



Newsletter n. 21 - 14 September 2022

THE WAIT IS OVER: LET THE CHAMPIONSHIPS BEGIN

Christoph Wahler riding Carjatan S will have an **FEI Eventing World Championship debut** to remember when he is first into the dressage arena at Pratoni del Vivaro tomorrow morning at 9.30am. **Germany** has been drawn first of the 16 nations fielding teams and the 28-year-old from Bad Benvenson has been chosen as pathfinder for his first time in the team.

The host nation, **Italy**, is drawn eighth, with the experienced Arianna Schivo the trailblazer on the 18-year-old mare Quefira de l'Ormeau; this partnership has contested a remarkable six championships together since 2015.



Arianna Schivo (ITA) - © Massimo Argenziano

Great Britain, the defending champions, wore black armbands at the first horse inspection in honour of the passing of The Queen. The team has been drawn 13th and the reigning individual champion, Ros Canter, will launch the nation's title defence on a new ride, the 10-year-old Lordships Gruffalo.

The dressage phase will come to a thrilling climax on Friday afternoon with the team anchors performing their tests, including Nicolas Touzaint (FRA), Michael Jung (GER), Tim Price (NZL), Felix Vogg (SUI), Oliver Townend (GBR) and Andrew Hoy (AUS).

FAN ENGAGEMENT PARTNER



A total of **89 horses from 26 nations** will start the dressage phase over the next two days in front of the Ground Jury of Christina Klingspor (SWE, president), Peter Gray (CAN) and Christian Steiner (AUT). Only one horse was withdrawn from the competition at the first horse inspection: the sole Mexican entry, Cecilia ridden by Daniel Moguel.

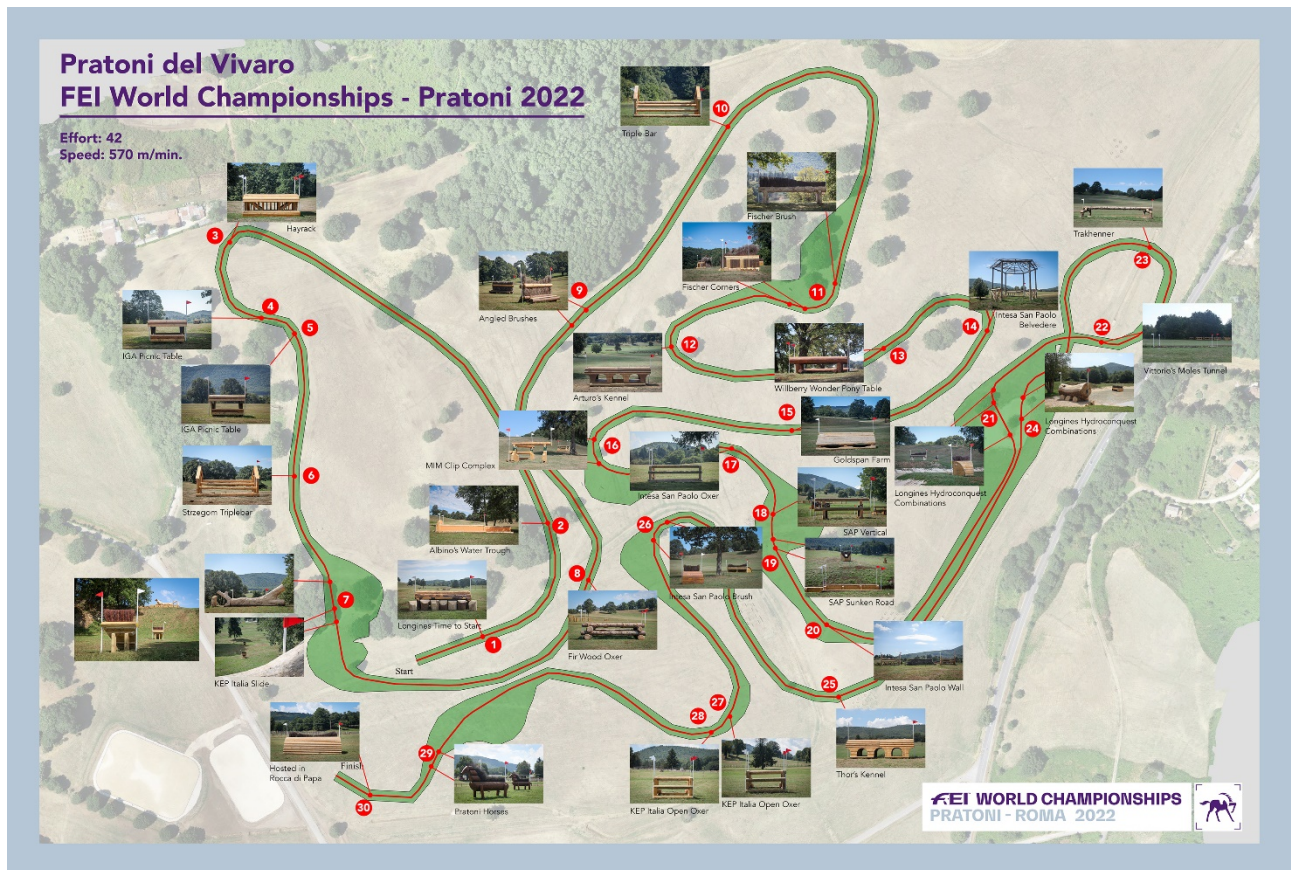
Two other horses were held for further inspection but later passed: Ruy Fonseca's Brazilian team horse Ballypatrick SRS and Swedish team member Aminda Ingulfson's Joystick.

