
PRESS KIT

À CHEVAL 
I I POUR **PARIS**



OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC GAMES PARIS 2024



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À CHEVAL
POUR PARIS



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Equestrian appeared on the program of the Paris Olympic Games in 1900 consisting of four events; polo, the Grand Prix show jumping and two events which remain unprecedented, the high jump and the long jump.

In 1904 and 1908, there were no equestrian events. Since 1912, Equestrian has always been on the program of the Games. The French Equestrian teams have won 41 medals, including 15 titles, 13 silver medals and 13 bronze. In 2016, France won two Olympic team titles in Eventing and Show Jumping, and Astier Nicolas won silver in individual Eventing. In 2021 for the second consecutive Olympics, France qualified teams in all three Olympic disciplines and in Para Dressage.

Thanks to its status as host nation for the Olympic & Paralympic Games in 2024, France is directly qualified in the four equestrian disciplines and will therefore present a team in Eventing, Dressage, Show Jumping and Para Dressage.



With 2 million horse lovers, Equestrian is one of the most popular sports in France. This popularity is based on a network of clubs which allows riders to flourish in a sporting environment suitable for everyone and for the best to partake in the high level circuits of the sport.

France is the leading nation in the world for organising equestrian competitions and puts all its know-how at the service of Paris 2024. A true land of horses, France has a vast number of renowned breeding farms which have produced the greatest champions. Paris 2024 is a tribute to the global influence of their commitment as breeders and horse owners.

The federation supports each athlete and each horse to shine on the sporting scene.

Each selected person will be keen to optimise their performance to make Versailles an unforgettable memory.

Faster, higher, stronger!

Together, let's encourage the French team and the dream of medals!



Serge Lecomte, president of the FFE



“

The French delegation is really going to be extraordinary this year with 600 athletes for the Olympic Games and 300 for the Paralympic Games. The Olympic and Paralympic Games in France are eagerly awaited and the medal targets are high. The entire team of technical managers and permanent staff of the French Equestrian Federation are working hard to ensure that the athletes, horse owners, grooms and all those around them are in the best possible condition to perform. We have analysed the different performance factors and with the Federation have implemented human and financial resources in line with our objectives, with special thanks to the support provided by the FFE EquiAction Endowment Fund and its patrons, and partners such as the French Leather Goods Federation, which specifically supports the French Para Dressage team.

In my role, I am assisted by Quentin Simonet who is my Deputy Head of Mission and by Maud Proust who takes care of all the logistical and administrative aspects.

The discipline directors Michel Asseray for Eventing, Laurent Gallice for Dressage, Fanny Delaval for Para Dressage and myself for Show Jumping, oversee the sports management teams. Finally the high performance department with Davy Delaire and Jean-Luc Force provides support for all disciplines. With regards to the major stage that awaits, each coach, in consultation with the staff and elected officials of the FFE, will put forward a nominative list on June 24 with a maximum of 12 combinations per discipline, i.e. three times the quota. Then on July 5, I will present the selection, this time with 4 combinations per discipline, before the French National and Olympic Sports Committee (CNOSF) advisory commission which will then officially validate the selection. The same approach will be taken with the French Paralympic and Sports Committee (CPSF) on July 9 to validate the selection for the Paralympic Games.

Our ambition is to shine in France! We not only want to perform but also show a good image of our sport. We are keen to create real enthusiasm among French supporters for our athletes. We are aware of the frustration and disappointment of those who were unable to get places to attend the events, but with that in mind, it will be very important to show your support for the French team. The “home advantage” will play a vital role with the French public.

”

Sophie Dubourg,
National technical director and head of mission for the Olympic Games



FRENCH TEAM HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

2021 - TOKYO (JPN) :

Eventing

Team bronze : Karim Laghouag / *Triton Fontaine*,
Christopher Six / *Totem de Brecey*, Nicolas Touzaint
/ *Absolut Gold*HDC*

2016 - RIO (BRA) :

Eventing

Team gold : Karim Laghouag / *Entebbe de Hus*, Ma-
thieu Lemoine / *Bart L*, Astier Nicolas / *Piaf de B'Ne-
ville*, Thibaut Vallette LCL / *Qing du Briot*IFCE*
Individual silver : Astier Nicolas / *Piaf de B'Neville*

Showjumping

Team gold : Roger-Yves Bost / *Sydney Une Prince*,
Pénélope Leprevost / *Flora de Mariposa*, Philippe
Rozier / *Rahotep de Toscane*, Kevin Staut / *Rêveur de
Hurtebise*HDC*

2004 - ATHENS (GRE) :

Eventing

Team gold : Arnaud Boiteau, Didier Courrèges, Cé-
dric Lyard, Jean Teulère, Nicolas Touzaint

1996 - ATLANTA (USA) :

Showjumping

Individual bronze : Alexandra Ledermann / *Rochet M*

Para Dressage

Team bronze : Frédéric Aguiillaume, Bernard Sachse,
Thierry Touret
Argent : Individuel Grade III - Frédéric Aguiillaume

1992 - BARCELONA (ESP) :

Showjumping

Team bronze : Hubert Bourdy, Hervé Godignon, Eric
Navet, Michel Robert.

1988 - SEOUL (KOR) :

Showjumping

Individual gold : Pierre Durand / *Jappeloup*
Team bronze : Hubert Bourdy, Frederic Cottier, Pierre
Durand, Michel Robert

Dressage

Individual silver : Margit Otto-Crépin / *Corlandus*

1980 - FONTAINEBLEAU (FRA) - OLYMPIC REPLACEMENT :

Eventing

Team gold : Armand Bigot, Joël Pons, Jean-Yves et
Thierry Touzaint

1976 - MONTREAL (CAN) :

Showjumping

Team gold : France - Hubert Parot, Michel Roche,
Marc Roguet, Marcel Rozier

1968 - MEXICO (MEX) :

Eventing

Individual gold : Jean-Jacques Guyon / *Pitou*

Showjumping

Team silver : Pierre Jonquères D'oriola, Janou
Lefèbre, Marcel Rozier

1964 - TOKYO (JAP) :

Showjumping

Individual gold : Pierre Jonquères d'Oriola / *Lutteur B*
Team silver : Pierre Jonquères d'Oriola, Janou
Lefèbre, Guy Lefrant

1960 - ROME (ITA) :

Eventing

Team bronze : Pierre Durand, Guy Lefrant, Jehan Le
Roy, Jack Le Goff



1952 - HELSINKI (FIN) :

Showjumping

Individual gold : Pierre Jonquères d'Oriola / *Ali Baba*

Eventing

Individual silver : Guy Lefrant / *Verdun*

Dressage

Individual bronze : André Jousseaume / *Harpagon*

1948 - LONDON (GBR) :

Eventing

Individual gold : Bernard Chevallier / *Aiglonne*

Showjumping

Individual bronze : Jean d'Orgeix / *Sucre de Pomme*

Dressage

Individual silver : André Jousseaume / *Harpagon*

Team gold : Maurice Buret, André Jousseaume, Jean St.-Fort Paillard

1936 - BERLIN (GER) :

Dressage

Team silver : Gérard De Ballore, Daniel Gillois, André Jousseaume

1932 - LOS ANGELES (USA) :

Dressage

Individual gold : Xavier Lesage / *Taine*

Individual silver : Charles Marion / *Linon*

Team gold : André Jousseaume, Xavier Lesage, Charles Marion

1928 - AMSTERDAM (NED) :

Showjumping

Individual silver : Pierre Bertran de Balanda / *Papillon XIV*

Dressage

Individual silver : Charles Marion / *Linon*

1924 - PARIS (FRA) :

Dressage

Individual bronze : Xavier Lesage / *Plumarol*

1920 - ANTWERP (BEL)

Vaulting

Team silver : France

Individual bronze : E. Fiel

1912 - STOCKHÖLM (SWE) :

Showjumping

Individual gold : Jean Cariou / *Mignon*

Team silver : Jean Cariou, Michel Dufort d'Astafort, V. Meyer, G.Seigner

Eventing

Individual bronze : Jean Cariou / *Cocotte*

1900 - PARIS (FRA) :

Showjumping

Individual bronze : Louis de Champsavin

High Jump

Individual gold : Dominique Gardères

Individual bronze : De Bellegarde



FOUR DISCIPLINES ON THE PROGRAM

Three equestrian disciplines are represented at the Olympic Games and one at the Paralympic Games.



EVENTING



DRESSAGE



SHOWJUMPING



PARA DRESSAGE

ATHLETE/HORSE COMBINATIONS QUALIFICATION

For each discipline, combinations claiming selection must meet Olympic and Paralympic minimum requirements.

