



PRESS RELEASE

Verden International
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The Derby winner clinched it - Nisse Lüneburg wins the Grand Prix of the Riders' Town of Verden

Verden – The nine participants in the jump-off of the Verden Grand Prix generated excitement. It was finally double Derby winner Nisse Lüneburg from Hetlingen who clinched victory in the world rankings competition. The 28-year-old rider was two seconds faster with his 14-year-old KWPN-gelding Westbridge than Heiko Schmidt from Neu-Benthen. Seven German riders earned the first places in this major competition of the six-day lasting international tournament.

The excellent results of the German athletes in the show jumping course were accompanied by particularly enthusiastic applause. World Cup finalist Markus Brinkmann from Herford and his Pikeur Quick Fire finished third, Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum fifth. The famous rider from the administrative district of Verden cooked on Saturday with star cook Wolfgang Pade to the delight of the visitors on the market place of the Verden Country Days. She speeded up in the show jumping course with her young horse Calle. The Westphalian gelding already convinced in the young horse development tour at the CHIO in Aachen. Now he achieved an excellent placement in the Verden Grand Prix. 59 horse/rider combinations in total competed in the jump-off of the advanced level jumper class, endowed with prize money of Euro 25,000, and they ensured an exciting, top-class finish of the event "Verden International".

Russian team on the podium

The Russian team stood out in the international championship tests. Tatiana Kosterina and Inessa Merkulova dominated in the Grand Prix. Stanislav Cherednischenko joined the successful team in the Grand Prix Special of Verden International. Tatiana Kosterina also presented top performances with her Hanoverian mare Diavolessa VA in the Hanoverian arena on Sunday. After Grand Prix de Dressage, she also won the Grand Prix Special, followed by World Cup finalist Inessa Merkulova. The only 26-year-old Stanislav Cherednischenko from Moscow clinched third place in this second test of the CDI in Verden with his stallion Vosk. The bay Vodoley-son is 12 years old and is owned by his team colleague Inessa





Merkulova. She rode her “reliance horse”, the Russian Trakehner Mister X to second place. The CDI Verden was an opportunity for the Russian team to check fitness and performance capacity before the start of the European Championships in Gothenburg in approx. two weeks.

Svenja Peper from Harsefeld was again best German competitor with her Hanoverian Disneyworld by De Niro – Walt Disney. She finished fifth behind the US American rider Jennifer Hoffmann with Florentinus V.

Sport meets auction – a successful recipe

An extensive sports program, the inviting setting of the Verden Country Days and a successful auction. These are the ingredients for six successful days “Verden International”. Three factors conjured a smile on the faces of Dr. Werner Schade and Carsten Rotermund: The Verden Broodmare and Foal Auction was a great success and finished with a net turnover of more than Euro 1.2 million. Hanoverian sports horses successfully competed in the show jumping course and in the dressage ring. And the athletes were also full of praise.

„This was indeed remarkable,“ said Carsten Rotermund, Head of the Organizing Committee „Even riders who did not participate at the tournament in recent years were enthusiastic about the framework conditions.“ Following the debut on sand in the Riders’ Stadium last year, another novelty was added this year: The course was increased to a length of 85 m and rectangularly designed – which provides more scope for course designer Joachim Strathmann.

The auction was also very popular with the athletes. A completely positive development for Dr. Werner Schade: “The auction certainly benefited from the fact that it was included in the tournament schedule. We also addressed customers who wouldn’t have been able to visit the auction due to other commitments.” The high quality auction collection generated a great deal of interest in the Niedersachsenhalle and a pleasant atmosphere. The sports results, however, were an important indicator for the Breeding Manager of the Hannoveraner Verband. Hanoverian horses prevailed many of the national and international competitions. Tatiana Kosterina and her Hanoverian mare Diavolessa VA convinced in the international Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special. The only 14-year-old Maja Schnakenberg and her Hanoverian mare Donna Noblesse shined in the Final of the federal champion competition “Children Dressage”. Rideability, performance capacity and handling. “This is exactly what we want and what we need,“ said Schade. “We saw outstanding sport in the Hanoverian arena and in the Riders’ Stadium.”

There are plans for an even more family-friendly setting at Verden International. The changes with the market place on the exhibition grounds of the Verden Country Days near the Riders’ Stadium and the line management to the Hanoverian arena were critically reviewed. Rotermund: “There are always





details to be improved and the one or other new idea. There is a book in the registration office to immediately write these things down.”

Results Verden International

21 FEI Grand Prix Special - International, Preis der Fa. ALMASED Wellness GmbH, Bienenbüttel:

1. Tatiana Kosterina (Russia), Diavolessa VA, 73.96 Prozent
2. Inessa Merkulova (Russia), Mister X 56, 72.17
3. Stanislav Cherednichenko (Russia), Vosk, 70.90
4. Jennifer Hoffmann (USA), Florentinus V, 70.58
5. Svenja Peper (Germany), Disneyworld, 69.66
6. Stella Charlott Roth (Germany), Rubin Action OLD, 69.15

6 Springprüfung mit Stechen - International (1,45 m), Großer Preis / Grand Prix der Reiterstadt Verden
Sonderehrenpreis der Stadtwerke Verden:

1. Nisse Lüneburg (Germany), Westbridge, 0.00/43.19
2. Heiko Schmidt (Germany), Chap 47, 0.00/45.13;
3. Markus Brinkmann (Germany), Pikeur Quick Fire, 0.00/45.59
4. Richard Vogel (Germany), Fairplay, 4.00/41.33
5. Meredith Michaels-Berbaum (Germany), Calle 67, 4.00/41.55
6. Jens Baackmann (Germany), Leo-Franco, 4.00/43.55

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