

LE PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS ÉQUESTRES

LE GRAND PARQUET - FONTAINEBLEAU

19 - 23 AVRIL 2023

FONTAINEBLEAU, FRANCE

22 APRIL 2023

PRESS RELEASE

GRAND PRIX FREESTYLE CHEVAL TV OF THE CDI 5* COMPETITION AT THE *PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS EQUESTRES* IN FONTAINEBLEAU (FRA) **CHARLOTTE FRY, OBVIOUSLY!**

"Our best performance!" Coming from the world champion, Charlotte Fry, who was already amazing last summer when she won the title in Herning (DEN), the words give you an idea of the great show enjoyed by the large crowd that came to watch the Grand Prix Freestyle Cheval TV this afternoon during the CDI 5* of the Printemps des Sports Equestres in Fontainebleau (FRA). And the judges certainly seemed to agree with the British rider, awarding her and her star stallion Glamourdale, the excellent score of 89.360% for a superb performance that bodes well for the European Championship this summer, and the Olympic Games next summer, in which the couple will inevitably play a major role. *"Glamourdale was already in great form yesterday for the Grand Prix, even though he made a few small mistakes. He was really fresh and enthusiastic, and I have to admit that I was really aiming to put in one of our best performances today. And I think that's what happened. I had a great feeling, he was still really positive today, he enjoyed every second of our routine to the full. Everything went according to plan, with no mistakes. I think I've just experienced our best ever performance together. To be honest, I don't think he could have done much better than he did."*

In second place, behind the British couple, the German Dorothee Schneider put in a great performance too and obtained a score of 82.250% on First Romance 2, who was taking part in his first CDI 5* this weekend, performing just the second Freestyle to Music of his career this afternoon. The experienced Spaniard Juan Antonio Jimenez Cobo took third place in this Grand Prix Freestyle Cheval TV, with an average of 78,970%, riding with Euclides Mor. The best-ranked French couple, Corentin Pottier on Gotilas du Feuillard, were fifth with 77.530, his personal best in this exercise.

For Sylvie Robert, President of GL events Equestrian Sport, organiser of the Printemps des Sports Equestres, the organisation of this first CDI 5* was a *"real challenge and our partners' support really contributed to its success. The objective was to showcase this discipline on the exceptional site of the Grand Parquet de Fontainebleau, which has been so beautifully renovated in recent years. The world's top dressage riders also gave us their backing at this event, and we are really grateful."*



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The second *Printemps des Sports Equestres* is being held until Sunday evening at the *Grand Parquet de Fontainebleau*. In parallel with the event's first CDI 5* competition, this year's *Printemps des Sports Equestres* is also hosting a CSI 4* and the French Master Pro Jumping Championships.

WHAT SHE SAID

Charlotte Fry (Glamourdale / GBR),

winner of the Grand Prix Freestyle Cheval TV of the CDI 5* competition at the Printemps des Sports Equestres in Fontainebleau (FRA)

"Glamourdale was already in great form yesterday for the Grand Prix, even though he made a few small mistakes. He was really fresh and enthusiastic, and I have to admit that I was really aiming to put in one of our best performances today. And I think that's what happened. I had a great feeling, he was still really positive today, he enjoyed every second of our routine to the full. Everything went according to plan, with no mistakes. I think I've just experienced our best ever performance together. To be honest, I don't think he could have done much better than he did.

Obviously, the Paris 2024 Olympic Games are our main objective, and we are taking things as they come, day by day. The main challenge will be to keep Glamourdale in a good mindset, to ensure that he remains happy to go out and compete, and that he continues to enjoy his work as a competition horse. He will tell us what rhythm and the schedule to adopt, according to his needs. He is not the kind of horse that needs to do a lot of shows; he loves competing and is always really excited and always does his best. So, we'll try to make sure he stays true to himself. He is a very expressive horse: when I meet him in the stables, I can tell if he is happy or if he needs a few more carrots (laughs). He's quite a character! "

« VERY PROUD OF FIRST ROMANCE 2 »,

DOROTHEE SCHNEIDER (GER),

SECOND OF THE GRAND PRIX FREESTYLE CHEVAL TV

"First of all, I would like to thank the organisers of this CDI 5, for this superb competition. I was delighted to take part in the Printemps des Sports Equestres, especially with this amazing horse. I would also like to thank the owners of First Romance 2 for the trust they have placed in me to manage the horse's sporting career over the past seven years. I know this horse really well, he's got so much talent. But today was our first CDI 5* and only the second time he has ridden a Freestyle to Music, so I have to admit I am over the moon. Yesterday already, everything went really well, after a long six-month period without competing. He still managed to stay very focused. He was a little tense when he entered the arena, probably overwhelmed by its size. But he relaxed quite quickly and I am really proud of him and the freestyle we did here in Fontainebleau."*



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PERSONAL BEST FOR JUAN ANTONIO JIMENEZ COBO (SPA)

"I would also like to thank the organisers. I had already been to the Grand Parquet de Fontainebleau a long time ago: this riding venue has changed a lot; it's so beautiful now and it's nice to see it in such great condition. I am really happy with the performances we put in yesterday and today: each one was a personal best for me. My horse Euclides Mor stayed focused, along with me, during the two routines, even though he is a stallion that you need to control. He is moving forward in the right direction and I am increasingly pleased with his performance with each routine."