These minimum requirements must be achieved before the selections according to the international Olympic and Paralympic regulations. They ensure that horses and riders are able to participate in events at this level. These qualification criteria are essential to guarantee the safety of the athletes and the horses.

Following this, each nation determines its own selection criteria.

HORSE INSPECTIONS

An inspection of the horses is carried out before the start of the competition by the Ground Jury and the Veterinary Delegate. The horses are presented in hand, without tack, inspected at walk and trot. The Ground Jury evaluation ensures that the horses are in good shape and are fit to compete. A second inspection is carried out under the same conditions, mid-event or before the finals to verify that the horses are still fit to compete. The health of the horses is paramount and these steps ensure that all horses are in good physical and mental condition to participate.



EVENTING

Eventing is often compared to an equestrian triathlon. The horse and rider combinations compete in three very different tests which take place over three consecutive days.

1ST TEST



Dressage

Each combination performs a set test or "routine", made up of a sequence of movements and figures which are performed at a walk, trot and canter. The test evaluates the harmony and level of communication between the horse and its rider, demonstrating obedience, discipline, accuracy and elegance. The main evaluation criteria consists of showcasing how calm and relaxed the horse is, the precision of technical execution and the dynamism of the recovery. This first dressage test is performed in front of three judges placed around the edge of the arena. They assign scores to each figure performed which can range from 0 (figure not performed) to 10 (figure perfect). These scores are added and converted into penalty points. From there, riders can no longer improve their score, but can increase it by taking additional penalty points on subsequent tests. The best combination at the end of this test is the one with the lowest score. In 2021 in Tokyo, the German athlete Michael Jung took the lead at the end of the dressage with 21.1 penalty points.

2ND TEST



Cross-country

The highlight of the Eventing discipline, the cross-country phase, is undoubtedly the most spectacular test in equestrian sports. You will see the athletes clearing massive natural obstacles spread over a course of approximately 5km of natural country terrain with changes in altitude, banks with water and ditches. The profiles of the obstacles are varied with increasing difficulty, sometimes wide and massive, requiring courage and strength, sometimes very narrow, requiring a horse to be agile and very attentive to its rider. The cross-country course is completed at high speed with a maximum time allotted, determined in advance by the "Course Designer". The riders are equipped with a stopwatch allowing them to have reference points throughout the course which lasts around ten minutes. Refusal to jump on the course or exceeding the allotted time results in penalty points which are added to the dressage score obtained the previous day.



3RD TEST



Showjumping

For this final test, the combinations must complete a course made up of a dozen obstacles with a height of 1m25 to 1m30. This time, the obstacles are made up of bars which can fall if the horse knocks them. The objective is to complete the course without knocking any bars or refusing obstacles and always staying within the time allotted by the Course Designer. This last test demonstrates the horse's energy, suppleness and obedience, assessing the physical condition of the horse and its optimum recovery following the first two days of competition. The course is designed to test the horse's and rider's ability to negotiate a variety of obstacles of different heights and widths. The focus here is on precision, speed and the horse's ability to jump safely and agilely, as well as the serenity and skill of the rider to guide its horse to achieve a "flawless" performance.



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OLYMPIC SPECIFICITY:

To award individual medals, a second show jumping test is contested on the same day.

Indeed, at the Games, only one Olympic title can be awarded per event. This second show jumping test, reserved for the top 25 in the ranking, allows the title of individual Olympic champion to be awarded.



BEFORE THE EVENT:

The riders and their trainer carry out a course walk of the cross-country course on foot a few days before the event. They memorise the course, study the profiles of the obstacles (height, width, angles, jumps, etc.), the distances, the difference in altitude of the course, etc. This step is crucial for establishing the team strategy and allows each rider to anticipate the difficulties of the course in order, once on the track, to guide their horse at the right pace and with the right trajectories, allowing them to negotiate obstacles in complete safety.

A course walk of the show jumping course is also carried out by the riders on foot just before the start of the competition. It also allows them to memorise the course and determine the trajectories to best adapt to the abilities of their mount in order to complete the course without any penalties.



EVENTING



3



horse & athlete combinations.

1



horse & athlete reserve combination

24 JULY : ARRIVAL OF HORSES IN VERSAILLES

DRAW OF NATIONS

HORSE INSPECTION

The Ground Jury and Veterinary Delegate check the well being of the horses taking part in the competition to ensure they are fit to compete.

DECLARATION OF TEAMS

The Team Manager designates the 3 starting combinations of the team and gives their starting order.

26 JULY

DRESSAGE

The 3 scores transformed into penalty points are taken into account for the team ranking.

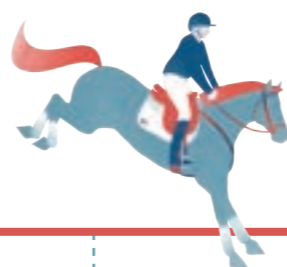


27 JULY

H -2

CROSS COUNTRY

The 3 cross-country scores are taken into account for the team ranking and added to the 3 dressage scores.



28 JULY

A combination that does not finish the cross country can still compete in the TEAM competition for 200 pts. (except for eliminations for lameness, falling from the horse, dangerous riding, or for reasons of disqualification).

2ND HORSE INSPECTION

The Ground Jury and Veterinary Delegate check the well being of the horses taking part in the competition to ensure they are fit to compete.

TEAM JUMPING

Each teammate completes the course. The 3 scores are added to the team's total points obtained so far. The team with the lowest score wins.

TEAM MEDAL CEREMONY



29 JULY

INDIVIDUAL SHOWJUMPING

The 25 best combinations having completed the 3 tests without elimination take the start of the Individual final. The score obtained is added to the combination's team dressage, cross country and show jumping score. The combination with the lowest score wins.

INDIVIDUAL MEDAL CEREMONY



SUBSTITUTION



If a horse from the team is not accepted at the first inspection, the reserve combination may be substituted to compete.

WITHOUT PENALTY

SUBSTITUTION



If an athlete horse combination is not accepted, a change can be made up to two hours before the start of the competition, the reserve combination may enter.

WITHOUT PENALTY

SUBSTITUTION



An athlete/horse combination may be substituted by a reserve combination for Medical/Veterinarian reasons after the start of the competition.

20 PENALTY POINTS FOR THE TEAM.

+ PENALTIES

If a combination does not start or complete this test: 100 penalty points for the team.

SUBSTITUTION



A combination that fails to start the cross country, for medical/veterinary reasons, can be substituted with the reserve combination:

20 PENALTY PTS FOR THE TEAM

The reserve combination entering the competition without having competed in dressage; their performances will only be counted for the team ranking. They will not be able to take part in the individual ranking.

+ PENALTIES

A combination does not start or does not complete this test: 200 penalty points for the team.
 Refusal: 20 pts
 2nd refusal on the same obstacle: 40 pts
 3rd refusal: elimination
 Rider or horse fall: elimination
 Activation of safety systems on obstacles: 11 pts
 Dangerous riding: 25 pts
 Missing a flag: 15 pts
 Time exceeded: 0.4 pt / second beyond the allotted time

SUBSTITUTION



Combination not accepted before the Show Jumping, for medical/veterinary reasons, reserve combination enters:

20 PENALTY PTS FOR THE TEAM

The reserve combination enters the competition without having run dressage and cross-country, subject to being accepted at the 2nd inspection. Their performances will only be counted for the team ranking. They will not be able to take part in the individual ranking.

+ PENALTIES

A combination does not start or does not finish the Show Jumping: 100 penalty points for the team.
 Knocking down an obstacle: 4 pts
 1st Refusal: 4 pts
 2nd refusal: elimination
 Rider or horse fall: elimination
 Time exceeded: 0.4 pt / second beyond the allotted time

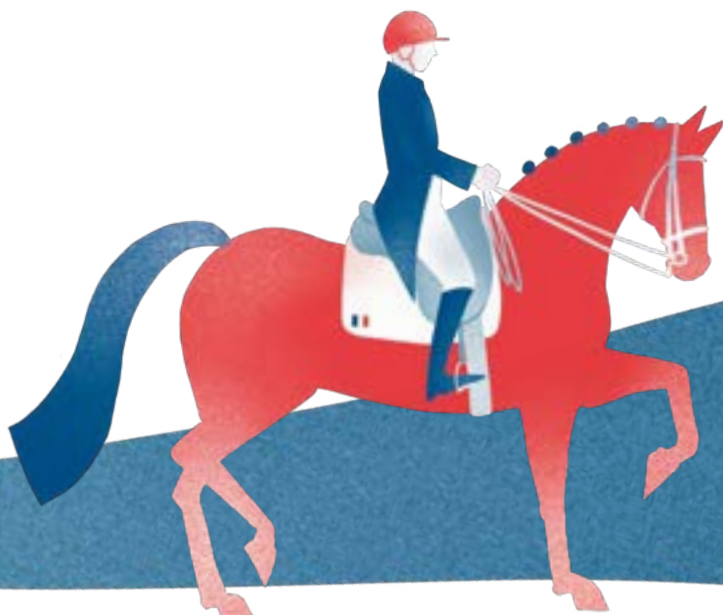


The substitution of an athlete/horse combination can only be carried out for medical or veterinary reasons. Once the competition has started, no substitutions are allowed for the individual competition. Only one substitution is permitted per team.



