

FRECCIAROSSA MILANO JUMPING CUP

FRECCIAROSSA MJC 2022'S GRAND FINALE SET FOR TOMORROW

Milan, June 25th - The Frecciarossa Milano Jumping Cup 2022 is in full swing at the San Siro Racecourse with wonderful weather encouraging many enthusiastic spectators to attend the second day of the show. The international 4* classes were won by German rider David Will followed by a third win for Switzerland, the first by a lady rider thanks to Simone Buhofer. Tomorrow is the third and last day of the show with its traditional Grand Prix Frecciarossa - Graziano Mancinelli Trophy (two rounds - h 1.55m - 100.000 €).

Today's classes instead end with Prize no. 10 - presented by Lexus, also against the clock and with jumps measuring 1.45m.

JOE WHITAKER: HORSES ARE OUR FAMILY BUSINESS

Thirty-four years old and with a surname that carries weight in the international show jumping world, Joe Whitaker arrived in Milan as Great Britain's only but eagerly awaited representative. Last Sunday he won the Nations Cup in the Italian leg of the European Equestrian Federation series in Gorla Minore. .

"Horses are our family business -explained the British rider whose father Steven is also a rider. -The spearheads are, of course, my uncles John and Michael, true legends in the world of show jumping even today at the ages of 66 and 62, but most of us cousins are involved full-time with horses, although each at our respective parents' stables in Yorkshire and within thirty kilometres of one another.

How many horses if one asked for a number? Joe smiled and said "If one only counts those competing at an international level then I would say about twenty, with my generation already represented at top level shows by my sister Helen and my cousin Jack. Their names are already on the long list for September's 2022 World Championships in Denmark alongside those of my uncles. Having the surname Whitaker creates a lot of pressure for everyone but, at the same time it also reassures us. We know we are lucky because of all the experience and technical expertise that surrounds us."

This is Joe Whitaker's first visit to Milan. "This is an excellent show and I am very pleased I added it to my plans. It is a very different kind of event. Competing in the centre of such a beautiful city doesn't happen often. The grass arena has excellent footing and the sports organisation is very efficient for both riders and horses. I brought four horses here to Milan, two very young ones and two that have already proved their talent: Icatarina and Hulahupe the horse with which I won the Nations Cup in Gorla. Things went very well indeed today."



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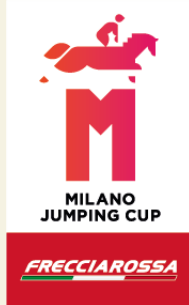


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DAVID WILL RIDES A FAST CLEAR ROUND TO WIN THE DILS CUP

David Will, who in 2021 won the Rolex Grand Prix at Piazza di Siena, was the winner of the second class held today in the 2022 Frecciarossa Milano Jumping Cup CSI4*.

The 34-year-old German riding Zaccorado Blue won the ninth class of the show presented by Dils (two-phases - h 1.50m). He was joined on the podium by the only British rider competing in Milan, Joe Whitaker, and Paris Sellon, the American rider who is engaged to the leader of the world's ranking Martin Fuchs.

Will, who together with his great friend and colleague Richard Vogel, also riding in Milan, has for some time owned an important show jumping facility in Marburg, the V&W Equestrian, and expressed his enthusiasm about this first Milanese adventure. "We love it here. I like the fact that San Siro is in the middle of the city, so we can spend evenings in the city centre, and also that the whole facility allows us to work at our best. And that doesn't always happen with metropolitan facilities... Tomorrow I will be riding Concordia in the Grand Prix; yesterday the horse was at its first experience here and was looking around a little bit but responded well today in the first phase of the 1.35m class, finishing without any problems. I am quite optimistic, but his performance will depend mainly on me..."

CSI4* - Class no. 9* presented by Dils (two phases - h 1.50 - 26.000 €)

1. David Will GER (Zaccorado Blue) pen. 0, 27"25
2. Joe Whitaker GBR (Icaterina) 0, 28"85
3. Paris Sellon USA (Attoucha) 0, 29"97
4. Roberto Previtali ITA (Bellyne de Beauval) 0, 30"33

SIMONE BUHOFFER CLOCKS UP ANOTHER WIN FOR SWITZERLAND

Switzerland is on a winning streak at the Frecciarossa Milano Jumping Cup 2022 held at the San Siro Racecourse. After wins by Martin Fuchs and Pius Schwizer on day one of the CSI4*, the first class today, the eighth presented by Fastweb (two-phases - h 1.35m). was won by Simone Buhofer riding Coralie 33. The 26-year-old Swiss rider was slightly faster than Italy's Bruno Chimirri and Luca Maria Moneta, respectively second with Califfa Mild and third on Chilli.

"I am very fond of Italy since I once spent nine months in Bergamo, and now I miss your country a great deal," said Simone, who is now based in France – "So I am always delighted to compete here every time I can. Italy brings me luck too! Last year I won the 2* Grand Prix in Sanremo and now here in Milan I achieved my first win in a 4* show. I will be riding Flying Girl in the Grand Prix tomorrow and hope to do well again."



