

WORLD CUP SERIES OF THE MODERN PENTATHLON

FIRST WORLD CUP

EGYPT 2008

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THE FIRST STEP OF THE 2008 WORLD CUP SERIES OF THE MODERN PENTATHLON WAS HELD IN THE EGYPTIAN CAPITAL CAIRO FROM FEBRUARY 19TH UNTIL THE 24TH.

DR. H.C. KLAUS SCHORMANN

President of the UIMP (Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne):

“The championships which are taking place prior to the road to the 2008 Beijing Olympics have been a success for the international union; we have plenty of athletes competing and the 2 qualification days have shown how well they are prepared to start on a very high level fighting for the World & Olympic qualification rankings. It was a huge challenge for the organisers to accurately hold these championships because they knew the top athletes were coming. The challenge was fulfilled by holding the 5 disciplines in this huge Cairo stadium; the hassle of transportation was out of the way – Cairo is loaded with traffic and having all the games in one location was an added value, the conditions were excellent since it’s the winter season, and the Holiday Inn was very close where the athletes were very well accommodated.

The athletes in general are very close to each other and managed to go through the difficulty of the games, and they knew that anyone could win. The pentathlon games are on a very high level that only the strongest athletes have a chance to be World Ranked.

On the equestrian level, the horses were well prepared and selected which is a huge key for good results. The athletes are well aware that if they did not train for riding as much as they would train for swimming for instance, they would not achieve good results which in return add to their points. The horse is our “soul” in sports I always say, and those athletes do not own or know these horses, but they eventually had to work together to achieve the best results; one can be very limited at teaching the horse – the rider has to come to the horse, feel his skin and listen to him. In all, the show was organised very well, quality horses were there for riding, the footing was excellent and excellent results are expected from the athletes. Furthermore, I expected better results from the women because they typically do not play with their muscles, but with harmony”.





MR. JOEL BAUZOU

Secretary General of the UIPM:

“The show was well organised with a huge audience, and the competition levels were very high. A lot of riders came here to try to qualify for the Olympics, and all together it has been very nice. There is excellent potential in the future for these championships to develop further because we have more athletes coming to compete this year, and they all compete as a family which shows that new blood is impending”.



▲ *Mr. Joel Bauzou & Mr. Ahmed Nasser*



▲ *Mr. Joel Bauzou & Dr. h.c. Klaus Schormann*

MR. AHMED NASSER

President of the Egyptian & Arab Federation of Modern Pentathlon & Head of the Supreme Organising Committee:

“It’s been a great success! The organisers and the athletes had nothing to complain about; not on the personal level nor on the technical one. 150 riders from 30 countries participated in the show, and 20 of them qualified for the Beijing Olympics. It was a huge achievement.

As for the equestrian event, the grounds were excellently prepared and quality horses were available. All 36 competitors were informed well about how they will be required to highly concentrate due to them sharing horses with other riders, and for every 7 horses, there was one reserve. Those horses were unfamiliar to the riders and vice versa; they were only allowed 5 jumps, hence extreme concentration was requisite. The riders had to understand the horses in a short period of time, were expected to lead them, and on top – the riders had to be controlled and balanced. In general, the pentathlon event is no easy task, and again, I have to say it was a successful and entertaining show”.