DRESSAGE

The dressage competition consists of the horse and rider combination performing a sequence of set movements on a 60x20 meter sand field, scored by judges positioned around the arena. The horse and the rider give the impression of dancing in front of the audience.



During their performance, called "test", the combinations move at a walk, trot and canter and perform a sequence of complex movements and transitions (passage, piaffe, pirouettes, half pass, etc.) as well as variations of amplitude in a same gait (collected trot, extended trot, collected canter, extended canter etc.).

At the Olympic Games, horses perform "passage" and "piaffe". The passage is a very rhythmic and elegant raised trot with an increased suspension time between each stride. The piaffe is a highly collected, cadenced, elevated diagonal movement giving the impression of remaining on the spot. The horse gives the impression of dancing when it performs these movements. The Dressage performance is often considered the equine equivalent of ballet, an effort similar to that of a ballerina. An intense physical effort that should appear easy and fluid to spectators. Finally, even beyond equestrian technique, the relationship between the rider and mount plays a primordial role. The horse is a very sensitive animal capable of capturing the emotional state of those around it.

The perfect harmony and complicity of the combination is therefore one of the keys to success!



Seven judges evaluate the accuracy, grace and connection between the horse and rider, as well as the harmony of the combination and the precision in the execution of the figures and movements. Strategically positioned letters within the arena play a crucial role in guiding riders through their routines. Each letter corresponds to a specific reference point for executing movements, transitions, and figures with precision.

SCORING :

Each figure is scored from 0 (figure not executed) to 10 points (perfect figure). Some very technical movements even benefit from a double coefficient.

The judges evaluate the good execution of the figures, the flexibility of the horse, the discretion of the rider's actions as well as the harmony and energy released by the combination. The best combination is the one with the highest score (expressed as a percentage).

In 2021, the German Jessica von Bredow-Werndl won the Grand Prix with a total of 84.379%.

60 horse & rider combinations will compete in Dressage.

The Grand Prix will determine the best teams and individuals. The team medals will be awarded at the end of the Grand Prix Special which brings together the 10 best teams. The Grand Prix Freestyle to music will crown the 3 best of the 18 combinations competing for individual medals.



©FFE/PSV

DRESSAGE



3



horse & athlete combinations.

1



horse & athlete reserve combination

26 JULY : ARRIVAL OF HORSES IN VERSAILLES

HORSE INSPECTION

The Ground Jury and the Veterinary Delegate check the well being of the horses taking part in the competition to ensure they are fit to compete.

DECLARATION OF STARTERS

The Team Manager designates the 3 combinations (maximum per country) who will represent each nation individually and as a team.

28 JULY

SUBSTITUTION



If a horse from the team is not accepted at the first inspection, the reserve combination may enter the competition.

WITHOUT PENALTY

GRAND PRIX / QUALIFYING EVENT FOR INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM

The combinations entered individually and by team are divided into 6 groups according to their world ranking, just like the race heats in Athletics or Swimming.

The competitors from the first 3 groups start on the first day, and the competitors from the next 3 groups on the second day.

30 - 31 JULY

H-2

SUBSTITUTION



If a combination fails at the latest 2 hours before the start of the Grand Prix, entry of the reserve combination

WITHOUT PENALTY

GRAND PRIX SPECIAL TEAM FINAL - 10 BEST TEAMS

The 10 best teams at the end of the Grand Prix are qualified for the final. The scores of the 3 combinations are taken into account for the final ranking.

TEAM MEDALS



3 AUGUST

H-2

SUBSTITUTION



If an athlete horse combination is not accepted, a change can be made up to two hours before the start of the team final, the reserve combination may enter.

WITHOUT PENALTY

Competitors are divided into 3 groups of 10 riders. The combinations of each group start in the reverse order of the Grand Prix classification.

2ND HORSE INSPECTION

The Ground Jury and Veterinary delegate check the well being of the horses taking part in the competition to ensure they are fit to compete.

GRAND PRIX FREESTYLE / INDIVIDUAL FINAL - 18 BEST COMBINATIONS OF THE GRAND PRIX

Each teammate completes their round. The 3 scores are added to the team's total points obtained so far. The team with the lowest score wins.

INDIVIDUAL MEDALS



4 AUGUST

SUBSTITUTION



No substitutions are allowed for the individual final.



The substitution of an athlete/horse combination can only be carried out for medical or veterinary reasons. Once the competition has started, no substitutions are allowed for the individual competition. Only one substitution is permitted per team.

+ POINTS

The combinations move on a 60mx20m sand rectangle. Their performances are evaluated and rated by 7 judges placed around the arena. They judge the execution of each figure and award scores ranging from 0 (figure not executed) to 10 pts (perfect figure).

An overall note evaluating the rider's precision, accuracy and skill of the movements complete the total.

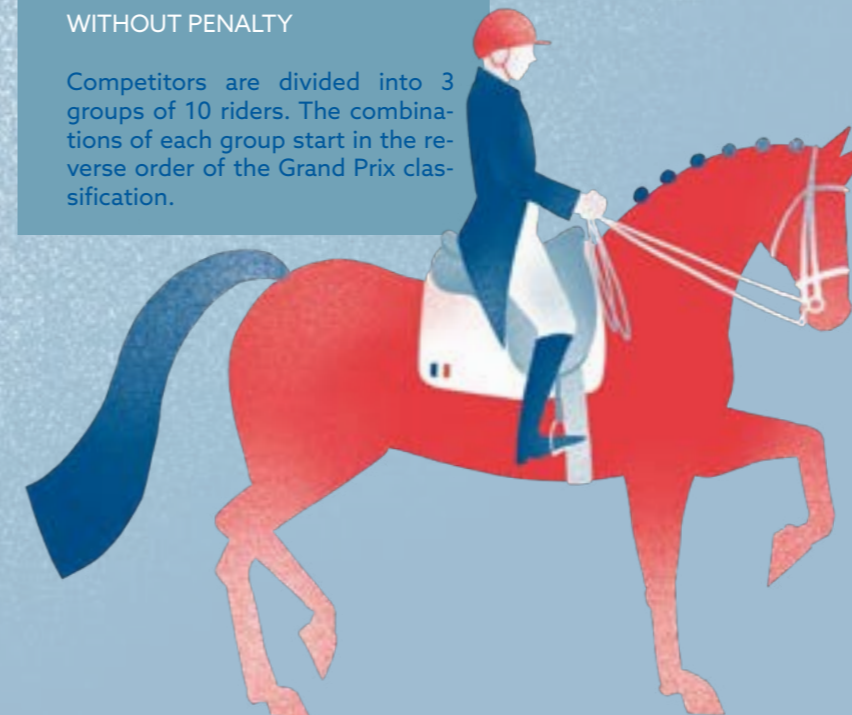
Scores are given as percentages.

The athlete horse combination who obtains the score closest to 100% wins the test.

+ POINTS

The Grand Prix Freestyle allows riders to choreograph their own unique test

Each rider chooses the movements they wish to perform from the list of authorised figures and sequences. They choose a musical theme for their performance. In addition to the execution scores, the jury awards an artistic score.





SHOWJUMPING

A Show Jumping course is always designed by a "Course Designer" consisting of a dozen obstacles with bars that can fall from a height of up to 1m65.

The riders are dedicated time before the start of each competition to walk around the course and thus remember the order of the obstacles, measure the distances between the obstacles to make trajectory choices...

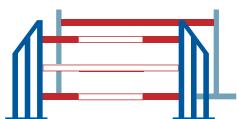
DIFFERENT TYPES OF OBSTACLES

Riders are faced with a variety of jumps and obstacles that are most commonly made up of poles or planks suspended by standards on either side. The direction of the course is indicated by flags located on either side of the obstacle (a red flag on the right and a white flag on the left). The order number of the obstacle is indicated at the foot of the obstacle. The course consists of a variety of obstacles, including fences, walls, oxers, verticals, and combinations.



