRT), SPONSORED BY EMIRATES AIRLINE**

When the time came for this race, you could tell that all the spectators were already on the edge of their seats, everyone in the audience was eager to watch the Dubai World Cup. Even HH Sheikh Mohammed Ben Rashid

Al- Maktoum, HH Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein and the family stood by the rail to witness the US\$10,000,000 race and indeed it was a brilliant finale! It came to everyone's surprise when the stalls were open that Arrogate (USA), the world's best horse in 2016, was last in the first 100 meters of the race. Teamed up by Mike Smith (USA), they gradually swept their way to the lead for a spectacular two and a quarter-length triumph that left the crowd thrilled.

"I can't believe we won. That is a great horse right there. It was terrible, terrible; he walked out of the gate. I tell you what, Mike Smith did a great job. He didn't panic, he just thought, well I just get him around there. Mike Smith, what a job he did. Unbelievable! This is the greatest horse we have seen since Secretariat. Unbelievable! "Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert (USA)

"When I was watching it, I thought 'I hope Mike takes care of him', maybe I shouldn't have come here, and it's unbelievable what he did. I was listening to the crowd and everybody was thinking, 'Oh, he has no chance'. That was an incredible performance.

When he turned for home, he started to give and I thought 'This is it'. He did it. That is the best I have ever seen in my life." 🏆

For Full Results visit our website:

[www.horsetimesegypt.com](http://www.horsetimesegypt.com)

Quotes © DWC News



Dubai Kahayla Classic – Group 1 – 2000M (Dirt), sponsored by IPIC

© Menna Loufy



UAE Derby Winning jockey Christophe Soumillon during Trophy presentation by al Naboodah group.

© Menna Loufy



Arrogate storming out of the last place at the beginning of the Dubai World cup race

© Menna Loufy



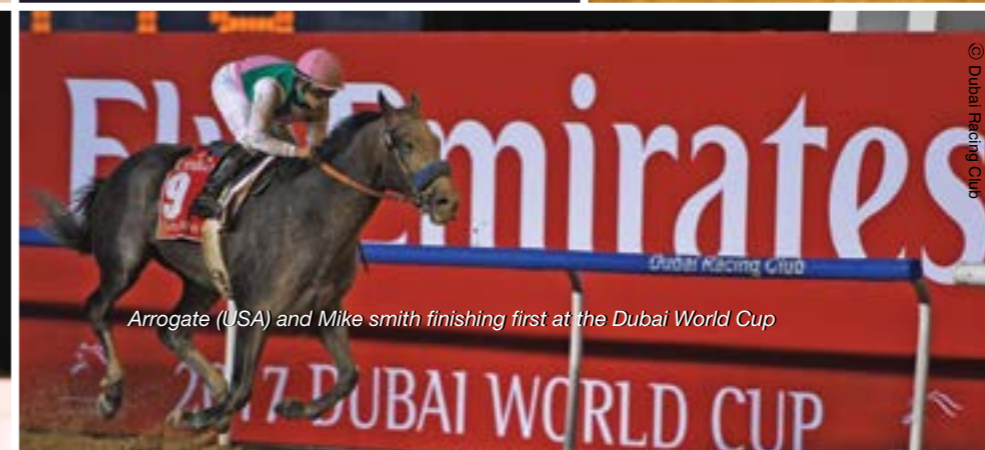
Reda (QAT) and RB Burn competing at the Final 300m of the Dubai Kahayla Classic

50 |



Joao Moreira and Vivlos (JPN) winners of the Dubai Turf

© Menna Loufy



Arrogate (USA) and Mike Smith finishing first at the Dubai World Cup

© Dubai Racing Club



ERTIJAAL (IRE) ridden by Jim Crowley

© Menna Loufy

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**MASERATI POLO TOUR RETURNS TO DUBAI**

**WITH MASERATI DUBAI POLO TROPHY 2017 IN COLLABORATION WITH LA MARTINA**

MASERATI POLO TOUR ANNOUNCED THE RETURN OF ITS DUBAI EDITION WITH THE MASERATI DUBAI POLO TROPHY 2017 FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR. THE TOUR WAS HELD AT THE DESERT PALM POLO CLUB FROM 11 - 17 MARCH 2017 AND CONCLUDED WITH TEAM ABU DHABI WINNING THE MASERATI DUBAI POLO TROPHY BY AN OUTSTANDING SCORE OF 7 TO 4 OVER TEAM AES INTERNATIONAL.

MASERATI MASERATI MASERATI MASERATI MASERATI





Six polo teams, featuring talented professional and amateur players from United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom and Argentina. Ali Saeed Juma Alwardy, UAE President of the Polo Association and Founder of Desert Palm Polo Club, said: *“I am delighted to welcome my friend Umberto Cini, Managing Director of Maserati Middle East, India and Africa and all our distinguished guests”*.

Umberto Cini, commented: *“Maserati has natural synergy with “the sport of kings”, a sport that combines elegance and passion. We are very excited to be back at the prestigious Desert Palm Polo Club for the second consecutive year with The Maserati Dubai Polo Trophy 2017.*

*Congratulations to the players of Team Abu Dhabi. I would like to personally thank Ali Alwardy and Desert Palm, the teams and sponsors as well as all of our distinguished guests for being part of this exhilarating ‘horsepower’ filled day.”*

In addition to the horsepower on the field, guests enjoyed Maserati horsepower from the entire model range that was on display, which included the latest addition to the Maserati family, **the Levante SUV**, as well as the flagship Quattroporte, the executive **sedan Ghibli** and the sporty **GranTurismo** and **GranCabrio** models.

Enrico Roselli, CEO of La Martina Europe, said: *“As for every leg of the tournament, we are thrilled*

*to take part to a one of a kind sports event that celebrates our roots and enhances every time our partnership with Maserati.”*

The Dubai leg of the Maserati Polo Tour saw the official launch of the first of the four “Maserati Polo Tour Special Edition” polo shirts created by La Martina for Maserati as a tribute to each tournament.