[Click here to see the full startlist and times.](#)

CROSS-COUNTRY COURSE REVEALED

Riders and spectators have been assessing **Giuseppe Della Chiesa's** exciting cross-country course with its beautiful backdrop of the Castelli Romani National Park.

There are 30 fences or combinations and the distance measures at 5,600m with an optimum time of 9 minutes 50 seconds (570m/min).



There is plenty of tradition — Albino's Water Trough at fence 2, bringing back memories of former course-designer Albino Garbari — and the notorious KEP Slide at fence 7. This obstacle, a log perched on top of a steep slope, has featured at Prato since the **Olympic Games in 1960**; at the bottom of the hill are two skinny brush fences.

The track, which has good sandy going, is a clever mix of let-up fences and challenging combinations, but horses will need to be fit for the undulations and uphill stretches. The former Olympic rider Fernando Acerbi expects the double of brushes, the Fischer Corners at 11, and the water complex at 24, the Longines Hydroconquest Combinations, to be influential.

Click [HERE](#) to view the cross-country course with Giuseppe Della Chiesa.

THE FEI EVENTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN NUMBERS

22.0 The best ever completion score, by Michael Jung (GER) and La Biosthetique Sam at Kentucky (USA) in 2010

13.9 The best ever dressage score (in today's scoring), performed by Bettina Hoy and Woodsides Ashby (GER) at Jerez de la Frontera (ESP) in 2002

11 Gold medals won by GBR in world championships (6 team, 5 individual)

8 World championship starts by Sir Mark Todd (NZL)

7 World championship starts by Karin Donckers (BEL), Phillip Dutton (USA) Andrew Hoy (AUS) and Andrew Nicholson (NZL), and

6 CCI5*-L winning horses in the field (Ballaghmor Class, Cartania, FischerChipmunk FRH, London 52, Toledo de Kerser, Willingapark Clifford)

4 Gold medals won by Blyth Tait (NZL) - 2 team, 2 individual

3 Individual world champions in the field (Michael Jung, Sandra Auffarth, GER, Rosalind Canter, GBR)

1 Gold medal partnership from Tryon 2018 (Tom McEwen riding Toledo de Kerser, GBR)

EQUIRATINGS MEDAL FAVOURITES

Will the form hold up? Based on form and statistics, these are **Equiratings' favourites** for the individual medals:

Gold: **Michael Jung**/FischerChipmunk FRH (GER)

Silver: **Laura Collett**/London 52 (GBR)

Bronze: **Julia Krajewski**/Amande de B'Neville (GER) or **Oliver Townend**/Ballaghmor Class (GBR)

DID YOU KNOW?

Aistis Vitkauskas (LIT) celebrated his 50th birthday this week on Monday (September 12).

Alina Dibowski (GER) is the youngest rider, aged 21; Belgian rider Jarno Verwimp is four days older.

Andrew Hoy (AUS) is the oldest rider, aged 63; he competed in the 1978 World Championships, before any of the British team were born.

Fouaad Mirza is the most successful Indian rider in history; he finished 21st at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Tamra Smith (USA) didn't do her first international competition until she was 30.

Dana Smith (CAN) groomed for Rebecca Howard (CAN) at the London Olympic Games.

Holly Jacks (CAN) is an amateur boxer and has won the 'Golden Gloves' award.

Malin Josefsson rides for Sweden but her middle name, Miyuki, reflects her Japanese heritage.

Notes to editors:

The FEI Eventing World Championships have been held every four years since they started in 1966. This will be the 15th running.

Pratoni del Vivaro hosted the championships in 1998, as part of the FEI World Equestrian Games™ in Rome, and has also hosted the FEI Eventing European Championships in 1995 and 2007 and the Olympic Eventing in 1960.

For details of tickets and timetabling, visit www.pratoni2022.it

For details of how to watch online, visit www.feitv.org

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