1. Vertical obstacles

A vertical jump consists of a single pole/fence suspended by a jump standard on either side, testing the horse's ability to clear a straight-forward obstacle. The horse must rise above the obstacle by raising its shoulders strongly. The obstacles at the Olympic Games measure 1m60 to 1m65 in height, the biggest for international competitions.



2. Oxer obstacles

An oxer consists of two or more sets of vertical jumps placed parallel to each other that are jumped in a single effort. Because two verticals are being jumped in one effort, the width of the jump is greater than that of a singular vertical, creating a spread. The horse must approach them with enough momentum to be able to "clear" them, across the width. At the Olympics, they can exceed 2 meters wide.



3. Water obstacles

There are two types of water obstacles used which can be either an open water jump, where the horse jumps a shallow pool of water or an obstacle built using a tray of water that must be cleared by the horse.

Water Jump: A water jump, or open water jump, typically consists of a shallow pool or water feature that the horse must jump over. These jumps focus on the distance rather than the height of the jump. If a foot lands in the water jump, four faults are incurred.

Liverpool: A Liverpool jump is similar to a water jump, however, it is typically not as wide and has a vertical or oxer jump over the water. The horse must clear the jump and water element without knocking any rails.



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THE SHOWJUMPING CLASSIFICATION

In the event of an obstacle being knocked down, a deviated trajectory or if the combination exceeds the allotted time, penalty points are added to the final score (4 pts per fault committed).

The objective is to have a score as close as possible to 0. Two refusals on the course or a rider fall will result in elimination.

Team event: 20 teams of three riders will take part in the first qualifying event. The team final will bring together the 10 best nations with scores reset to zero for the final.

Two days later, the first individual qualifying event will see 75 starters competing. The individual final will see the 30 best combinations against each other.



SHOWJUMPING



3



horse & athlete combinations.

1



horse & athlete reserve combination

+ PENALTIES

Obstacle knocked down or fault on the water: 4 pts
 First refusal: 4 pts
 Second refusal: elimination
 Fall: elimination
 Allotted time exceeded: 1pt /4 sec.

30 JULY : ARRIVAL OF HORSES IN VERSAILLES

HORSE INSPECTION

The Ground Jury and Veterinary Delegate check the well being of the horses taking part in the competition to ensure they are fit to compete.

WARM UP

(training session)

DECLARATION OF STARTERS FOR THE TEAM EVENT

The Team Manager designates the 3 combinations who will represent each nation per team.

31 JULY

SUBSTITUTION



If a horse from the team is not accepted at the first inspection, the reserve combination may enter the competition.

WITHOUT PENALTY

TEAM QUALIFICATION

FIRST ROUND TEAM

Table A against the clock

Team ranking: addition of scores of the 3 combinations

1 AUGUST



max 1m65

12 to 14 obstacles
 Max 17 efforts
 Minimum 2 combinations
 1 double and 1 triple

H-2

SUBSTITUTION



If an athlete/horse combination is not fit to compete, a change can be made up to two hours before the start of the team qualification, the reserve combination may enter.

WITHOUT PENALTY

If a teammate retires or is eliminated, the team is ranked by counting the scores of the 2 teammates who completed the course and will be placed after the teams with 3 teammates.
 If 2 teammates are eliminated or retire, the team is eliminated. In the event of a tiebreak of points, the teams will be ranked based on the cumulative times of the combinations. If a combination is disqualified, the team is eliminated.

TEAM FINAL - 10 BEST COMBINATIONS

Table A against the clock - one round + jump-off against the clock

Scores reset to 0, the combinations start in the reverse order of the ranking.
 3rd teammate in reverse order of ranking

TEAM MEDALS



2 AUGUST



max 1m65

12 to 14 obstacles
 Max 18 efforts
 Minimum 2 combinations
 1 double and 1 triple

H-2

SUBSTITUTION

If an athlete/horse combination is not fit to compete, a change can be made up to two hours before the start of the individual qualification, the reserve combination may enter.

WITHOUT PENALTY

A combination eliminated or retired in the 1st round can start. No substitutions allowed for the jump off.

2ND HORSE INSPECTION

The Ground Jury and Veterinary Delegate check the well being of the horses taking part in the competition to ensure they are fit to compete.

DECLARATION OF STARTERS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL EVENT

The Team Manager designates the 3 combinations (maximum per country) who will represent each nation individually.

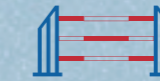
3 AUGUST

FIRST ROUND OF INDIVIDUAL

Table A, one round, against the clock, no jump-off

The combinations entered individually set off for a round judged on Table A.

5 AUGUST



max 1m65

12 to 14 obstacles
 Max 17 efforts
 Minimum 2 combinations
 1 double and 1 triple

INDIVIDUAL FINAL 30 BEST COMBINATIONS*

Table A, one round, against the clock, + jump-off

For the 30 best combinations, in reverse order of ranking. Scores reset to 0.

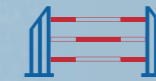
If there are equal points, one or two jump-offs will be contested to award medals.

*When tied on points, combinations are decided by their individual qualifying time. Scores reset to 0

INDIVIDUAL MEDALS

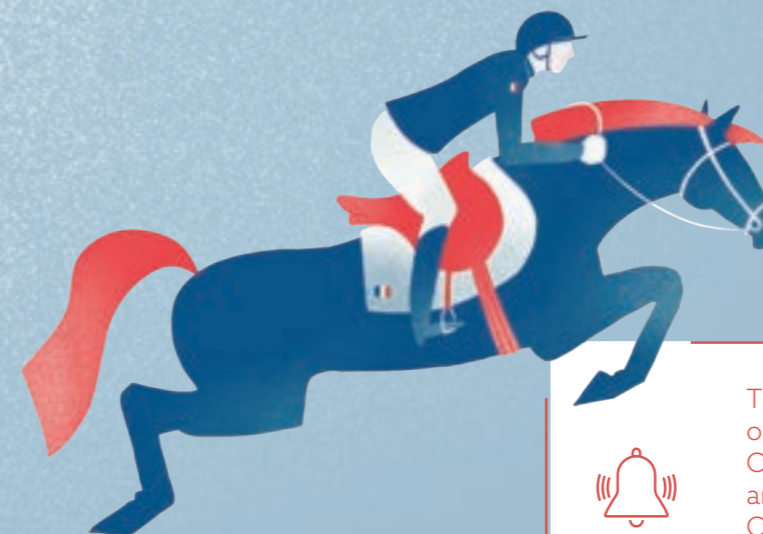


6 AUGUST



max 1m65

12 to 14 obstacles
 Max 19 efforts
 Minimum 2 combinations
 1 double and 1 triple



The substitution of an athlete/horse combination can only be carried out for medical or veterinary reasons. Once the competition has started, no substitutions are allowed for the individual competition. Only one substitution is permitted per team.



PARA DRESSAGE

Para Dressage consists of the rider and their horse presenting a sequence of compulsory figures on a 40x20m or 60x20m dressage arena, depending on the rider's handicap.



©FCPSF/T. Nguyen

ATHLETE CLASSIFICATION

Athletes are classified by "Grade" according to their type of disability.

The grade of each rider is determined beforehand by classifying doctors and physiotherapists, trained and designated by the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI), by means of a specific examination during which three areas are assessed: muscular power; the extent of joint movements and coordination.

- **Grade I & II** - severe Impairments affecting all limbs and trunk. The Athlete usually requires the use of a wheelchair. They may be able to walk with an unsteady gait. Trunk and balance are severely impaired.
- **Grade III** - severe Impairments in both lower limbs with minimal or no Impairment of the trunk or moderate Impairment of the upper and lower limbs and trunk. Some Athletes in this Grade may use a wheelchair in daily life.
- **Grade IV** - Hemiplegia.- a severe Impairment or deficiency of both upper limbs or a moderate Impairment of all four limbs or short stature. Athletes in Grade IV are able to walk and generally do not require a wheelchair in daily life. Grade IV also includes Athletes having a visual Impairment equivalent to B1 with very low visual acuity and/or no light perception. Blindness.
- **Grade V** - a mild Impairment of movement or muscle strength or a deficiency of one limb or mild deficiency of two limbs. Visual impairment.



SCHOOL RIDERS

In grades I, II and III, training riders called "school riders" are designated for each horse. They play a key role in performance since they are the ones who are authorised to warm up the horses on foot and in the saddle before their rider rides them.

Indeed, even if in these grades, some horses only move at a walk or trot, they need to warm up at three gaits to fully prepare for their event. Due to their significant handicap, riders rely on the expertise of their school rider who trains their horse on a daily basis and supports them, sometimes even to the entrance to the arena in international competitions.

