



Newsletter n. 29 - 24 September 2022

## EXELL STILL LEADS, BUT BRILLIANT BRAUCHLE STARS IN MARATHON

Australia's **Boyd Exell** steered a clever course to maintain his lead in the individual rankings, but it was Germany's fiery farrier, **Michael Brauchle**, who stole the show with a spectacular run in the **Marathon** today to rocket up from overnight ninth place to individual silver medal spot at the **FEI Driving World Championship 2022 at Praton del Vivaro**, Italy.

Just 6.04 points separate the leading pair going into tomorrow's final Cones phase that will decide both the **Team and Individual medals**. And Brauchle's performance leaves his country on a running score of **314.85**, just 3.27 points behind the nine-time team champions from **The Netherlands** who are in gold medal position tonight while **Team Belgium** is in bronze.

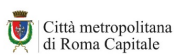


Michael Brauchle (GER) - ph. Massimo Argenziano

The other drivers all expected Brauchle to pile on the pressure with a great run across the eight-obstacle course today and he certainly didn't disappoint. As Dutch star **Koos de Ronde** said this evening "Michael is a very fast driver, his team is very fast, he has power, he's technically good, he has a lot of guts and like me he wants to go fast! I tried to catch him but in the end I missed, I think by 0.8 but I'm very happy!"

De Ronde was second-quickest of the day and that has moved him up from 14th to fifth place on the individual leaderboard behind **USA's Chester Weber** in fourth, The Netherlands' **Ijsbrand Chardon** in bronze medal position and **Brauchle** who is in silver medal spot behind **Exell** at the head of affairs.

Con il contributo del



## PHYSICAL

Today's test was hugely physical, many of the drivers admitting to exhaustion even when pleased with their results at the end of the day. Brauchle wisely opted for longer routes around the twisting track which allowed his horses to gallop faster without taking maximum risk, and it paid off handsomely. And as a farrier he has strength in abundance.

*"This year I won the Marathon at Windsor and Valkenswaard and that was good for me. I'm a young man and I have a lot of strength and my horses fight for me and with me. It's a big plus for me in the Marathon when my horses have fun, big fun!\"",* he said after clocking his score of **107.00**. He was delighted with the performance of his team of horses.

*"My right leader is Djamilo - we call him Jamie, and he's a brilliant Marathon horse. He knows his job, he's doing this for four years, I bought him as a young horse and we work together a lot of years and make a good team together and I think we put Germany in a good place now!\"",* said the man who has won multiple world championship medals, but none of them gold.

## DUTCH DOMINANCE

Third place in the Marathon went to Austria's **Daniel Schneiders** on a score of **111.36** while Ijsbrand Chardon ensured Dutch dominance when posting 114.49, fractionally ahead of Belgium's **Glenn Geerts** on **114.51**. Exell finished sixth today on **116.01**, just ahead of Switzerland's **Jerome Voutaz** who led the way for much of the early part of the day.

But today was all about **Brauchle**, and when he was asked this evening if he thought he could oust the man who has dominated the individual podium at the last five editions of the FEI World Driving Championship, Boyd Exell, from gold medal spot tomorrow the German didn't hesitate to reply "Yes!" with a look of real determination.

*"We had good training in Cones last weekend so I think we can do it, and we will fight! My horses fight for me and now I will go to the stables and say thank you very much to them!"*

**Tomorrow looks set to be a thrilling finale to a spectacular week of Driving sport, and the action begins at 12.30 local time.**

**Press Office Sport: Equi-Equipe by Caterina Vagnozzi / +39. 335.6107070 / [press@pratoni2022.it](mailto:press@pratoni2022.it)**

Con il contributo del



Dipartimento  
per lo sport



REGIONE  
LAZIO



Città metropolitana  
di Roma Capitale



SPORT  
E SALUTE

LONGINES

INTESA  SANPAOLO

KAP  
ITALIA