

LE PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS ÉQUESTRES

LE GRAND PARQUET - FONTAINEBLEAU

19 - 23 AVRIL 2023

FONTAINEBLEAU, FRANCE

23 APRIL 2023

PRESS RELEASE

GRAND PRIX GL EVENTS OF THE CSI 4* COMPETITION
AT THE PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS ÉQUESTRES

BOSTY WINS IN HIS OWN BACKYARD!

The second Printemps des Sports Equestres ended in a spectacular fashion! The show rounded off in the best possible way for the thousands of spectators who had braved the capricious weather to cheer on the local rider in the competition, Roger-Yves Bost, who finally came out on top in the GL events Grand Prix class of the CSI 4* competition.

At the Printemps des Sports Equestres this weekend, you could sense that the Olympics were looming next year. Indeed, the organiser of event, GL events Equestrian Sport, will be in charge of delivering the equestrian events at the Parc du Château de Versailles next year on behalf of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committee. Before the main event next year, the riders will once again be meeting in April at the Grand Parquet in Fontainebleau, for the test events of the Games. All the teams involved in the test event will be working on the Olympics a few months later in the gardens of the "Roi Soleil" in Versailles. For the second Printemps des Sports Equestres, the course designer Grégory Bodo – who will also be working in Versailles for the Olympics next summer, alongside the Spaniard Santiago Varela Ullastres – gave the riders the opportunity to familiarise themselves with his courses, with their specific characteristics and spirit. There were fifty starters in the first round of this CSI 4* Grand Prix GL events, with obstacles at 1.55m, with fourteen qualifying for the final jump-off, and the sort of grande finale that the French public is dreaming of for next summer!

THE FRENCH RIDERS ARE IN GOOD FORM

Among the fourteen riders that qualified for the jump-off of this Grand Prix GL events, seven couples were French. The odds of a French victory were two to one! For a long time, however, spectators in Fontainebleau thought that the Swedish rider Wilma Hellström would win the day. Riding her quick, fleet-footed, eleven-year-old gelding Quinti von Hof, the rider posted the first double clear round of the jump-off, in a time that seemed unbeatable! The Colombian René Lopez, on Kheros van't Hoogeinde, the rider from Northern France, Nicolas Delmotte, on his faithful Ilex VP, Reynald Angot from Normandy on Chrome d'Ivraie, and the Belgian Niels Bruynseels on Delux van T&L, were all perfect on the jumps, but slower than the Scandinavian, who was one of the two female riders qualified for the jump-off. It was only when the local boy, Roger-Yves Bost, Olympic champion with the French team in 2016, entered the arena that Wilma Hellström lost her first place in the



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class. Riding the stallion Cassius Clay VDV Z, "Bosty" did what he often does and got back to winning ways at the top level. The French rider had not won a 4* Grand Prix since the summer of 2019. "It's good for morale" he said with the legendary warmth and grace for which he is renowned.

RESULTS

1. Roger-Yves Bost (FRA) & Cassius Clay VDV Z - 0/0/35.24
2. Wilma Hellström (SWE) & Quinti von Hof - 0/0/36.31
3. Reynald Angot (FRA) & Chrome d'Ivraie - 0/0/36.54
4. Nicolas Delmotte (FRA) & Ilex VP - 0/0/36.84
5. Niels Bruynseels (BEL) & Delux van T & L - 0/0/37.68

WHAT THEY SAID:

ROGER-YVES BOST, WINNER OF THE GL EVENTS GRAND PRIX OF THE CSI 4* COMPETITION AT THE PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS EQUESTRES IN FONTAINEBLEAU

"I am so happy to have won this Grand Prix in Fontainebleau in front of such a big audience. It's a real pleasure, and it's great for the morale. Even more so, considering things did not go that well for me in this morning's French Championship. My horse Cassius has been in good form over the last few shows, but I admit that it is not often he goes so fast in a jump-off. He is thirteen years old and getting faster by the day! He really enjoyed the big arena of the Grand Parquet and this is the first event we have won together."

SYLVIE ROBERT, PRESIDENT OF GL EVENTS EQUESTRIAN SPORT ORGANISER OF THE PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS EQUESTRES IN FONTAINEBLEAU

"In 2024, the test events for the Olympic equestrian events will not be held in the Park of the Château de Versailles, but in Fontainebleau, as part of the third Printemps des Sports Equestres. The aim is to deliver test events for all four Olympic and Paralympic equestrian disciplines; we will certainly be organising a CCI 3*, a para-dressage competition, a CSI 4* competition, in parallel with the French Master Pro Jumping Championships, and a CDI 5* competition, which met with great success this year. The idea is to test the teams that will be working on the venue in Versailles a few months later, from an operational point of view. That includes the official timekeeper for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Omega, as well as the various partners and all those involved in the future Olympic competitions. From 2025 onwards, we want to continue to develop the Printemps des Sports Equestres at the Grand Parquet in Fontainebleau."



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ABOUT GL EVENTS EQUESTRIAN SPORT

GL events Equestrian Sport, the GL events Group's equestrian department, is renowned for its expertise throughout the world. The Group has been involved in all the Olympic equestrian events since 1992 and has also organised events for the Fédération Équestre Internationale, the prestigious House of Hermès and on its own behalf, which have contributed to the finest hours of equestrian sports for the past 25 years. In Lyon, GL events Equestrian Sport organises one of the most renowned equestrian events on the international scene, Equita Lyon, the Salon du Cheval de Lyon, and its Longines Equita Lyon, Concours Hippique International, which plays host to four FEI World Cup legs in show jumping, dressage, ponies and driving. GL events Equestrian Sport was the organiser of both the Longines FEI World Cup Jumping and the FEI World Cup Dressage Finals in 2014 in Lyon and in 2018 in Paris.