THE EVENTS AT THE PARALYMPIC GAMES

Teams are made up of three combinations and according to the following criteria: At least one rider must be Grade I, II or III. There must not be more than two riders of the same Grade.

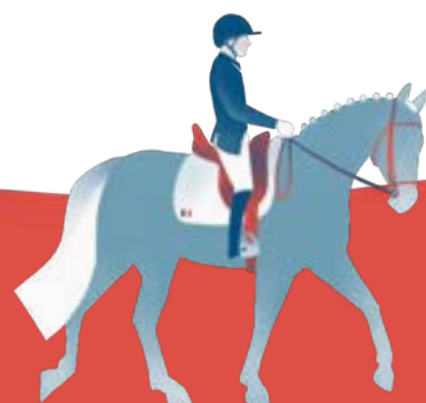
- An individual event called "Grand Prix Para A" with the awarding of medals for each grade (five titles awarded).
- A team event, called "Grand Prix Para B". The cumulative scores of the three team members determine the winning nation.
- A routine to music, called "Freestyle". The eight best combinations in the individual event are qualified in each Grade. Five titles are again awarded. In the same way as in Dressage for able-bodied riders, the performance is noted by a Jury and the combination receiving the best score is declared the winner.

Competition performances vary depending on the participant's rank:

- **Grade I :** Walk only.
- **Grade II:** Walk and trot.
- **Grade III:** Walk, trot. Cantering is accepted on "Freestyle" tests.
- **Grade IV:** Walk, trot and canter and lateral level
- **Grade V:** Walk, trot and canter with lateral movements.

The combinations compete in a sand arena measuring 40x20m or 40x60m depending on the rider's grade. In the same Grade, all combinations present the same "routine" or "test".

Judges placed at the edge of the arena to evaluate the execution of the movements and award scores ranging from 0 (figure not executed) to 10 (perfect figure). The combination who obtains the score closest to 100% wins the test.



PARA DRESSAGE



4



horse & athlete combinations

24 AUGUST : ARRIVAL OF HORSES IN VERSAILLES

HORSE INSPECTION

The Ground Jury and Veterinary Delegate check the well being of the horses to take part in the competition to ensure they are fit to compete.

2 SEPTEMBER

INDIVIDUAL - GRADE I,II,III

All the combinations entered compete in the first competition counting for the individual classification. In each grade, individual medals are awarded at the end of this first competition.

INDIVIDUAL MEDALS



3 SEPTEMBER

INDIVIDUAL - GRADE IV, V

All the combinations entered compete in the first competition counting for the individual classification. In each grade, individual medals are awarded at the end of this first competition.

INDIVIDUAL MEDALS



4 SEPTEMBER

REST DAY

5 SEPTEMBER

2ND HORSE INSPECTION

The Ground Jury and Veterinary Delegate check the well being of the horses to take part in the competition to ensure they are fit to compete.

TEAM TEST

Teams are made up of three athletes, at least one of whom must be in the Grade I, II or III category. No more than two athletes on a team can have the same rank. Each combination performs the required test of their Grade. The judges' scoring is carried out the same as for the individual test. The scores of the three team members are added together to determine each nation's total score. The one with the most points wins gold.

TEAM MEDALS



6 SEPTEMBER

FREESTYLE - GRADE IV, V, III, II, I

The 8 best combinations at the end of the individual event are qualified for the "Freestyle" to music. In each grade, individual medals are awarded at the end of this final competition.

INDIVIDUAL MEDALS



7 SEPTEMBER

SCHOOL RIDER

In Grades I, II and III, it is generally the "School riders" who warm up the horses, unlike in other disciplines where only the competing rider is authorised to ride their horse for the entire duration of the competition. These "School riders" play a vital role. They help warm up the horse at a walk, trot and canter, to allow it to be in the best condition to perform the test with its Para Dressage rider.

THE TEAM

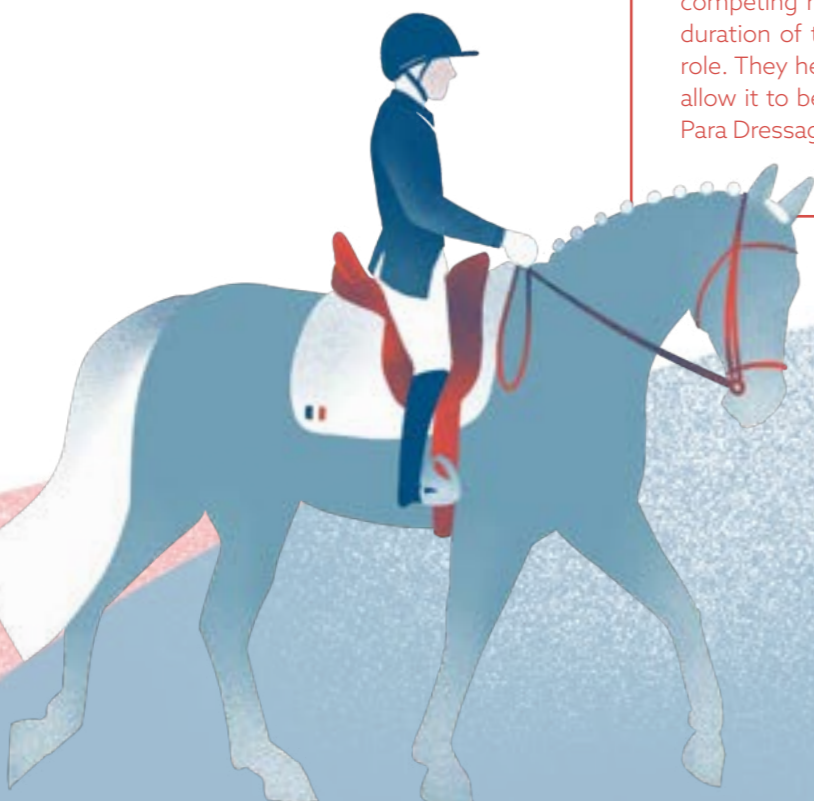
The Team Manager designates the three combinations who will take part in the team event, amongst the four qualified combinations. The team must be composed of at least one Grade I, II or III and no more than two riders of the same grade.

MUSIC MAESTRO !

For the Freestyle competition, the combinations present an original musical program. They perform movements of their choice from a list of authorised figures and sequences. Each rider chooses the musical theme to which they perform their test. In addition to the execution scores, the jury awards an artistic score.

DID YOU KNOW ?

The combinations compete on a sand arena measuring 40x20m or 40x60m depending on the rider's grade. In the same Grade, all combinations present the same "routine" or "test". Judges placed around the edge of the arena evaluate the execution of the figures and award scores ranging from 0 (figure not performed) to 10 (perfect figure). The combination obtaining the score closest to 100% wins the test.





THE COMPETITION SITE

THE GARDENS OF THE CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES

An iconic symbol recognised throughout the world, embodying the global influence of France, the gardens of the Château de Versailles will host equestrian sports events as well as the modern pentathlon. Initially built as a simple hunting lodge, the Château de Versailles was home to the court of Louis XIV in 1682, and became the epicenter of French royalty. From 1883, with its magnificent gardens, it became a national museum, open to the public, and was the first French site to be awarded UNESCO World Heritage status in 1979.

Capacity : 16 300 spectators - 40 000 for the Cross country

Department : Yvelines (78)

City : Versailles

Distance from the Olympic and Paralympic village : 35 km

Club France at the Villette includes celebration and public areas and a media centre: 32km

Nearby Games venues : National Velodrome, Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines BMX Stadium, Golf National, Elancourt Hill for the VTT, cycling course and marathon course



<https://olympics.com/en/paris-2024/paralympic-games/venues/chateau-de-versailles-paralympics>



Temporary facilities have been constructed to showcase the equestrian events in an exceptional setting, steeped in history. The temporary arena comprising three grandstands has been set up at the Etoile Royale, the esplanade which sits to the west of the Grand Canal, in the heart of the Château de Versailles gardens. The cross-country competition will take place near the Grand Canal, which will be crossed twice by the competitors using two temporary footbridges.

The development of the competition site and the organisation of the events was entrusted to GL Events equestrian sport, under the leadership of Sylvie Robert. Organizers of large-scale international events such as Equita Lyon and the Saut Hermès at the Grand Palais Paris, GL Events equestrian sport is recognised for its know-how and professionalism and its ability to adapt to historic places while paying particular attention to respecting and preserving their environment without harming the heritage.