The “Maserati Dubai Polo Trophy Special Edition Polo Shirt” is made of pure cotton and featuring exclusive detail of the shiny metallic Dubai map print on the back, the shirt comes in black with contrasting details in silver and bright blue. The shirt is now available in La Martina stores across

the UAE and on the La Martina online store.

**The Maserati Polo Tour was first established in 2014 to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Maserati and it has been accompanied by the successful partnership with the world’s leading supplier of polo equipment, La Martina.** Following St. Moritz and Dubai, the third instalment of Maserati Polo Tour 2017 will take place in the UK in June. To keep up to date with all of the thrilling action from these global events, the 2017 tour can be followed at [www.maseratipolo.com](http://www.maseratipolo.com).

**List of the participating teams and players, including their handicap:**

<p><b>Team Maserati</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Rashid alwardy (UAE) (2)</li> <li>-Saoud Khoory (UAE) (0)</li> <li>-Daniel Gariador (ARG) (4)</li> <li>-Martin Valent (ARG) (5)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Team Abu Dhabi</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Faris Al Yabhouni (UAE) (0)</li> <li>-Kian Hall (UK) (2)</li> <li>-Yousef Bin Desmal (UAE) (0)</li> <li>-Alfredo Capella (ARG) (8)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Team Ghantoot</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Ali Al Marri (UAE) (0)</li> <li>-Pipe Llorente (ARG) (4)</li> <li>-Pablo Llorente (ARG) (6)</li> <li>-Abdullah Bin Dasmal (UAE) (0)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Team Al Tayer Motors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Abdelrahman Abbar (KSA) (0)</li> <li>-Haider Bangash (PAK) (0)</li> <li>-Maxi malacalza (ARG) (4)</li> <li>-Federico Von Potobsky (ARG) (6)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Team Leica</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Peter Donald Reid (SCT) (0)</li> <li>-Raja abuljebain (JOR) (0)</li> <li>-Mario Gomez (ESP) (4)</li> <li>-Santi Laborde (ARG) (6)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Team AES International</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Sam Instone (UK) (0)</li> <li>-Ayaad Damouni (LEB) (0)</li> <li>-Matias Machado (ARG) (4)</li> <li>-Jejo Taranco (URG) (7)</li> </ul>





# ORIENTALISM AND THE ARABIAN HORSE PART IV

## FRANÇOIS HIPPOLYTE LALASSE

By Judith Wich-Wenning


1810 NANCY – 1884 PARIS

WE OWE SOME OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS OF ARABIAN HORSES TO THE FRENCH ARTIST FRANÇOIS HIPPOLYTE LALASSE. HE LEFT AN EXTENSIVE OPUS IN HIS VERY OWN, RATHER REALISTIC STYLE. LALASSE LOVED TO DEPICT REFINED HORSES WITH BIG EYES AND EXOTIC TYPE. HIS OFTEN BEAUTIFULLY COLOURED LITHOGRAPHS ARE TODAY SOUGHT-AFTER COLLECTOR'S ITEMS.

Born in 1810 in Nancy, Hippolyte Lalasse was a pupil of the gifted painter and engraver Charlet. Lalasse later on became his adjoining professor at Polytechnique where he lectured from 1839 to 1877. The publisher Charpentier commissioned him to illustrate his book on the costumes from Bretagne. From 1835 on, Lalasse also exhibited at the salons. Hippolyte Lalasse published a considerable number of lithographs on regional costumes and uniforms. His illustrations of Oriental costumes are especially remarkable – they show Lalasse's great love to detail.

Despite his beautiful oil paintings and watercolours, Hippolyte Lalasse's strongest point was certainly graphic. He portrayed many stallions and mares who were imported from the Orient to France in order to improve local horse

breeding. He illustrated, for example, the work "La Connaissance Générale du Cheval" (1861), "Atlas Statistique de la Production des Chevaux en France" (1850), and "Chevaux de Race de tous Pays".

Hippolyte Lalasse died in 1884 at the age of 74 years in Paris. 

*For inquiries regarding the Arabian horse in art please contact:*

*Judith Wich-Wenning, Germany,*

*Tel.: ++49 1707721739*

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HT-P HORSE SHOW,  
 EMPOWERED BY SPECIAL OLYMPICS EGYPT  
 AN EQUESTRIAN EXTRAVAGANZA

By Menna Loutfy

ON A FRIDAY WINTER MORNING IN FEBRUARY, WE WERE BLESSED BY BRIGHT SUN THAT SPREAD ITS SHINING RAYS ON THE STEPS OF THE COLISEUM SEATING ARENA OF EQUICARE RIDING CENTER. AT EXACTLY 10 AM SPECTATORS STARTED TO FLOOD IN, EAGER TO BECOME PART OF THE FIRST HT-P HORSE SHOW, A CELEBRATION OF HORSE TIMES MAGAZINE'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PLATINUM CLUB.

THE IDEA WAS TO SPREAD AWARENESS ABOUT THE SPLENDOR OF THE EQUESTRIAN SPORT BY DESIGNING A GREAT DAY-OUT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY WHERE THEY CAN EXPLORE HORSEMANSHIP DISCIPLINES AND ACTIVITIES. WITH THE COOPERATION OF MANY SPONSORS, INCLUDING THE EGYPTIAN CHAMBER OF HANDICRAFTS, TOYOTA EGYPT, GATEWAY SCHOOL, UBER, EGYPTAIR, AL AHLY FOR REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENTS, NEFERTARI INTERNATIONAL TRADING, CHANGE CONSULTANCY, WELLSRING EGYPT, EL- MAGHRABY PHARMACY AND TALA MEDICAL CENTERS - EVERYONE HAD A WONDERFUL DAY !

