



Newsletter n. 23 - 16 September 2022

MICHAEL JUNG AND BRITISH TEAM SMASH ALL RECORDS

Records are there to be broken and that is what happened on a thrilling second day of dressage at the **15th FEI Eventing World Championship**, at Pratoni del Vivaro, Italy, today.

Michael Jung, the German team anchorman, has smashed his own record with a stunning 18.8 dressage mark on FischerChipmunk FRH, which is now the second-best score in world championship history behind Bettina Hoy in 2002. It puts his team into a close second place behind **Great Britain**, which starts tomorrow's cross-country day with **the lowest ever team score after dressage**, 69.2 penalties.



Michael Jung and FischerChipmunk FRH - Photo Massimo Argenziano

The British score was already a record before world number one Oliver Townend and the hugely experienced grey Ballaghmor Class recorded 23.4 for individual sixth place to add to first-day leader Laura Collett's 19.3 and Tom McEwen and Toledo de Kerster's 25.6. Defending champion Ros Canter's good score of 26.2 as pathfinder on Lordships Gruffalo is now, remarkably, the discount score.

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Jung, 40, the world champion in 2010 on the wonderful horse La Biosthetique Sam, said of his new championship ride, a 14-year-old by Contendro: 'It is wonderful to be competing at this level with another superstar. FischerChipmunk was so relaxed yet still powerful and concentrating. I am really proud of him.'

Equiratings, the statistics analysts, rate Pratoni as the most competitive FEI Eventing World Championships in history, and certainly spectators were treated to a star-studded day of dressage with some beautiful tests.

Alex Hua-Tian, riding for China as an individual on the veteran Don Geniro, was originally going to the Asian Games but re-routed to Pratoni. He is now in **fourth place** in the individual rankings behind the British pair Laura Collett and Yasmin Ingham, having performed an elegant test.

Tamra Smith (USA), who was a reserve for the Tokyo Olympics and is making her World Championship debut, is fifth on the highly-rated Mai Baum with a score of 24.0. 'I'll take that!' she said. 'I think the cross-country will suit him perfectly. Horses need to be fast, but also rideable and he is both those things, plus he's smart and brave. Being on my first USA team feels awesome: it's been a lifetime goal and to be on this horse makes it special because he is the best in the world.'

The USA is in third place and New Zealand, the victors at Pratoni back in 1998, are fourth, followed by Australia, France, Japan and Belgium. The cost of one cross-country mistake (20 penalties) covers the top eight teams.

Riders are rating **Giuseppe Della Chiesa's** course as a 'proper championship track' and 'far from a dressage competition' on which it is anticipated that the 9 mins 50 sec optimum time will be hard to achieve with the hills and twisting nature.

The 10 most consistent cross-country horses, according to **Equiratings**, are, in order: Vermiculus, ridden by Lauren Nicholson (USA), Colorado Blue (Austin O'Connor, IRL), Ballaghmor Class (Oliver Townend, GBR), Tsetserleg TSF (Boyd Martin, USA), Toledo de Kerker (Tom McEwen, GBR), Lordships Gruffalo (Ros Canter, GBR), London 52 (Laura Collett, GBR), Fletcha Van t' Verahof (Karin Donckers, BEL), Off the Record (Will Coleman, USA), Fallulah (Padraig McCarthy, IRL).

First out on course tomorrow at 10.30am will be Germany's pathfinder, Christoph Wahler on Carjatan S.

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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