

60 SECONDS WITH IBRAHIM EL BASTAWISY

COUNTRY: Egypt

DATE OF BIRTH: 25/12/1994

STAR SIGN: Capricorn

PROFESSION: Student and showjumper



IBRAHIM, WAS VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT HORSES SINCE A VERY YOUNG AGE. HE FACED A DIFFICULT CHALLENGE BY LOSING A LOT OF WEIGHT AND IMPROVING HIS PHYSICAL FITNESS. HE IS ONE OF THE MOST DETERMINED RIDERS OF HIS GENERATION. AS HE SAID: "HORSES ARE ONE OF THE FEW THINGS THAT PUSH ME IN THIS LIFE AND I WOULD SIMPLY SAY THAT MAKING A DIFFERENCE IS ONE OF THE FEW THINGS THAT MOTIVATE ME. I WAS INTRODUCED TO HORSES AS A 2 YEAR OLD AND A STRONG CONNECTION WAS MADE EVER SINCE THAT DAY IN ADDITION TO MY PARENTS WERE OF IMMENSE SUPPORT SINCE THE FIRST DAY."

Tell us about yourself.

I would simply say that I am someone who wants to make a difference and **horses are one of the few things that motivate me in life.**

Describe your typical practice.

I usually wake up at 6 in the morning to start riding; I ride 5 to 6 horses a day. I rarely jump the horses, I just focus on flatwork with an intention to keep them fit and happy.

Where is your favourite place for practice?

At Ahmed Mohsen's yard in Mansouria, the place is extremely serene and surrounded by fields for the horses where they can eat grass; I certainly believe it's a perfect atmosphere for the horses.

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

Dreaming, believing, hard work, hard work and hard work. Not only that, but also it takes a team to be able to achieve.

What was the best advice you were given?

Our plans don't always work out the way we want. Sometimes God has a better plan for us, so just keep on moving forward and don't lose faith.

What advice would you give to young athletes?

A moment of pain is worth a lifetime of glory. They should never lose faith.

What is your best achievement?

Well, I won't say it's my best achievement, but I would say it's the most special to my heart, **when I won my first class in Europe, in Oldenburg, Germany.** Hearing the Egyptian national anthem is a feeling that cannot be described.

What are the goals that you aspire to achieve?

To represent my country in international championships, in addition to being a role model to the upcoming generation.

Who has been your greatest support?

My parents and Karim El Zoghby. If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't be who I am today.

What motivates you?

One thing that I would say motivates me the most is being challenged.

Who is your sporting idol?

Mohamed Ali

What is your second favourite sport?

Boxing

What is your favourite genre of movies?

Drama, Action

What kind of music do you enjoy listening to?

Pop music, Country music

What is your favourite book and who is your favourite author?

Harry Potter, J.K Rowling

What is your favourite food?

Burgers and Sushi

What is the most memorable place you ever visited?

For me, there's a memory in every place, but **Holland will be the one; I have so many memories over there.**

What is your strength and what is your weakness?

My strength is that I never give up and my weakness is having a short temper.

What is the biggest challenge you have ever faced?

Losing weight!

What is the biggest reward you ever got?

Being supported by amazing people.

If there is something about yourself that you would like to change, what would that be?

My short temper.

If you weren't who you are today, what would you rather be?

I never really thought about it, but I'd probably want to be like my grandfather. He was a great man. 🙏