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**“IN CRAFTING THERE ARE NO MISTAKES, JUST UNIQUE CREATIONS”**

As a kick start of the day, the Egyptian Chamber of Handicrafts provided space for 50 exhibitors to showcase their fabulous handmade crafts. We also crafted our day very well, so that parents wouldn't have to worry about their children while shopping at the festival. As we provided arts and crafts activities, in addition to “free pony rides”, a special gift by Equicare riding center. The beautiful essence of music was a delight to HT-P's attendees when Sawah, a famous Egyptian saxophone player, performed live on stage several times throughout the day. Afterwards, people enjoyed a bit of love by Wellspring Egypt Team, as they spoke to everyone about the “Five Languages of Love”.

**“DO YOU KNOW WHAT MY FAVOURITE PART OF THE GAME IS?”**

**THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY” – Mike Singletary**

The riding courses performed at the HT-P Horse show were divided into two competitions which caught the attention and enthusiasm of the audience. First of which, was the “Jumping with costumes” where young riders wore a variety of magnificent costumes, and not only that!

They actually dressed their horses in a matching costume along with a unique choice of music to be played during the course completing the theme of their ride. You could hear the triumphant music track of Lawrence of Arabia elevating as Salvador Pinto Da França entered the arena in his white robes and golden headdress, known as a keffiyah. He was galloping at an astonishing pace on the beautiful black mare “No Limit”.

The prize money for this competition was a total of 4500 Egyptian Pounds to all three winners presented by HORSE TIMES Magazine. The lucky winner also received a gift worth 11,000 Egyptian pounds from the Egyptian Chamber of Handicrafts. All in all it was an amazing show, you can definitely tell that riders enjoyed their time rather than worrying about winning or losing.



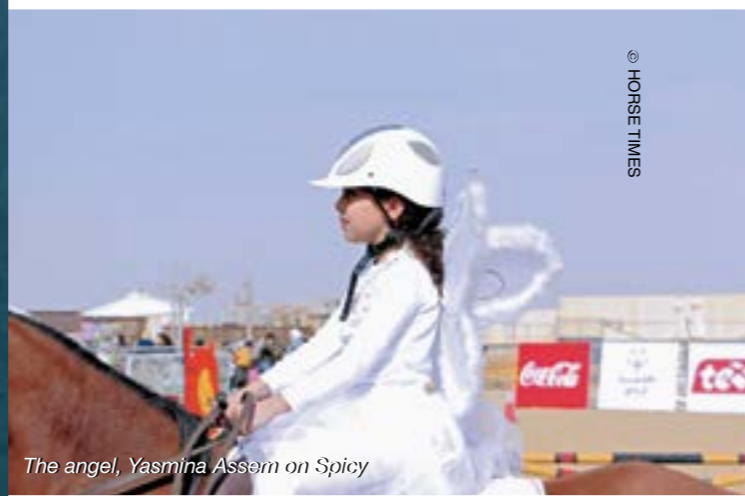
The winner of the Jumping with Costumes competition, Ahmed Fahmy on Alice

© HORSE TIMES



Sawah from the blowers' band

© Mohamed Kormod



The angel, Yasmina Asser on Spicy

© HORSE TIMES



Ahmed Magdy on Gemma dressed as a Sheikh in the Jumping with Costumes competition

© HORSE TIMES



Special Olympics champion, Marlam Naeem

© Boody Fawzy



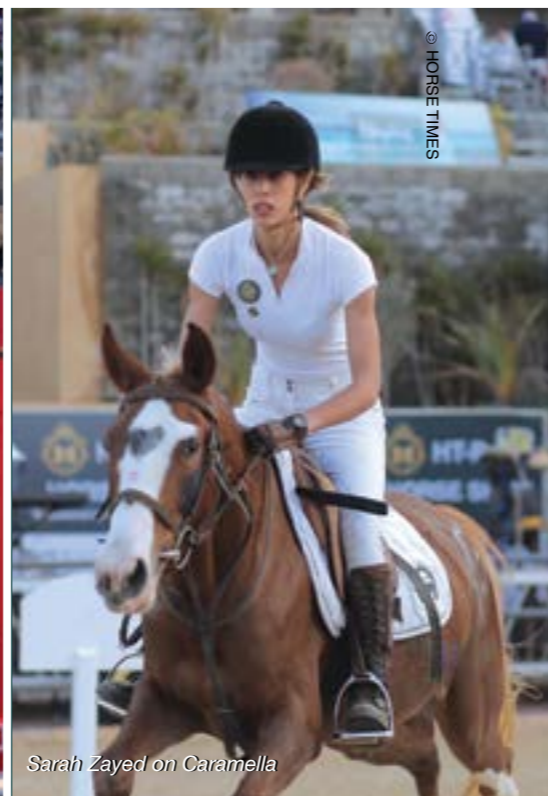
Special Olympics champion, Mazon El Samahy

© Boody Fawzy





The winner of the Jump & Drive competition Mahmoud Kerdia on Classic Candy



Sarah Zayed on Caramella



Representatives from Al Ahly for real estate developments



Equicare riding center team; Ahmed fahmy, Alia Hassan, Zeina Hassan & Celina Hesham



Toyota C-HR 2017



The three winners of the Jump & Drive competition Salvador Pinto da França, Yassin Ramy & Mahmoud Kerdia



HT Chairman Khaled Assom during an interview with Nile TV



Jump and Drive competition

### WATCHING AN EXCITING GAME IS ALWAYS A THRILL

As the sun was setting and a breeze of cold air started to blow the grains of sand in the arena of Equicare riding center, the Jump & Drive competition's thrill and adrenaline started giving warmth to the attendees. Teams of riders and drivers were competing to achieve the best time with the least number of faults. That was when the unconventional family-sized coupe-crossover Toyota CHR 2017 carried out the task perfectly. Winning teams were given silver plates presented by Toyota Egypt, as well as 4500 Egyptian Pounds prize money.

