



JUMPING INTERNATIONAL OFFICIEL DE FRANCE

CSIO***** SUPER LEAGUE

LA BAULE, FROM 10 TO 13 MAY 2007

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VICTORY FOR THE GERMANS, CONFIDENT PERFORMANCE BY THE FRENCH

The German team, made up of Marcus Ehning and Noltes Kuchengirl, Alois Polmann-Schweckhorst and Lord Luis, Heinrich-Hermann Engemann and Aboyeur W, Ludger Beerbaum and Couleur Rubin, won the Samsung Super League de France - FEI, in La Baule.

The French team came 5th (22 points), behind Switzerland (17 points), Belgium (18 points) and Sweden (21 points).

Two young riders were included in this French team suffering from several injuries with Stephan Lafouge (a broken ankle), Idéal de la Loge (Bosty's stallion) who has mud fever, Michel Robert (dislocated shoulder).

"I really admire the two rounds by Kevin Staut (Kraque Boom) and Julien Epailard (Icare du Manet), who rode very well", explained Gilles de Balanda, national coach. "Flipper was injured during the event. He hurt himself taking off for the water jump, he lost a shoe and cut his heel. He was bleeding when he finished his round and I think we will not be entering him for the Grand Prix. The horse and rider were very courageous. They really finished for France, the rider would have normally retired in view of his horse's injury. As for Michel Hécart and Itôt du Château, with a double clear round (1 time penalty in the 2nd round), they were perfect in spite of a slight technical error in front of an oxer which caused them to have time penalties.

*I'm not over-optimistic, but I feel confident. The French team can still count on First de Launay*HN and Florian Angot. The stallion has just come back from paternal duties but he looks good and turned in a good round this morning. We also have Eugénie Angot, a very very good rider with Ilostra Dark who is just coming good and naturally Stephan Lafouge and Gabelou des Ores."*

The German riders were delighted with their performance: "we certainly dominated the event", pointed out Ludger Beerbaum, "we each have two or three other Grand Prix horses as well as those we are riding today but these horses are the ones that we bought and schooled ourselves."



Chronométrage et traitement des données par Longines



Marcus Ehning, a double clear round with Noltes Kuchengirl, the winner of the Grand Prix Longines de la Ville de La Baule in 2006, points out that *“my mare really likes this show ground, where she began last year. She has taken experience over one year and since the world championships in Aachen. There was no wall, which helped me as well”*, he said ironically, referring to the Aachen wall which eliminated him at the world championships. The irony was picked up on by Alois Pollmann-Schweckhorst, a double clear round in the Samsung Super League de France - FEI with Lord Luis, a young horse that he has been riding for the past two years. A few hours before, he fell in the previous class, Prix du Conseil Général de Loire Atlantique... because of a wall. And Alois was absolutely thrilled with this victory and with his perfect French he explained to the audience that he was celebrating 20 years' in the German team when he started here in La Baule in 1987 with a mare named Frimella.
Happy anniversary to Alois.

*Nathalie Fey
Press department*



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