



## JUMPING INTERNATIONAL OFFICIEL DE FRANCE

CSIO\*\*\*\*\* SUPER LIGUE

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### HERVE GODIGNON, THE HEART OF ELEGANCE

Son of journalists, Herve Godignon, 52 years, lost his father at a very young age (9 years) when his plane crashed while he was on his way to an assignment for ORTF.

He rides a horse, Thursday, thanks to a riding education and to imitate his father, lost all too soon, himself a rider.

Trained by Maître Couillaud at 'the vocational school of the man with the horse', he took his first steps in an international arena in 1976 with Cupidon Fou, at La Baule, and won the Grand Prix. Individual fourth place in the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games, he was the principal craftsman of the French team bronze medal with the stallion Quidam de Revel, today a 'chief of breeding'.

With regard to Obelix, he does not owe his name to the fact that Hervé was cared for by a particular nanny (Rene Goscinny): *"He bears his name well because he only thinks of eating. He does not understand why he is jumping on his food when he enters the beautiful grass arena Baulois."* You notice that at the end of each course Obélix grazes at the exit to the arena. *"It is his reward and that enables me to check that he is not stressed. When he grazes, it is good sign"*.

Rider for the French team, president of the ACSOF (association of showjumping riders in France) since May 2002, organizer of competitions (CSI + national + amateur at his home at Port Mort, close to Evreux, for the second year), Herve Godignon is also at the heart of the Just World association which fights to bring a better future to the young generations of countries in difficulty. In La Baule, he accommodated the association on the ACSOF stand located in the trade village. *"Our being has a small utopian side. But it is by making mentality changes that one can change the world. The awakening of the decision makers and future decision makers today plays in favour of the future. There is, in life, one moment to receive and one moment to give"*.

Today, Sunday May 8, Herve Godignon received the Longines Prize for Elegance. A day where he has given ... and received.

La Baule's press office  
Nathalie Fey



Chronométrage et traitement des données par Longines