### GOOD PLAYERS INSPIRE THEMSELVES, GREAT PLAYERS INSPIRE OTHERS

The Egyptian Special Olympics champions were an inspiration and a motivation to everyone who watched their performance. The sounds of the crowds rose up as four boys and two beautiful girls of the Equestrian team performed. All the cheering suddenly stopped when unfortunately one of the riders fell off his horse after the jump, Mazen El Samahy, a former Bronze medalist in the China World Games 2007 and the Gold medalist of the UAE'S 6th Regional Games that same year.

After the fall, Mazen was dazed but shortly he pulled himself together and asked one of the commentators to give him the microphone because he had something to say to the audience. In a confident manner he said, "There are people in my life without whom I couldn't have been who I am today. First one is my coach, who never gave up on me, the one who dedicates all his time and effort only to make me a better jockey. Second is my beautiful mother who is sitting in the audience and I hope she will be always proud of me." Following that Mazen surprised the audience by singing a song that he dedicated especially to his mother. This incident left a smile on the faces of the audience and a tender feeling of warmth in their hearts. At the end of the day, all six riders took home a special Equestrian trophy presented by Toyota Egypt. 🏆



EMPLOYING GROOMS AND OTHER STAFF MEMBERS IN THE EU

# WORKING TIME REGULATIONS

By European US Asian Equine Lawyers

IN THIS EDITION OF HORSETIMES EUROPEAN US-ASIAN EQUINE LAWYERS (EEL) DISCUSS EUROPEAN LEGISLATION ON WORKING TIMES. IN THEIR DAILY PRACTICE THE EXPERTS AT EEL OFTEN COME ACROSS QUESTIONS FROM THEIR CLIENTS REGARDING THE WORKING TIME REGULATIONS. FOR ANY READERS WHO MAINTAIN STABLES AND TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION, THIS ANALYSIS IS NECESSARY TO SET OUT THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF GROOMS AND OTHER STAFF MEMBERS WITHIN THE EU JURISDICTION.

## INTRODUCTION

Owning and riding horses is an enterprise as such. Horse owners and riders cannot do the job alone, they need staff to help them with the daily care of the horses, they also require ongoing assistance during the competitions. **Grooms and other persons engaged or employed by horse owners and/or riders** fulfil therefore a very important role in the overall management of the horses. Few horse owners or riders however ask themselves what is the **legal status of their grooms** and other people employed. As taking care of the horse is basically a **24 / 7 on-going obligation**, the question could be asked how much a groom can actually work within the limits of the law.

## THE EUROPEAN WORKING TIME DIRECTIVE

With regards to the working time we will focus on **two legal instruments** that have been implemented by the EU. The EU regulated the working times in Directive 2003/88/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 November 2003 concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time '**The European Working Time Directive**'. This directive sets out minimum safety and health requirements for the organisation of the working time of workers. The member states can apply a more strict regime, if they want to, but in any case the minimum standards of the directive must be implemented into national legislation. In addition, the Directive contains provisions relating to **working hours, night work, rest periods, annual leave and rest breaks**. The EU regulations on working times are also influenced by the EU Directive 94/33/EC - Young Workers of 22 June 1994 on the protection of young people at work. This directive protects the youth from labour that is harmful for their health and development.





© Hippo Foto - Dirk Carrems

### TRAVEL TIME IS ALSO WORKING TIME

In the context of this article, we would like to address a recent judgement of the European Court of Justice 'ECJ' in case C 266/14 that clearly qualifies **what should be understood by the term "working time"**.

The case was pending between the Federación de Servicios Privados del Sindicato Comisiones Obreras 'CC.OO.' and Tyco Integrated Security SL and Tyco Integrated Fire & Security Corporation Servicios SA (together 'Tyco') concerning Tyco's refusal to consider the time spent by their employees on daily travel between their homes and the premises of the first and last customers designated by their employer **'time spent travelling between home and customers'** as **'working time'**.

Following a reorganisation of its business Tyco closed down its regional offices. Tyco's employees received for this purpose a company car, but the employer took the position that the journey to the customer was fully covered in their own time. **The day began in other words only when the employee arrived to the customer.** Employees who had to visit a distant established customer made longer hours than prior to the reorganisation of the business. The Spanish Court asked the ECJ to give insights on the European Working Time.

### THE ECJ RULING

The ECJ ruled that **the employer was wrong in this case.** In the ECJ's view, employees are **"at the disposal of the employer"** from the moment they step into their company car. Travelling in the company car to customers falls within the concept of **'working time'** within the meaning of the European Working Time Directive. Undoubtedly, the finding that it was a Tyco decision to close down the regional offices played a significant role here. Referring to the working time and the European Working Time Directive it must be noted that the ECJ emphasised in its ruling that the fact that **the journey time is considered to be working time does not mean that such time has to be paid equally with the "real" work.** On the contrary, the ECJ stated that the employer can decide freely on the **compensation for travel time.** Concluding, in cases where travel time is involved, it could be fairly said that while employees may not work longer than 48 hours per week under the European Working Time Directive, they could earn less because the employer can decide how he/she will pay for the travel time. It is therefore possible that at the end of the day the remuneration of these employees would be actually lower. 🇳🇱

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# IN DEPTH WITH SALVADOR PINTO DA FRANÇA

By Aya Amr

*I am a 35-year-old Portuguese diplomat posted in Cairo for two and a half years. I started riding in Agadir, Morocco, where I lived at the time in 1991. The club was owned by the army and most of its budget was for the salary of the French riding instructor. Therefore, there was not even money to geld the horses! and stallion fights in the beginners lessons were frequent. My mother used to call it 'an American Rodeo'!*



Salvador Pinto Da França, his wife Margarida Flores Pinto da França & their gorgeous baby, Salvador Junior





© Beccy Fawzy

Salvador with his horse Panadol

When I was 16, there was no French school in Porto, Portugal, so I had to study by correspondence. The study took only my morning, so **horse riding was a way to keep busy and meet people.** I started to teach kids in exchange for a horse to ride in competitions. When I think back, it was not such a good deal. **I taught at least 100 lessons a month** and the horses I was given were for no more than 1.10m! Unfortunately, my parents never liked the sport and never invested in it, so this was the only way I found to keep going...