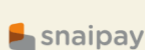
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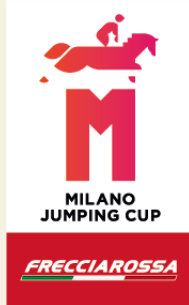


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CSI4* - Class no. 8 presented by Fastweb (two-phases - h 1.35m - 6.000 €)

1. Simone Buhofer SUI (Coralie 33) pen. 0, 26"31
2. Bruno Chimirri ITA (Califfa Mild) 0, 26"44
3. Luca Maria Moneta ITA (Chilli 41) 0, 26"58

PIUS SCHWIZER MAKE IS TWO WINS FOR SWITZERLAND

The last class of the opening day of the Frecciarossa Milano Jumping Cup 2022 held at the San Siro Racecourse, ended with a Swiss rider in the lead. After Fuchs and Guerdat finishing first and second in the top class of the day, this time it was Pius Schwizer, who in Class no. 4 presented by Kep Italia (In two phases - h 1.40m) riding Balou Rubin R who was extremely fast in the decisive phase stopping the clock at just 24".

"This is the first time I have ridden in the Milan show," said the Swiss rider who recently was part of the team that won the Nations Cup in St Gallen, "and I am enthusiastic about it, not only because I won but also because of everything offered by the location on the racecourse. The stables and warm-up and jumping arenas are all close by and that is a really positive aspect. Balou Rubin R did well but for Sunday's Grand Prix I will ride Casallino after competing with him tomorrow."

The 59-year-old rider from Oensingen finished in front of Germany's Richard Vogel and Denis Nielsen, leaving off the podium the best Italian rider, Emilio Bicocchi, who finished fourth on the Italian-bred Rondine del Terriccio.

CSI4* - Class 4 presented by Kep Italia (two-phases - h 1.40m - 10.000 €)

1. Pius Schwizer SUI (Balou Rubin R) pen. 0, 24"00
2. Richard Vogel GER (Caramba 92) 0, 24"83
3. Denis Nielsen GER (Jamela) 0, 25"89
4. Emilio Bicocchi ITA (Rondine del Terriccio) 0, 25"99

DAY TWO OF CSI1* SEES VIOLANTI AND WHITAKER WINNING

There was a generational clash in the CSI1* (against the clock with a jump off h 1.15m) presented by Kometa opening the second day of the Frecciarossa Milano Jumping Cup at the San Siro Racecourse. The 57-year-old Tuscan rider Susanna Violanti won the jump off beating Paolo Valentini and leaving third place to the best of the Next Gen, 17-year-old Alessandra Oldani. Violanti, who won gold at the European Show Jumping Championships for Veterans in 2016, was riding a home-bred 6-year-old called Zagali.



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In the next class (against the clock - h 1.25m) presented by Una Hotels, British rider Joe Whitaker riding his 6-year-old Lyleine was the only one to stop the clock below 57", beating Italy's Luca Maria Moneta and Alessandro Noé. Joe, who is 34 years old, is one of the many members of what is probably the most famous British show jumping family. He is Steven's son and works fulltime with him and is the nephew of two global show jumping legends, his uncles John and Michael. Steven also rode as a gentleman rider winning the only race he ever took part in in January 2020 in Newcastle riding Ladronne.

CSI1* - Class no. 6 presented by Kometa (with a jump off - h 1.15m - 2.500 €)

1. Susanna Violanti ITA (Zagali) pen. 0, 40"45
2. Paolo Valentini ITA (Dallas) 0, 40"80
3. Alessandra Oldani ITA (Diamante dei Setteborghi) 0, 40.90

Class no. 7 presented by UNA Hotels (against the clock - h 1.25 - 2.500 €)

1. Joe Whitaker GBR (Lyleine) pen. 0, 56"79
2. Luca Maria Moneta ITA (Knock Out) 0, 57"28
3. Alessandro Noé ITA (Loro Piana Celtic) 0, 58"16

THE FRECCIAROSSA MJC LIVE ON TV AND STREAMING TOMORROW

The show jumping competitions held on the last day of the Frecciarossa Milano Jumping Cup at the San Siro Racecourse will also be live streamed on the event's website. The show will be broadcast live on Sky Sport Arena tomorrow, Sunday, from 4 pm to 6 pm. Pre-recorded filming will be broadcast on EquTv (channel 151 digital, channel 220 on Sky) at 11.30 pm and on Monday June 27th at 10.45 am. TV production of the Frecciarossa MJC will be guaranteed by EQUtv with 15 cameras filming both live events and recording images and interviews to be used for social media, online and post event reporting. A drone will provide spectacular images of the show and more in general of the unique location hosting this event. There are 30 cameramen, six journalists and a large production group working to provide a total of 36 hours of reporting and live broadcasting.

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