THE WELL-BEING OF THE HORSES IS PARAMOUNT

Spacious boxes allowing horses to lie down, roll around, etc.

**Boxes equipped with rubber mats covering the floor according to each person's choice
straw or wood shavings of French origin for their comfort.**

**Numerous grazing areas made available in the Gardens of the Château de Versailles, Natura 2000
site approximately 7,500 m² of parkland**

2 lunging paddocks

6 exercise arenas including one covered

1 galloping track

Not only the layout of the competition site has been designed to offer competitors and the public a majestic setting, but the facilities have been created to offer maximum comfort for the star horses who will spend several days on the site.

The stables will be installed in a shaded area, well protected by trees and equipped with a dynamic ventilation system to keep the cool air circulating in the event of extreme heat. A system which was preferred to air conditioning which can cause thermal shock.

Access to the stables will be strictly limited to participants and staff in order to ensure as much tranquility as possible for the horses, allowing them to rest and eat in complete peace and calm throughout the day. The stables will be closed for 6 consecutive hours during the night, again to encourage the horses to rest.

The warm-up and competition tracks are set up for optimal practice and water reserves and showers are installed in the immediate vicinity to refresh the horses.



©FFE/PSV

The course designers in each discipline also play a key role in horse welfare. They design Olympic-level courses challenging athletes to demonstrate their athletic and mental capabilities, whilst allowing them to respect fairness and integrity.

The cross-country track has been a strong focus of attention for many months to ensure the quality of the ground and footing provides comfort for the athletes and horses and guarantees fair competition conditions throughout the day. The footbridges which will allow horses to cross the Grand Canal during the cross country have been the subject of a full-scale test in 2023 to guarantee the comfort and safety of all.

As in all international competitions, **competition officials, judges and stewards, will play an essential role.** Their mission is to ensure the smooth running of the events and compliance with the competition regulations. Continuously present on site, as soon as the horses arrive at the competition site, their mission is also to support the athletes and guide them through the different facilities made available to them. They are also responsible for checking saddlery when entering and exiting the arena and cross country track and ensure that the training and warm-up phases go smoothly before the events. **Teams of veterinarians and farriers** will also be present on site, in addition to the staff of each nation. A temporary veterinary clinic will be built on site, near the stables, to provide the care and attention as quickly as possible that the horses may require.

Finally, at the initiative of GL Events equestrian sport, with the support of the FEI and the FFE, **an Animal Welfare committee was created to develop actions in favour of the well-being of horses during competitions.** Thus, the French veterinarian Richard Corde has been appointed "horse welfare officer" and will be present for the entire duration of the competitions to ensure the well-being of the horses with the help of competition officials.



FRENCH COMPETITION OFFICIALS

The FFE played an important role in referencing the French officials, and supporting their training, particularly for the assistant stewards. For the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, nearly 40 French will officiate at Versailles.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Veterinarian responsible for animal welfare: Richard Corde
President: Thierry Grisard
Anti-doping veterinarian: Marie Grandcollot-Chabot

Eventing

Ground Jury member: Xavier La Sauce
Assistant Technical delegate: Gaston Bileitczuk
Course Designer: Pierre Le Goupil

Dressage

Ground Jury President : Raphaeël Saleh

Showjumping

Ground Jury Member: Patrice Alvado
Assistant Course Designer: Gregory Bodo

PARALYMPIC GAMES

Ground Jury President: Anne Prain

Veterinary

President: Sonia Wittreck

More than 50 assistant stewards will be mobilised during the Games period, including at least 25 French stewards.

Without forgetting the 80 or so veterinarians, judges' secretaries, marshalls, first aiders, assistant anti-doping technicians, doctors and more than 400 French volunteers mobilised for the event.

FRENCH TEAM, A CUSTOMISED LOGISTICS ORGANISATION

The Olympic and Paralympic Games are unique events that require careful organisation in order to limit, as much as possible, the constraints for the athletes. For this component, the national technical director and head of mission Sophie Dubourg is supported by Quentin Simonet, deputy to the head of mission and Maud Proust, permanent staff member at the FFE in charge of all organisational aspects.

ACCOMODATION

In Paris, the FFE has made the choice, in agreement with the CNOSF and the COJOP, to accommodate the riders and staff in the closest proximity to the competition site. "We analysed the constraints linked in particular to the travel times of athletes to get to the competition site. We have chosen accommodation in the private sector just a few kilometers from the Palace of Versailles Park for the Olympic riders. Riders will be able to go easily to the Olympic site to ride their horses early in the morning, see their teammates compete, walk the courses, etc. This will considerably limit transport times and provide a lot of flexibility to riders, allowing them time to rest, and focus on their physical and mental preparation, away from the hustle and bustle of the Olympic site," explains Sophie Dubourg.



“The staff and horse owners will also be housed not far from the competition site and will benefit from private spaces reserved for the French team. We want to encourage exchanges with riders as much as possible outside of competition periods, in an atmosphere protected from external demands in order to guarantee the concentration and serenity of everyone. With regards to the Paralympic athletes, they will be accommodated in the Olympic village except on the eve of morning events, in order to benefit from essential medical support as well as sports equipment to optimise their physical preparation offered by the CPSF.”

OLYMPIC ATMOSPHERE

For this unique event, the riders will still be immersed in the atmosphere of the Games.

“I remain very attached to the importance for athletes to immerse themselves in the unique atmosphere of the Olympics. We therefore decided, for athletes staying outside, to have them spend a night in the Olympic village before the start of their events. In addition, the Show Jumping riders who will enter competition a few days after the start of the Olympic Games will participate in the opening ceremony on Friday July 26. The other riders will unfortunately not be able to participate due to the schedule of events. The Eventing competition begins the following day with the Dressage test. In Dressage, it will be the arrival of the horses in the Olympic stables, the riders will therefore be assembled to welcome their horse and for the first sporting obligations,” explains the head of mission.

These specific arrangements linked to the competition site far from the Olympic village and the constraints of event planning involve increased logistics which will be entirely ensured by the FFE teams.



©FFE



HIGH PERFORMANCE DEPARTMENT



SOPHIE DUBOURG
National Technical Director –
Head of mission



**FRANÇOIS-XAVIER
FEREY**
Physiotherapist



QUENTIN SIMONET
Joint Head of mission



DAVID GERMAIN
Farrier



MAUD PROUST
Logistics and Administrative
Coordinator



ALEXIS MOREAU
Data-analyst et posturologist



ÉRIC FAVORY
Doctor



**JEAN-PIERRE
GUYOMARCH**
Equestrian Consultant for the
National Sports Agency (ANS)



DAVY DELAIRE
Federal technical advisor



JEAN-LUC FORCE
Federal Technical Advisor



FEDERAL MANAGEMENT IN EVENTING



THIERRY TOUZAINT

National Coach and Team Manager

“

My role as coach is to best support the riders and horses so that they are in top form for the Games. For this, we worked hard again this winter during the training sessions with the various technical stakeholders and now we are rolling out the competition season to reach peak form in July. As we are now close to the Games, we are pretty much on schedule. We have chosen the right program so that each combination is ready on the big day. In Versailles, we will have to be sharp, ready to fight. I will select four combinations with horses in impeccable health and good morale and riders who are also in good shape.

With this Olympic format with only three riders and no “drop score”, there will be no room for error. We will have to be solid from start to finish and not let anything slip away. 3/3 is essential. If we can do that, then logically the medals should not be far away. Afterwards we will count it up with the other nations. The axe can fall very quickly, even for the favorite nations. If a combination makes a mistake, they will immediately be penalised.

We had the chance, like all the team leaders, to see the topography and the layout of the cross-country course, but we know almost nothing about the course. I hope it will be technical enough to do the job. The course designer plays a very important role for this competition. During the last Olympics, the three tests were right on target. I hope that this will also be the case this summer and that the course will have some spice. In Tokyo, we moved up the rankings after the cross country. We know that our rider combinations’ strong points are the cross-country and show jumping.

The Olympic Games are truly a special event. This year it will be in France, there will be additional pressure, but I am not worrying about that and I am trying to protect my riders as much as possible. The important thing is to prepare well so that there are no regrets. I want the guys and horses to be completely ready, in their heads and physically. If we are ready, we will be good, and I hope we come home with a medal.

Thierry Touzaint

”



MICHEL ASSERAY

Joint National Technical Director

“

We are now in the home stretch of a three-year strategy put in place following the Tokyo Games in 2021. We had identified horses and riders who were already seasoned or in the making. We amplified the fundamental work on dressage with the reinforcement of the German trainer Christoph Hess, in support of Jean-Pierre Blanco and Philippe Limousin.

