



Newsletter no. 6 - 29 March 2022

TEST EVENTS: WORK IN PROGRESS

Work is proceeding at full speed at **Pratoni del Vivaro**, Italy, in preparation for the **FEI World Championships 2022 Eventing and Driving** that will be held in **September** (15-25). This exciting event is a little less than six months away and next month there will be an important sports preview organised by the Italian Equestrian Sports Federation (**FISE**) in cooperation with the **FEI**.



ph. Massimo Argenziano

May will be an important month for the **Pratoni2022** team, who will be hard at work for two consecutive weeks organising two international events, both with **Test Event status** and therefore rehearsals for the championships.

It will all start with the **Eventing Test Event** from on May 12-15, which has attracted a significant number of competitors. Riders from 13 nations will be riding in a **CCIO4*-S** which is also the first leg of the **FEI Eventing Nations Cup™** which comprises nine events. (eight in Europe and one in Canada), hosted at the most prestigious eventing locations, with the final leg held at Boekelo in The Netherlands.

The National Federations that have confirmed they will have teams competing at Pratonì are: **Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, France, Great Britain, Germany, New Zealand, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden** and, of course, **Italy**. Italian riders will be even more motivated as this event also counts for assigning titles and medals for the **2022 National Italian Championship**.

On the following weekend (**May 21-24**), the iconic location situated in the heart of the Parco dei Castelli Romani will see driving as the star competition with a **CAI2*** and a **CAI3***, both open to ponies, singles, pairs and **four-in-hand**. Between **25 and 30** teams coming from France, Switzerland, Hungary and Italy are expected to compete.

Admission is free of charge. This is the [timetable](#) for competitions.

ROAD TO PRATONI2022: HOY, NICHOLSON, BORDONE

Some of the most important pages of equestrian sport, and eventing in particular, have been written at the Pratonì del Vivaro.

All the greatest riders have competed at least once at this equestrian centre, the only one in the world that has hosted the Olympic Games as well as the World and European Eventing Championships.

The importance as well as the charm of the Pratonì del Vivaro is clearly expressed in the words of some of these athletes.

www.pratoni2022.it

Press Office: Equi-Equipe by Caterina Vagnozzi / +39.331.4603432 / press@pratoni2022.it

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2022

Andrew Hoy, 63, won team silver and individual bronze at the Tokyo Olympics and hopes to compete for Australia at Prato at the world championships. He has been a member of the Australian team for 44 years and has won three Olympic team gold medals, in 1992, 1996 and 2000: "Prato is a historic venue and in 1960 the Australian team won an Olympic team gold and individual gold and silver medals, so to be back on territory where Australia has had such a historic result and one that the world knows about is very special and I feel very honoured as an athlete to be competing there."



Andrew Hoy – ph. MAV Photo Agency

Andrew Nicholson, 60, is a former world number one and won team gold for New Zealand at the 1990 World Equestrian Games, team and individual bronze in Kentucky in 2010, plus three Olympic medals and nine CCI5*s. He competed at Prato at the Open European Championships in 2005 and at the World Games in 1998, finishing fifth individually. He retired from top-level competition last year and acts as coach to the Swiss team: "My favourite memories of Prato del Vivaro are from the World Games in 1998. I rode a horse called New York and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I think it's one of the best places for a world championships that I have been to. The ground is superb for horses; it's very natural, undulating terrain, which has a lot of character and is challenging to ride. The spectators can see a lot, which is important, and it's a great day out for everyone."



Andrew Nicholson – ph. MAV Photo Agency



Susanna Bordone at the Tokyo Olympic Games rode Imperial van de Holtackers, finishing 18th in the individual ranking. The 40-year-old Carabinieri's warrant officer has once again chosen the 14-year-old gelding as her partner for the FEI World Championships 2022 that will be held at the Pratoni del Vivaro on September 15-18. *"My goal this season is obviously to compete in the World Championships at the Pratoni, a unique location for our discipline. After the Olympics I gave to Imperial a nice long holiday and have recently only competed with him in dressage competitions since for him that is the most challenging test. Over the Easter weekend, April 14-17, we will be eventing in Radolfzell, in Germany and then later compete in the May test event at the Pratoni. At the end of June we will be in Strzegom, if competitions in Poland are held regularly, and then finally in mid-August at Le Pin au Haras, in France."*



Susanna Bordone riding Imperial van de Holtackers at Tokyo 2020 – ph. FISE/S.Grasso

FIRST WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS PODCAST NOW ON LINE

EquiRatings, the reference digital network for eventing has now published its first podcast for the **FEI Eventing World Championships 2022**.

The Early Call is the title of this podcast, this first in a series created thanks to **SAP**, the multinational company with which the **OC** is finalising an important **fan engagement partnerships** for the Championships. The podcasts are **dedicated to eventing** and thanks to the voices and stories of top riders in this discipline will keep us company on the road to these important World Championships.

A purple banner for the 'Road to Pratoni' podcast. It features the FEI World Championships Pratoni - Roma 2022 logo, the EquiRatings logo, and the SAP logo (Fan Engagement Partner). The text reads 'EQUIRATINGS EVENTING PODCAST' and 'ROAD TO PRATONI'. Below this, it says 'EPISODE 1 | THE EARLY CALL'. At the bottom, there are logos for Apple Podcasts and Spotify, and the text 'The Official Podcast of the FEI Eventing World Championship 2022'. A central play button icon is also present.

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Press Office: Equi-Equipe by Caterina Vagnozzi / +39.335.6107070 / press@pratoni2022.it