During University, I had to give up teaching; I didn't have that much free time any more. I still kept riding and learnt a lot thanks to a **Portuguese international rider, Luís Sabino.** He is a real horse lover and has a property where he prepares horses to sell abroad. Young riders are always welcome and he's always available for teaching, **I owe him a lot!**

After entering the diplomatic service, my first posting was Bissau. I had to stop riding because... there were no horses in Guinea Bissau! In tropical climates, horses die of disease they were not meant to endure...

Since the fall of 2014, I have been riding at Ferosia, with Khaled Assem's team and it has been great

to come back. **My goal is to get to the big classes,** because I never got there with the horses I had 20 years ago! It's funny to be almost the only foreigner participating. Makes me feel quite adapted and has allowed me to meet a lot of interesting people! We have at least three training sessions a week, but I usually manage to ride at least 5 days a week, sometimes more than one horse a day and we jump usually at least once a week. **My favourite place for riding in Egypt is Ferosia,** because it's where I ride and it has so much potential. **But Rabab is my favourite place for competitions** as we feel out of hectic Cairo there! It is so green and peaceful and the scenery of the desert behind is so powerful...

**Tell us one or two things in your training that contributed to your success.**

**Working on the light seat!** I am from a time where the deep seat was much more used and it allowed me to get some improvement in terms of time and quality of jump. Also, **shortening my stirrups** allowed me to find a better position for jumping and avoiding touching some poles probably. Last but not least, **regularity of the stride in front of the jump to get the right stride.** What really helped me improve was a great advice given to me by my trainer; he told me to use

my feeling more than calculations in a course.

**What advice would you give to young athletes?**

To get a lot of experience with different horses and trainers, take different courses, seminars, clinics. Don't accept necessarily everything. Use your judgement to take what is best for you and leave aside the rest. Chemistry between trainer and student is essential. Some trainers work for some students and not with others.

**Who has been your greatest support?**

**In the sport, my trainer, Khaled** who had the patience to watch, analyse and work on it and also who could find me horses until now.

**In my personal life, my wife for sure** who has accompanied me everywhere around the world, always supportive.

**What is the biggest reward you ever got?**

Everything that diplomatic life gave me. The chance to meet so much different people and cultures and spare some time for my hobbies like horse riding! 🐾



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# TRAINING TIPS

## JUDGING RULES

By Karim Badaro

TO BE A SUCCESSFUL SHOWJUMPER, ONE MUST BE FULLY AWARE OF THE JUDGING RULES IN ORDER TO STAY COMPETITIVE. SOME OF THOSE TIPS CAN LAY A TRAP FOR YOUNGER RIDERS, BUT AS THEY ADVANCE IN THEIR CAREERS THEY COME TO REALISE THAT THIS FORM OF KNOWLEDGE IS NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS.

### FLAGS

1. Completely red flags and completely white flags must be used to mark the following details of the course:

1.1. The starting line; it is obligatory to place also a marker S (see JRs Art. 204.6).

1.2. The limits of the obstacles; the flags may be attached to any part of the wings of the obstacles. They may also stand independently. One red flag and one white flag must be placed at vertical obstacles and at least two red and two white flags to define the limits of spread obstacles. They must also be used to mark the limits of the obstacles provided in the schooling areas (JRs Art. 201.3) or the practice obstacle in the arena (JRs Art. 202.3); in the schooling area it is also allowed to use wings/uprights with a red or white top, instead of flags.

1.3. Compulsory turning points.

1.4. The finishing line; it is obligatory to place also a marker F (JRs Art. 204.6).

2. At the obstacles, the starting and finishing lines and at the compulsory turning points, the Athlete must pass between the flags (red on his right and white on his left). Flag poles defining the limits of the landing side of the water jump must be made of material that cannot shatter or splinter and must bend when hit; flags must have no sharp points or corners.

3. If an Athlete passes the flags on the wrong side, he must retrace his steps and pass them on the correct side before continuing his round. If he does not correct this mistake, he will be eliminated (see JRs Art. 220.1.2).

4. Knocking down a flag anywhere in the arena does not incur a Penalty. If a flag marking the limits of an obstacle or compulsory turning point or the finishing line has been knocked down following a Disobedience / Resistance, (without passing these lines) or as a result of unforeseen circumstances, the flag will not be replaced immediately; the Athlete must continue his round and the obstacle / compulsory turning point will be judged as if the flag was in its original place. The flag must be replaced before the next Athlete will be given the signal to start.

5. However, if a flag defining the limits of the water jump or of a natural obstacle has been knocked down following a Disobedience or as a result of unforeseen circumstances and in all cases where the nature of the obstacle is changed by knocking down the flag, the Ground Jury will interrupt the round of the Athlete. The clock must be stopped while the flag is replaced and a time correction of six seconds will be applied in accordance with the procedure provided for in JRs Art. 232.

6. In certain Competitions, the starting and finishing lines may be crossed in both directions. In this case the lines must be provided with four flags; a red and a white flag at each end of these lines.



### CLOSED COMBINATIONS, PARTIALLY CLOSED & PARTIALLY OPEN COMBINATIONS

1. A combination is considered to be completely closed, if the sides, which surround it, can only be surmounted by jumping. FEI JUMPING RULES, 25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2017.

2. A closed combination may be in the form of an in-and-out, sheep pen, (square or hexagonal) or any similar obstacle considered as a closed combination by decision of the Ground Jury. A combination is considered as partially open and partially closed if one part of this combination is open and the other closed. In the event of a Refusal, Run-out, the following procedure applies (see JRs Art. 219):

2.1. If the Disobedience occurred in the closed part, the Athlete must jump out in the direction of the course.

2.2. If the Disobedience occurred in the open part, the Athlete must take the whole obstacle again. Failure to do so incurs Elimination (see JRs Art. 241.3.15). In the event of a Disobedience with a knock down and/or displacing of the obstacle at any part, a time correction of six seconds must apply. If, once inside the enclosure, the Horse refuses the Athlete must jump out in the direction of the course. The six seconds Penalty is added


to the time when the clock is restarted and the Athlete resumes his round.