He has given us good guidance to progress and we feel that this work is bearing fruit.

The big difference this year compared to previous Games will be competing at home. We are particularly happy to share this adventure with the riders and owners who trust us and who are all extremely invested in this Olympic project. We all want to celebrate this moment with the French public. I also include the entire entourage of the riders and in particular the grooms who take full part in the performance. And we should not forget the breeders of these horses who do remarkable work, proof of which, is the number of horses born in France who perform regularly at a very high level. These Games in France will also be a spotlight on their know-how and their passion.

”

Michel Asseray



JEAN-PIERRE BLANCO

Joint Dressage Trainer



CHRISTOPH HESS

Dressage instructor



PHILIPPE LIMOUSIN

Dressage instructor



PATRICE DELAVEAU

Jumping instructor



XAVIER GOUPIL

Federal veterinarian



FEDERAL MANAGEMENT IN DRESSAGE



JEAN MOREL

National Coach and Team Manager

“

Since the resumption of outdoor competitions in the spring, the riders have aimed to perform well from the outset of the Grand Prix. The Olympic format is very specific with only 3 combinations in the arena and no “drop score”. There is therefore no room for approximation or chance.

Riders must attain their score each time they ride. This means maintaining a certain average, and continuing to improve it. Thanks to the various technical stakeholders and tools made available to us, we have a fairly detailed analysis of the strengths and areas of work for each combination. The challenge is to continue to improve what can be improved in the coming weeks, without destroying what works well. It is a collective work that requires good communication and trust.

The selection will be made on performance but not this alone. The quality of the horse, that of the rider, their mentality, their ability to resist pressure, the support of those close to them... There are multiple factors that will be taken into account when deciding and making the final selection. In this context, the riders are in competition with each other because they all really want to be there and that is quite normal. But in July, we can only take four, and they must accept it now. This allows us to maintain a collective spirit outside the arena so that this final preparation phase takes place under good conditions.

At the Games, everything will be decided on the Grand Prix, both qualification for the team final and the individual final. It is therefore during this test that they are expected to perform and must repeat their best performance. Today we no longer try to train horses, we only work to put them in comfort and connection with their rider. We can improve the presentation by lightness and ease in the arena. This is what we continue to work on.

Our primary objective is to enter the team final, and if we manage to repeat a 5th place, I will be proud of my team. Individually, if we manage to have a combination in the final that will already be good. We will prepare as best we can to be among the best and to arrive really well prepared so as not to leave anything to chance on the big day.

Jean Morel

”



LAURENT GALLICE

Technical advisor Dressage

“

We are building a strong and reliable collective of riders and owners and all the staff: trainers, veterinarian, farrier, physical and mental trainers, podiatrist, posturologist, data analyst... everyone is fully invested with the same goal in mind. line of sight: perform collectively at Versailles to enter the team final.

We implemented this strategy during the last European Championships and we realise that beyond collective performance, it is also the way to obtain better individual results.

To put all the cards on our side, we have put in place two new elements with the riders: a more dense competition program and external support for team cohesion.

Indeed, we observed, when we took office with national coach Jean Morel, that French riders knew how to train their horses perfectly well up to Grand Prix level. On the other hand, most of them lacked competitive experience. We explained our strategy to get them to make progress on the presentation of their performances. This experience is only acquired in competition, under the real event conditions, with the competition, the judges, the atmosphere... We see in just a few months that the combinations' scores have increased significantly and that they are now able to reproduce the performances. In doing this regularly, it allows us to do well as a team at the Olympic Games.

The second major point of support aims to transform individual riders into real team members. We surrounded ourselves with a mental trainer, Julien Deville, who helps us work towards the main objective as a group. The Olympic format with three combinations competing, with no "drop score" leaves no room for guessing. Everyone must know their horse perfectly and know themselves to know when to take risks and when to be confident for the benefit of the team. We will have to try to repeat what everyone knows how to do, without taking unnecessary risks or risk losing the entire collective. Everyone's fate relies on each other. If we manage to qualify for the team final, then the riders will be able to give their all in the Grand Prix Special, resulting in the primary objective being achieved.

”

Laurent Gallice



STÉPHANE FRESNEL

Federal Veterinarian



JULIEN DEVILLE

Mental preparation coach



JAN NIVELLE

Technical instructor



FEDERAL MANAGEMENT IN SHOWJUMPING



HENK NOOREN

National Coach and
Team Manager

“

The results of the last few months have been truly satisfactory.

We have seen combinations confirm and even continue to progress like Julien Epailard and Dubai du Cèdre or Olivier Perreau and Dorai d'Aguilly*GL Events. We also see very experienced horses, returning to high-level events after a break, who already have excellent results like Cayman Jolly Jumper, Viking d'la Rousserie or Bibici.

Overall, I think we are on the right path. We will remain vigilant about the health of the horses and continue to personalise everyone's programs so that they reach their peak form at the time of the Olympic Games. We planned the program at the start of the year and have adapted it throughout the season based on everyone's results. The "Spring of Equestrian Sports" in Fontainebleau was important in the preparation. We took stock with all the riders on the "A Cheval Pour Paris" list and the entire staff to further refine this Olympic group. We then started the Nations Cups, with St Gallen and La Baule and then I think we will already have a good indication as to the construction of the team for Paris. There will still be the Nations Cup in Rotterdam to finalise our choice. Then we will do another check-up of the horses to make sure that all are well.

The selected riders will normally be present for the opening ceremony. Then we will spend a few days in training together before arriving with the horses at the competition site.

The objectives are really to win a team medal as a priority. We are not favourites on paper, but by continuing the work we are doing today and arriving in good shape with the support of our public, our combinations are capable of getting on an Olympic podium this summer.

Henk Nooren

”



SOPHIE DUBOURG

National Technical Director in charge of Show Jumping

“

The work to support Show Jumping riders as well as their horses and owners has been carried out over the long term, with reinforcement over the last two years on certain required points. Firstly, we have strengthened the longitudinal monitoring of horses in collaboration with the riders and treating veterinarians. On this point, we are particularly vigilant to ensure that we select horses that are 100% capable.

We also talk a lot with the owners of the horses who are an integral part of the Olympic adventure. Their involvement with the French team is formidable and must be valued. We have set up a tailor-made support system for riders on the “A Cheval Pour Paris” list. We have taken into account the specificities of each organisation, the expectations of each athlete which will result in optimal preparation.

The people who accompany us on a daily basis are fully invested in this dynamic and I also commend the professionalism of all the teams surrounding the horses and riders. We have also been working for several months with a mental coach who supports the riders, staff and grooms in order to optimise interactions between everyone. We know the importance of the collective to perform.

”

Sophie Dubourg



PHILIPPE HEILÈS

Federal Veterinarian



NICOLAS BELIN

Equine Physiotherapist



RICHARD OUVRARD

Mental preparation coach



FEDERAL MANAGEMENT IN PARA DRESSAGE



FANNY DELAVAL

Discipline Director and Team Manager

“

We are on the home stretch to prepare for the Paralympic Games.

With the winter training courses and now the resumption of competitions, we are trying to bring the combinations to the best of their abilities. The selection process consists of four competitions. We still want to maintain a certain latitude. This last phase is also strategic. The aim is to show the judges in particular that France continues to progress. The FFE has made exceptional resources available to riders and staff, for training, the physical and mental preparation of riders and also for the longitudinal monitoring of horses. All aspects of performance are taken into account to leave nothing to chance.

The selection of the four tricolor combinations will be announced on July 9.

We have planned to go see an Olympic dressage event together to soak up the location and the atmosphere. Sharing experience with the Olympic team will also be very interesting and the best way to manage constraints of the event. We are all very focused on our goal. We are aiming for an individual medal and a top 6 team finish like in Tokyo in 2021.

The major challenge this year in Paris will be to protect our athletes as much as possible from external demands. Competing at home, in front of your audience, is an additional force in the arena, but can quickly create dispersion. To perform, we will need to help our athletes stay in their concentration bubble.

Fanny Delaval

”



CARLOS LUCAS LOPES

Consultant - Trainer



DAVID AMAGER

Technical instructor



EMMANUELLE DRUOTON

Federal Veterinarian



MANON NOËL

Physiotherapist



FLORE TAIRRAZ

Mental performance coach



PRESENTATION FOR THE LISTS "À CHEVAL POUR PARIS"

The lists "A Cheval pour Paris" published by the French Equestrian Federation brings together the most prominent combinations for Olympic and Paralympic selection in the summer of 2024.

