



LONGINES GLOBAL CHAMPIONS TOUR OF

CANNES

8.9.10 JUIN 2017

PRESSE RELEASE - 1ST JUNE 2017

Copyright: CannesJumping.com - Photo: Jean-Michel Photographe - Photo: M. S. - Photo: Illustration Turner Turfman - Fotolia

35 YEARS OF SPORT, OF SPECTACLE, OF EMOTION

Cannes and its' Hespérides stadium, dressed for the occasion in a coating of white sand, will very shortly welcome horses and riders from the four corners of the globe for the 35th birthday of the famous 5* Show-jumping show. A horse show with a history, the Cannes competition was the first French stage of the Longines Global Champions Tour (LGCT) which today stretches from Mexico to Doha. On the 8th, 9th and 10th of June, the biggest names in the sport will be present with a double aim : winning the 1.60m Longines Global Champions Tour Grand Prix de Cannes - Ile Maurice on Saturday that carries a total of 300.000 euros in prize money, and accumulating points counting towards the LGCT circuit.

The winner here in 2014 and 2016, former World number 1, Scott Brash, in the saddle on his amazing Hello Forever, who so captivated spectators last year, is already announced as being favourite. He'll nevertheless be up against stiff competition from riders such as the Italian Lorenzo de Luca, current leader on the circuit after a victory at Shanghai and his 4th places in Madrid and Mexico. Dutch riders Maikel Van der Vleuten and Harrie Smolders, 2nd and 3rd respectively before this Alpes-Maritimes rendezvous, will also be determined to get the better of their rival.

6th stage on the circuit, Cannes is unquestionably the most glamorous. Just a couple of steps from the red carpet the young American generation has invited itself. Elegant and talented, these young women with the demeanour of stars of the big screen have chosen instead to show-jump at the very top of this discipline. Whether they are called Audrey Coulter, Jessica Springsteen, Lucy Davis or Kerry Mc Cahill, these athletes are outstanding on the international scene and are as good as their elders. Currently in 12th position, 25 year old Audrey Coulter, is notably the top placed lady rider in the LGCT rankings.

On the host nation front, France, the Olympic medallists Pénélope Léprévost, Kevin Staut, Roger-Yves Bost and Philippe Rozier are all expected to attend which will delight the home crowds, as will the presence of Simon Delestre, Julien Epaillard, Patrice Delaveau and Olivier Robert.

Fans will also enjoy this new edition of the Global Champions League (GCL) and won't fail to support the Cannes Stars team, represented here by German maestro, Ludger Beerbaum and the Swiss, Longines ambassador, Jane Richard Philips. With 83 points and a 5th place on the counter, they'll need to be audacious against the Hamburg Diamonds (Harrie Smolders, Audrey Coulter, Jos Verlooy) or the Valkenswaard United (Marcus Ehning, Alberto Zorzi, Janika Sprunger), 1st and 2nd with 98 and 93 points. Gathering riders of differing nationalities in the same team, the GCL is thrilling, a unique format that lends an exhilarating atmosphere to its' classes.

Amateur show-jumpers also have their place here at Cannes, the 1*CSI offers classes starting at 1.10m and reaching 1.40m for the more audacious. This daytime competition offers free entry allowing spectators to take advantage of the entertainment. In the evening, the ticket office gives the opportunity to watch the big classes, those of the 5* event, that sees the big names in this sport confronting each other. With the desire to allow as many Cannes residents as possible to attend these outstanding three days, the Cannes Town Hall is offering invites to the evening sessions on Thursday the 8th and Friday the 9th June to them on a "first come, first served" basis. (*Present proof of identity and address on June the 7th, between 9am and noon, in the salon jaune at the hôtel de ville*).

Birthday edition, surprise edition: The Jumping of Cannes will be twinned with the 2018 Jumping of Mauritius and allow the victor of the Constance Le Prince Maurice | Mauritius Tourist Office | Air Mauritius Trophy (Friday 9th June at 8.30pm), to come and defend their colours on the other side of the World. From the 13th to the 24th of January, Mauritius will be the stage for an exclusive event combining sport, entertainment and evenings under the shade of the coconut palms. The Jumping of Mauritius, created more than twenty years ago by François Bourey, is making its comeback in 2018 and will invite the best riders in the world to a "holiday" competition. The ideal excuse for all equestrian fans and their friends to enjoy an idyllic week. (*For further details -see the Press kit*)

LONGINES



GLOBAL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



PRESS CONTACT : ANCHOR EQUITATION - ALIÉNOR DE LA ROCHEFOUAULD & PAULINE LAVERGNE
JUMPING-CANNES@ANCHOR-EQUITATION.FR - +33 (0)6 62 15 54 15