3. The Ground Jury must decide before the Competition whether the combination is to be considered as closed or partially closed. This decision must be shown on the plan of the course.

4. If a combination is not mentioned on the plan of the course as closed or partially closed, it must be considered as an open combination and judged as such.

### FALLS

1. An Athlete is considered to have fallen when, either voluntarily or involuntarily, he is separated from his Horse, which has not fallen, in such a way that he touches the ground or finds it necessary, in order to get back into the saddle, to use some form of support or outside assistance. If it is not clear that the Athlete has used some form of support or outside assistance to prevent his fall, the benefit of doubt must be given to the Athlete.

2. A Horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and quarters have touched the ground or the obstacle and the ground. 



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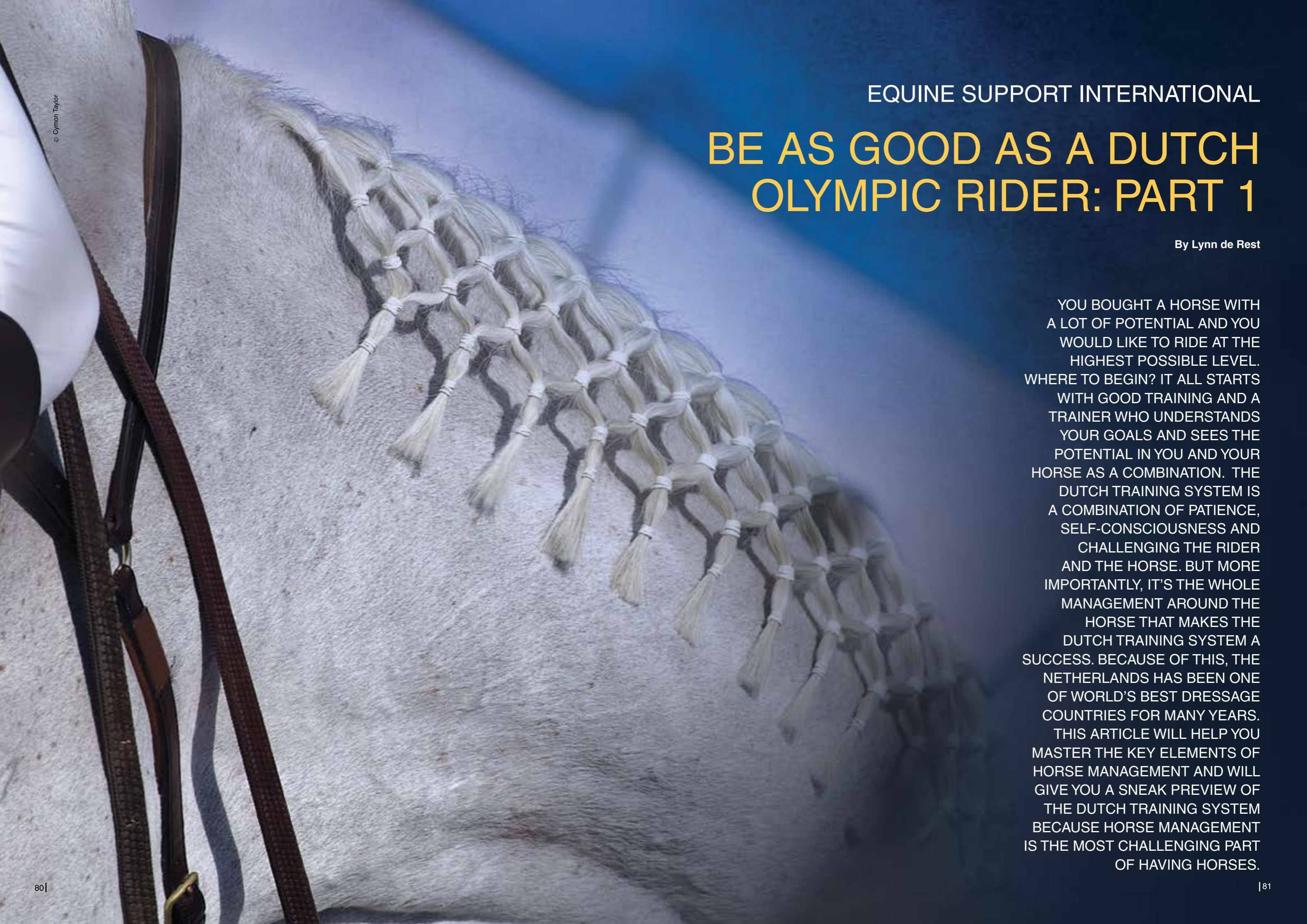
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EQUINE SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL

# BE AS GOOD AS A DUTCH OLYMPIC RIDER: PART 1

By Lynn de Rest

YOU BOUGHT A HORSE WITH A LOT OF POTENTIAL AND YOU WOULD LIKE TO RIDE AT THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL. WHERE TO BEGIN? IT ALL STARTS WITH GOOD TRAINING AND A TRAINER WHO UNDERSTANDS YOUR GOALS AND SEES THE POTENTIAL IN YOU AND YOUR HORSE AS A COMBINATION. THE DUTCH TRAINING SYSTEM IS A COMBINATION OF PATIENCE, SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS AND CHALLENGING THE RIDER AND THE HORSE. BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT'S THE WHOLE MANAGEMENT AROUND THE HORSE THAT MAKES THE DUTCH TRAINING SYSTEM A SUCCESS. BECAUSE OF THIS, THE NETHERLANDS HAS BEEN ONE OF WORLD'S BEST DRESSAGE COUNTRIES FOR MANY YEARS. THIS ARTICLE WILL HELP YOU MASTER THE KEY ELEMENTS OF HORSE MANAGEMENT AND WILL GIVE YOU A SNEAK PREVIEW OF THE DUTCH TRAINING SYSTEM BECAUSE HORSE MANAGEMENT IS THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF HAVING HORSES.



