



JUMPING INTERNATIONAL OFFICIEL DE FRANCE

CSIO***** SUPER LIGUE

LA BAULE, DU 5 AU 8 MAI 2005

Press release n°7, 5 May 2005

STRATEGIES OF THE TRAINERS

At the end of the draw for the starting list of the Nations' Cup – which will be opened by the Dutch, followed by the Swiss, France, Great Britain, Belgium, Ireland, Germany, and the United States bringing up the rear – the Chefs d'Equipe delivered their impressions to us and revealed their strategies with regard to the Samsung Super League.

What they said ...

Lucien SOMMERS (Belgium): *"There are no major changes in terms of riders and horses compared to 2004. There is currently a small problem with Jos LANSINK, who does not want to compete in the colours of Zangersheide (new sponsor of the Belgian team), but I think that this should be resolved in the near future..."*

Rolf GRASS (Switzerland): *"As you know, Switzerland is making its entry into the Super League. We have a reservoir of 12 riders and 15 horses for this test. We selected a first team for La Baule, while in Rome there are four different combinations who will line-up. In Saint-Gallen we will select the best and this team will be used as the framework for the European Championship."* (See Interview with Rolf Grass – in the official programme and the La Baule internet site.)

Rob EHRENS (Netherlands): *"It is my first year as head of the senior team. Previously I was occupied with the juniors and young riders. In 2004, six riders took part in the Samsung Super League, but I would like to open up the selection a little more to try and have at least ten competitive couples at this level."*

Kurt GRAVEMEIER (Germany): *"It was very difficult to compose a team for La Baule. Seven Germans were involved in the World Cup final in Las Vegas two weeks ago and their horses are resting. Moreover, La Baule is in competition with Hamburg, Mannheim, and Eindhoven. For the first time, I will line up two women in the team: Pia-Louise AUFRECHT and Mylène DIEDERICHSMIEIER."*



Chronométrage et traitement des données par Longines



Taylor VARD (Ireland): *"My appointment to lead the Irish team was very recent and is certainly provisional. There are no notable changes in terms of riders and horses, except perhaps the return to form of Coolcorron Cool Diamond with Robert SPLAINE, following a one year break due to injury. This year I want to widen the base of selection to the first team. I will therefore try to send a maximum number of young riders for four-star Nations' Cups so they can be competitive in the Super League next year."*

Dereck RICKETTS (Great Britain): *"The situation is about the same as last year, without major upheavals. We have had to pass up the services of Arko III, the horse of Nick SKELTON, and Portofino with Michael WHITAKER, who just returned from the World Cup final."*

George MORRIS (United States): *"The team that I've brought to La Baule will also compete in the CSIOs of Rome and Saint-Gallen. A different team will be selected for Rotterdam, then another for Hickstead, Dublin, and Aachen, with the best then going to dispute the CSIO Spruce Meadows."*

Jean-Maurice BONNEAU (France): *"Last year, we selected 14 different riders for the Samsung Super League. At the beginning of this season we are confronted with many unavailabilities, but I will try to introduce some young or new couples into the team to try to answer present on all fronts."*

(See the Doing better with less, with Jean-Maurice Bonneau – in the official programme and on the internet site for La Baule. www.labaule-cheval.com)

La Baule's press office
Marc Verrier

