



**JUMPING INTERNATIONAL OFFICIEL DE FRANCE**  
**CSIO\*\*\*\*\* SUPER LEAGUE**  
**LA BAULE, FROM 10 TO 13 MAY 2007**

Press release n°1, 7 May 2007

**THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EVENT OF THE BIG "8" SAMSUNG SUPER LEAGUE – FEI**  
**EVENTS**

*A well known seaside resort on the French Atlantic coast developed throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century by the Barrière family around the casino and their own premium hotel group, La Baule built its outdoor equestrian arena around fifty years ago. On the 2007 program: 70 riders, 200 horses, 14 classes and 4 days of competition, the 1<sup>st</sup> stage in the Samsung Super League – FEI and the start of the outdoor season for the world's top show jumpers.*

It was in 1962 that La Baule held its first international competition for show jumping, one of three equestrian disciplines in the Olympic Games. In 1970, the men's world riders championship, won by British rider David Broome and his horse Beethoven, came four years before women's won by French rider Janou Tissot-Lefevre riding Rocket and Alterline. From this point, the La Baule arena became part of world show jumping history and has kept its place ever since. The riders who compete there, with the complicity of their horses, have written some of the most beautiful pages in this sport's history. The European show jumping championships organized in 1991 were the third major championships to be held in La Baule.

Hosting the "Jumping International Officiel de France" – with its CSIO\*\*\*\*\* label – La Baule is the only French show jumping event authorized by the FEI to organize the two Olympic format competitions: the Nations Cup team event and the individual Grand Prix event.

In 2003, the first world team event challenge, sponsored by Samsung Electronics, got off to a flying start in La Baule with its new name: the Samsung Super League – FEI; eight stages for the top eight nations in the world. Since then, the Jumping Officiel de France in La Baule has given a wonderful start at the beginning of May to this major annual competition that has become the backbone of the worldwide show jumping circuit.

As part of the very exclusive club of Super League events, the organizing committee, together with the La Baule City and its



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institutional support, completely refurbished the stadium from top to bottom in 2004. Renovation, modernization, professionalization and working for the future are all key features guiding the organizing committee. This policy was rewarded last year by it being voted the best of the eight organizers of the Samsung Super League – FEI.

As part of this circuit, the Jumping International Officiel de France in La Baule is an undeniable part of the worldwide show jumping elite along with Aachen (Germany), Saint-Gall (Switzerland), Rome (Italy), Hickstead (G.B.), Dublin (Ireland), etc. Individual victory in the Grand Prix Longines de la Ville de La Baule or by team in the Super League de France – FEI, is the best possible prize for all those riders trying to include this title on their roll of honor.

*René Pasquier, President of the organizing committee*

[www.labaule-cheval.com](http://www.labaule-cheval.com)



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