## FACTS & FIGURES

-Unlike other European horse countries, such as Germany and the UK, the Netherlands has almost as many horses as people.

-Horse riding is **the second economic sport** in The Netherlands, after football. A Dutch company has determined that **1,5 billion** euros are spent in the Dutch equine world.

-**The Dutch KWPN horse** is one of the best-bred horses in the world. This is due to good training with the best trainers.

-Anky van Grunsven, a Dutch dressage rider, is still **the best Olympic rider of all time**.

-The Dutch dressage team has been present at the Olympics since 1972 and since 1992 they have been competing in the highest league. The Netherlands has won a total of **26 Olympic medals**, including 9 gold medals.

-During the last **World Championship**, the Netherlands ranked as one of the best countries with a total of **18 medals**.

**What has made the Dutch training system so successful?**

The Dutch training system has improved greatly over the last decades. The Netherlands is not disengaged from the classical training system. But the Dutch modified that system, by involving scientific research and experts from different sports. **By thinking outside the box and using innovative techniques they are continuously challenging themselves and creating awareness.**

In the eyes of the Dutch, a horse is a true athlete. In order to perform at his best, **the rider needs to fulfil the horse's needs**. Compare it to a top athlete such as Usain Bolt who has a whole team of professionals supporting him to achieve the best performance possible.

It is up to the rider to increase the skills of the horse. This calls for outstanding horse management, which includes: a perfectly designed training schedule, a well-created stable climate, a nutritious diet, being mentally fit, the best tack and much more.

## THE DUTCH TRAINING SYSTEM

The Dutch pay a great deal of attention to new developments involving external experts, such as **veterinarians, sports psychologists, zoologists,**

**physiotherapists and fitness trainers**. By looking for innovations without forgetting the many good things of the past, the Dutch are evolving.

The horse's head position has been the point of interest in so many discussions and has drawn much negative attention, but there is so much more that could harm or do good to your horse. Improving gymnastic developments and eliminating blocks is the goal of the training method; this is discussed far less in the horse world but will add so much more value to your training. **The Dutch generally have a lot of variety between relaxation and more collection work in their daily training sessions.** It all starts with a proper warming up; walking on a long contact rein, in a forward downwards position. Generally, those exercises are repeated in trot and canter. Then, depending on the level of the horse, lateral work and more collection is asked. A good example of exercises is shoulder-in or quarters-in. Intensive exercises such as a pirouette will be repeated for a short period of time and then the horse gets stretched down again. With this, you give the horse a moment to relax his muscles. Generally, those short sessions with intensive exercises will be repeated for 2 or 3 times and after that the cooling down starts.

The cooling down is essential to prevent injuries or muscle aches the next day. A cooling down starts with simple lateral work in a forward downwards position to stretch the body sideways. Like the warming-up, the cooling down ends with a trot and walk on a long contact rein, also in a forward downwards neck position. For about five minutes the horse needs to be walked on a loose rein. When the training session was highly intensive you should extend the walking duration to at least ten minutes. In case the horse is really sweaty you can put on a rug.

If the horse is young or not well educated, light work on a contact rein and simple lateral work such as a leg yield is desirable. The length of a training session also depends on the level of the horse. **The Dutch believe in short effective training sessions instead of long, less effective training sessions.** In general the Dutch use a simple snaffle to exercise the horse.

All the things mentioned above are best practiced together with a trainer. A trainer is one of the main aspects to create a perfect learning environment.

## HOW TO FIND THE PERFECT TRAINER?

We all know they come in different shapes and sizes; the firm aunty tells you straight and strong what to

do, or the sympathetic and empathic lady with tons of patience. But how to find your perfect match in this jungle of trainers?

There are a lot of trainers over the world but which one is the best fitted to you? We will give you some tips for finding a good trainer.

- **Find someone who understands your goals and sees potential in you and your horse.**

- **The trainer has to motivate you and encourage you to do better.**

- **You can learn from your trainer by seeing him/her ride your horse or another horse.**

- **You understand what the trainer told you and can explain why you do it.**

- **The feedback a trainer gives you is positive but can also be critical so you become a better rider.**

In the next issue we will discuss how to manage your horse in the best way.

## EQUINE SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL

ESI educates equestrian people all over the world to increase the level of equestrian knowledge. This helps horse owners, stables, educational institutions and federations to take a step forward in horse wellbeing and sport. ESI provides unique custom-made solutions such as national talent programs, training programs for children and adults, train-the-trainer courses and aftercare programs.

To make sure that you get the most optimal solution to your question we work together with only the best specialists of the Netherlands. 🇳🇱



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NICHOLA EDDERY

# AN ART DEVOTED TO THE THOROUGHBRED RACEHORSE

By Theo Woodham-Smith

THE ARTIST NICHOLA EDDERY (BORN 1982) IS AN EQUESTRIAN PRINCESS BORN INTO A HORSE RACING DYNASTY. GENERATIONS OF HER FAMILY HAVE BEEN 'RACING ROYALS', MANY WERE CHAMPION JOCKEYS, OTHERS WERE TRAINERS OR BLOODSTOCK AGENTS. THE NAMES OF MERCER, WRAGG AND HER LATE FATHER PAT EDDERY ARE IMMORTAL IN RACING HISTORY AND STILL RESONATE WITH ENTHUSIASTS TODAY.

