LE PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS ÉQUESTRES

LE GRAND PARQUET - FONTAINEBLEAU

21st - 27th APRIL 2025

PRESS RELEASE, FONTAINEBLEAU, 27 April 2025

SAS AU CAPITAL DE 1 000 000 €

SIREN 453 100 562 RCS LYON SIRET: 453100562 00033

TVA: FR55453100562

THE PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS ÉQUESTRES BECKY MOODY (GBR) IN MAJESTIC FORM FOR THE GRAND PRIX FREESTYLE RÉGION ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

The British rider Becky Moody, world number 4 in the dressage rankings, was in fine form again on Sunday in the Princes arena. The crowds turned out in numbers for the flagship class of the Printemps des Sports Équestres CDI 5* competition: the Grand Prix Freestyle Région Île-de-France.

And the best riders on the CDI 5* circuit put on a great show with a series of top-quality routines, combining technical precision and artistic expression, cheered on throughout by the enthusiastic audience. Having already impressed yesterday in the Grand Prix Devoucoux, Becky Moody confirmed her supremacy this weekend by winning the Freestyle event with Jagerbomb. Her masterful routine set to a lively Beatles soundtrack clearly won over the judges, who awarded her the winning score of 84.380%. The fact that this was the first time the British rider had presented this freestyle-to-music routine outdoors made the performance even more remarkable. Second place went to Belgium's Larissa Pauluis, who performed an incredibly elegant and smooth routine with her faithful Flambeau. Set to a soundtrack inspired by Jean-Jacques Goldman's greatest hits, she posted a final score of 78.375%, confirming her horse's steady progress in the Freestyle discipline.

Pauline Basquin, the Cadre Noir rider, finished third on the podium with Sertorius de Rima Z IFCE. Despite a small fault on her second line of tempi changes, she delivered a performance full of finesse, rewarded by a score of 77.265%. Sertorius was more relaxed than in yesterday's Grand Prix and totally in tune with his rider. With this wonderful finale to the week's dressage competition, the *Printemps des Sports Équestres* in Fontainebleau once again confirmed its status as a major event in international equestrian sport.

Becky Moody (GBR), winner of the Grand Prix Freestyle Région Île-de-France:

"It's been a wonderful competition, with a fantastic team working behind the scenes. It's the first time we've been here, and my horse and I enjoyed it immensely. We performed two good routines, with some really positive aspects, although there were a few little mistakes, but overall he was great. I think the score we obtained today really reflects the quality of the routine. It was the first time we'd presented this freestyle routine outdoors.

I'd love to be at the next European Championships, but it's still a bit early in the season to be certain of anything. We'll see how things progress, but that's one of my goals.

Jagerbomb was born on my farm and I'm his owner. That makes it all the more special to have reached this level together. I'm incredibly lucky to have him with me, especially since we have worked hard to achieve what we did today, which is the fruit of all the experience I gained with all my previous horses. I intend to keep him with me right to the end, and then let him retire to the meadows at home when the time comes. I think my banker would rather I sold him... but no (laughs)."

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Larissa Pauluis (BEL), second in the Grand Prix Freestyle Région Île-de-France:

"Flambeau and I are continuing to improve. His movements are getting better all the time, and I'm convinced he still has plenty of room for improvement. We've already exceeded the 80% mark in Freestyle, so that's a major objective that we've already chalked off this year."

Pauline Basquin (FRA), third in the Grand Prix Freestyle Région Île-de-France:

"I'm really happy with our performance today, because I felt that I'd lost the connection with my horse a bit recently. Riding really teaches you to remain humble, and constantly ask yourself questions. Sometimes we improve certain things, but then lose in other areas. Lately, things have undoubtedly been a bit more difficult for us. Today, in the Freestyle, I felt that I had regained my horse's confidence, particularly in the piaffe and pirouettes. That's the most important thing for me, even if a few points were below par today."

Raphaël Saleh, President of the Ground Jury for the CDI 5* competition at the Printemps des Sports Éauestres:

"What we saw today is very promising for the future of horse riding. I'm delighted that we have a competition of such high quality in Fontainebleau. It's important for French sport. The riding we saw is really going in the right direction, with the assessment criteria increasingly focused on harmony, good contact and horses that do the work on their own. That is how our sport is evolving, and today's freestyle routines were a reflection of that."

Sylvie Robert, President of GL events Equestrian Sport:

"I would like to thank the French Equestrian Federation and the International Equestrian Federation, as well as all our public and private partners for their support. This is an extraordinary site that is being completely renovated. Everything is progressing nicely, which means we can really start planning to hold major competitions in Fontainebleau. We've had a fantastic line-up this year, and I'm delighted with the great performances we've seen.

In addition to the dressage events, I feel it is also important to continue to support the development of para-dressage. So, we will continue to develop dressage even more at the Printemps des Sports Équestres, while also including para-dressage on the programme. As always, our aim is to organise the very best events for horses and riders, and to keep improving every year. Together, we are all moving forwards, with the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games firmly in our sights."

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