CORENTIN POTTIER, BEST FRANCE'S RIDER

"I would also like to thank the organisers: we all know what it takes to organise such a competition means in terms of time, resources and people. People don't acknowledge that enough, so it deserves to be highlighted, and this first 5 CDI has been a great success from every point of view. My weekend has been amazing, with two personal bests in the Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Freestyle. Achieving two such performances, almost in front of my home crowd, is more than I could have hoped for when I arrived in Fontainebleau. If someone had told me beforehand that the weekend would be so amazing, I would have signed up with both hands off the bat. I will certainly have great memories of this CDI 5* at the Printemps des Sports Equestres. Once in the arena, you don't think about your family and friends being in the audience and the fact that you are the local rider in the class. On the other hand, when preparing, that fact takes on another dimension and it brings additional pressure. At the same time, this is the kind of pressure we will have to deal with next year at the Olympic Games in Paris. I certainly hope I'll be involved. This competition is great preparation, and it is absolutely amazing to see such a large, noisy, enthusiastic audience."*

WHAT HE SAID

Jean Morel, French national coach and Head of the French dressage team, President of Cheval TV, main partner of the Grand Prix Freestyle Cheval TV of the CDI 5* competition at the *Printemps des Sports Equestres* in Fontainebleau (FRA)

"I am delighted for my riders, who have been working hard all winter. They took part in competitions, tried to earn points, competed in FEI World Cups. They have performed well, like Corentin Pottier this weekend, not just in the Grand Prix but also in the Grand Prix Freestyle. He can handle the pressure; he has a good mindset, even when his horse is a bit nervous, like today, at the beginning of the class. He managed the situation really well and he perfectly matches the profile we want in terms of consistency with the horses. We don't want any unforeseen surprises: as we head into the Olympic Games, we are not interested in surprises, but in consistency. Corentin has moved up another notch: well done to him! We also saw Morgan Barbançon with her new horse, Habana Libre A, who will undoubtedly become her lead horse. She is also consistent and did a really good job. Pauline Basquin made a few little mistakes in the Grand Prix, which she managed to correct and then improve her score in the Grand Prix Freestyle. All three riders are starting to be really consistent. Before the European Championships this summer, we will be competing in the FEI Nations Cup in Compiègne, and in Rotterdam: I hope we will maintain this level and continue to be proud of our riders."



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« A LINE-UP THAT INCLUDED SOME OF THE BEST RIDERS IN THE WORLD »,

JEAN-MICHEL ROUDIER,

PRESIDENT OF THE GROUND JURY OF THE CDI 5* COMPETITION AT THE *PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS EQUESTRES* IN FONTAINEBLEAU (FRA)

"As a team of judges, we remained really focused. With our worldwide experience as dressage judges, we would also like to thank and congratulate the organisers of this CDI 5. It is one of the few competitions where the organisation just outstanding, with incredible quality in terms of the welcome for both riders and officials. We had a line-up that included some of the best riders in the world; it almost gave us goosebumps, and we all agreed on the scores. That just goes to show that we have seen the same qualities. The group that finished behind the top two in the class actually did very well, they performed admirably with some really good routines, including that of Corentin."*

« THE WORLD'S TOP DRESSAGE RIDERS ALSO GAVE US THEIR BACKING AT THIS EVENT »,

SYLVIE ROBERT,

CHAIRMAN OF GL EVENTS EQUESTRIAN SPORT,

ORGANISER OF THE *PRINTEMPS DES SPORTS EQUESTRES* IN FONTAINEBLEAU

"First of all, I would like to thank the International Equestrian Federation and the French Equestrian Federation and their partners, including Cheval TV, for their trust. We were able to give our first dressage CDI a 5 label directly. We already have experience at this level, since we organise an FEI Dressage World Cup every year and have organised two FEI Dressage World Cup Finals. Still, it was a real challenge, and our partners' support really contributed to the success. The objective was to showcase this discipline on the exceptional site of the Grand Parquet de Fontainebleau, which has been so beautifully renovated in recent years. The world's top dressage riders also gave us their backing at this event, and we are really grateful."*

PRESS CONTACTS

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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.



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