© Nichola Eddery





Pat Eddery was an eleven-times champion jockey, with fourteen classic wins and her mother Carolyn was a champion amateur jockey. She represented England in New Zealand at the age of 17. Carolyn was born a Mercer, her great-grandfather Harry Wragg was a champion jockey and trainer. Harry had three children; all three inherited the love and the talent for all things equine. Geoffrey became a famous trainer, Peter a bloodstock agent, while Susan married jockey Manny Mercer, and his brother Joe became yet another champion.

No surprise to find that Nichola has been immersed in the world of thoroughbred racehorses, riders and trainers all her life. But since early childhood there was always an equally compelling love for art.

She tells the story of her beginnings as an artist: *'When I was little at home, Dad collected beautiful paintings and I spent hours looking at a portrait of Grundy, one of his most famous horses. I admired every brush stroke. We all had our portraits painted as children. I would have been about eight or nine, and my mother remembers that I was fascinated by the whole painting process. When the time came to leave school and choose what to do, the ideal would have been horses and art, but I knew I had to study art seriously, and took the route of formal classical training.'*

*'I signed up for the Charles H Cecil Studios in Florence, founded by an American artist and academic in 1991, to teach artists how to work from life, not photography.'*

*'The school had a year's waiting list, so I used the 'gap year' to travel and 'ride out' racehorses, with spare time for painting. Later came a chance to study at the Studio Escalier in Paris, working from life in the mornings and copying Old Masters in the Louvre in the afternoons.'*

Nichola followed this figurative path from choice. She reveres the past, rather than rejecting it. She had a clear vision of where she wanted her work to go, but was equally aware of how difficult it is to bring new insight to a genre in which so many great artists have excelled. She says: *'My vision is evolving as I learn.'*

Since 2001 Nichola has been studying and perfecting traditional techniques guided by teachers in Italy, France and America. In 2015 she was sponsored to take five months producing transcriptions of Old Masters' works. In preparing for her 2016 exhibition

**'The Thoroughbred Racehorse'**, at The Osborne Studio Gallery, London's leading dealer in Equestrian art, she made a pilgrimage to the British Museum in London, concentrating on horsemen from the west frieze of the Parthenon. Her paintings in the show were influenced by the ancient Greeks, but also Da Vinci, Gericault, Stubbs, Degas and Munnings.

2016 was a good year for Nichola Eddery. Her portrait of Frankel, the Wonder Horse, entitled **'Legends'** was exhibited at the new National Horseracing Museum in Newmarket. Racehorse owner Peter Merchant recommended her to fulfil the legacy of another artist, Michael Jeffrey, who died before completing the painting, commissioned by the leading trainer and owner Sir Henry Cecil who died at



about the same time.


Nichola re-created his concept, homage to George Stubbs' 'Gimcrack on Newmarket Heath'. The original Stubbs' painting sold at Christies for £22M (\$35M) in 2011. Peter Merchant, well known and respected in the racing world, who commissioned Eddery, knew immediately that he had chosen the right artist. *'I remember the first day Nichola went up to Newmarket and she rang me all excited to say that purely by chance she'd found herself standing in exactly the same spot as when Stubbs painted his masterpiece.'*

Another challenge was to create a loving tribute to her father, Pat Eddery, by painting him, aged 23, on Grundy, **'superstar horse'** she describes as **'one of the best whoever raced.'** He gave Pat his first Derby win and King George and Elizabeth Stakes in 1975.

Following the success of her 2016 exhibition (described by experts as 'superb') inspired both by Greek perspective and Old Masters, her work is now evolving in another direction. *'I am in love with Degas,' she says, 'and he in turn was influenced by Delacroix. Degas was a genius in so many ways, especially innovative composition. And to me it is important that he captured something special about how horses react and behave. I feel that when you see a Degas you really get a lot more out of it if you are*

*someone who is around racehorses all the time.'*

She chooses subjects from her 'equine surroundings' in Newmarket: the National Stud, gallops, and the Rowley Mile racecourse.

Important collectors of Nichola Eddery's equestrian art include Royal princes HRH Prince Faisal bin Salman Abdulaziz al Saud, HRH Prince Khaled bin Sultan al Saud, HRH Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Thani and Cristina Patino y Barbon, Duchess of Durcal. 

  
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WINNER OF HT PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

# HAMADA HAMDY

By Menna Loutfy

THE 35 YEAR OLD PHOTOGRAPHER BORN IN THE 'PEARL OF THE MEDITERRANEAN' CAPTURED THE BEAUTY OF A MARE THROUGH A PHOTO THAT CAST A SPELL ON MORE THAN A THOUSAND ADMIRERS. INSPIRED BY THE BEAUTY AND NOBILITY OF HORSES, HAMADA HAMDY STARTED HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC CAREER 3 YEARS AGO.

*"Well, it all started as a hobby, only taking photos for some friends, and then I was encouraged by many people to expand. This expansion was supported when I got an amazing chance to cover Mostaganem International Show Jumping competition in Algeria back in 2015"*

The talented artist, who is not only a photographer, but a full time supervisor at Borg Al-Arab International Airport, was one of 17 finalists participating in the competition. Contestants were asked to submit a photo of their original work to be posted on HORSE TIMES' Facebook page for voting. After 10 days of voting, the number of votes was very close between Hamada and the first runner up, but at the end Hamada clinched the first place with a total number of 1,296 likes, 129 shares and more than 70 comments. Winner gets the chance to advertise for free on HORSE TIMES Magazine's Website for 3 months which has traffic of

about 30,000 visits per day.

In addition to photography, Hamada has a passion for riding as well. He started riding when he was 15 years old and since then horses have become an essential part of his life.

*"Riding actually helped me as a photographer, because being a rider makes you aware of the horses' techniques which helps you capture the perfect shot at the perfect time. "*

He also told us about his favourite riders nationally and internationally, he is a great fan of the German show jumping champion Marcus Ehning and the Egyptian Olympic rider Karim El-Zoghby. Hamada also shared his hopes and dreams for the future saying:

*"I dream to be a distinctive international photographer who travels around the world to cover competitions."*





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