These pairs of riders and horses, identified by the federal sports management team, are supported by the FFE both on the sporting aspect and on all organisational and career management aspects. The objective: to facilitate and professionalise the preparation of riders and their horses to support their build-up to the Games.

These lists are built on objective criteria of performance and sporting potential for the specific format of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, such as the format of events without "drop scores" or the configuration of the courses, in particular cross-country Eventing. These lists will be tightened as the event approaches to culminate in the final selection which will be announced on July 5 for the Olympic teams and July 9 for the Paralympics.

À CHEVAL 
POUR **PARIS**



FINAL SELECTIONS

EVENTING

3 pairs + 1 substitute



KARIM LAGHOUAG & TRITON FONTAINE

Owned by Philippe Lemoine, Guy Bessat, Sarl Ecurie Karim Laghouag and Camille Laffite



STÉPHANE LANDOIS & CHAMAN DUMONTCEAU *RIDE FOR THAÏS*

Owned by S.C.E.A. Ecurie du Cerisier Bleu



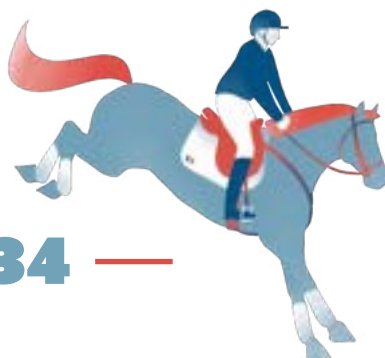
NICOLAS TOUZAINT & DIABOLO MENTHE

Owned by Mézard Sports and Françoise Niclaus



GIREG LE COZ & AISPRIT DE LA LOGE

Owned by Frédérique Grand and Augustin Grand





FINAL SELECTIONS

DRESSAGE

3 pairs + 1 substitute



**ALEXANDRE AYACHE &
HOLMEVANGS JOLENE**

Owned by Abdulkarim Barake
and the rider



**PAULINE BASQUIN &
SERTORIUS DE RIMA Z'IFCE**

Owned by Institut français du cheval
et de l'équitation



**CORENTIN POTTIER &
GOTILAS DU FEUILLARD**

Owned by Maryse and Hervé Pottier



**ANNE-SOPHIE SERRE &
JIBALTAR DE MASSA**

Owned by SARL Serre Dressage
and Mathilde Juglaret





FINAL SELECTIONS



SHOWJUMPING

3 pairs + 1 substitute



SIMON DELESTRE & IAMELUSINA R 51

Owned by SA M.S.H, Pascale Bliscaux
and Philippe Berthol



JULIEN ÉPAILLARD & DUBAÏ DU CÈDRE

Owned by Sarl Exceptional Horses S.L.,
Sylvain Pitois and Perrine Catelina



KEVIN STAUT & VIKING D'LA ROUSSERIE

Owned by S.A.S. Finegal



**OLIVIER PERREAU &
DORAI D'AIGUILLY*GL EVENTS**

Owned by Ecurie Perreau et fils and Emilie Perreau



FINAL SELECTIONS

PARA DRESSAGE

4 pairs



LISA CEZ & STALLONE DE HUS

Owned by Jérôme Cez, Marylène Cez and the rider



ALEXIA PITTIER & SULTAN 768

Owned by Sylvie Pittier, Arthur Boutron and its rider



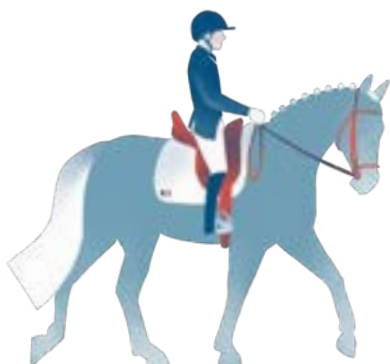
VLADIMIR VINCHON & PÉGASE MAYENNE

Owned by Maud Vinchon and the rider



CHIARA ZENATI & SWING ROYAL*IFCE

Owned by Institut français du cheval
et de l'équitation





KEY DATES AND THE SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

For the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the national Olympic & Paralympic committees validate all selections, in all sports combined. For Equestrian, each selector, in agreement with the federal sports management team, will propose their selection to the DTN Sophie Dubourg and to the president of the FFE Serge Lecomte. Once validated, Sophie Dubourg will take the selections to the CNOSF/CPSF headquarters for the advisory commission meetings for the Olympic and Paralympic selections. At the end of these commissions, the selections are officially validated and made public.



EVENTING

Announcement of selections by the CNOSF on July 6, 2024



SHOWJUMPING

Announcement of selections by the CNOSF on July 6, 2024



DRESSAGE

Announcement of selections by the CNOSF on July 6, 2024



PARA DRESSAGE

Announcement of selections by the CPSF on July 10, 2024



ELITE-LEVEL RIDER: A LITTLE-KNOWN PROFESSION

becoming an elite-level rider requires a sporting commitment of the same order as in all other Olympic sports. You also need entrepreneurial qualities to create your stable, build your team, manage relationships with horse owners and all the logistics of a high-level stable.

TRAINING

If learning to ride is accessible in France, thanks to pony clubs and equestrian centers which offer quality teaching on ponies and instruction horses, progression to the highest level requires a very strong personal commitment, often from a very young age. The rider must ride a pony or horse diligently to develop technical skills and a thorough understanding of the animal. Whether they are the owner, or the tenant, as we see more and more often, the ideal for a young rider is to be able to benefit from a quality, experienced mount with which they can form a strong bond to form a real combination. It also happens that private or public owners entrust a high-level pony or horse to a very good rider that they have spotted on the federal competition circuits.

PROFESSIONAL RIDER

To begin a professional career, a rider will generally turn to training young horses. If they want to set up their own business, they must find stables with suitable exercise areas to work the horses and train them to become sport horses.

As business manager, the rider is in charge of recruiting their first employees (riders, grooms, etc.) to help them look after the horses entrusted them. The whole team works in collaboration with a farrier, a veterinarian, an equine dentist, an equine osteopath... The sale of horses thus trained and the winnings in competition, mainly in Show Jumping, can allow for the professional rider to make a living from this activity.

They can also choose to join a major competition team, and be entrusted with a "stake" of several horses to work on and compete with. The objective is always to promote the horses for sale. In both cases, the professional rider who crosses the path of an exceptional horse, capable of competing in the biggest events, can make the choice, in agreement with its owners, to keep it in its stables and thus take it to the very high level.



LIKE AN F1 TEAM

To fully devote themselves to high-level sport, the rider is required to source funding to support the significant costs inherent in practicing the sport. Behind each rider/horse combination, there are one or more owners who are involved in the sporting venture.

The search for partners is also essential. The rider puts everything to chance to obtain the highest amount of support possible. Communication via social networks, website, management of partnership contracts, obligation of representation, the rider must communicate to make themselves known and promote their partners. They are surrounded by an entire team of owners, grooms, in-house riders, veterinarian, farrier... all becoming intimately linked to the sporting success of the rider.

In their development towards the highest level, the riders are also surrounded from a very young age by the federal sports support team. Thus, all pony categories, young riders and seniors can benefit from technical support during training courses and groupings of the French team, in conjunction with each person's private coaches.



©Jessica Rodrigues



SPORT HORSE: AN EXTRAORDINARY PHYSIQUE AND MENTALITY

At first glance all horses look alike,
However, there are physical but also mental characteristics that are unmistakable in recognizing future cracks. Each top horse has its own story,
a character of its own, sensitivity and a mind that can be tried to any test.

These star athletes, however, have one thing in common:
the majority of them have followed an education course which has trained generations of horses on decisive competition grounds to learn the profession of sport horses.



©FFE/PSV

GENETICS

Crossing the right mare with the right stallion in order to produce a foal that will excel in its discipline is the dream of every sport horse breeder. Raising and educating it is a constant job that requires patience and skills to allow the very young horse to grow in the best conditions. A great performer will become a real showcase for their breeder, promoting their ancestors, descendants, and horses who share the same genealogical origins.



TRAINING

From the age of three, the young sport horse is generally presented for the first time in "breed and gait" competitions. It is then submitted to the eye of a professional jury.

From the age of four, horses can participate in dedicated competitions where technical standards are adapted to the horses' development and learning. A specific "young horses" circuit is reserved for them from 4 to 7 years old. They are put into competition with horses of their generation, on courses adapted to their young age and encouraging their learning. Finals are organised each year, under the patronage of the SHF (French Hippique Society), to determine the best horses of each generation.

INTERNATIONAL CAREER

A horse that has revealed its potential on the national circuit or in small international events will participate in its first major events around the age of 8. The heart of its sporting career will take place between the ages of 9 and 15, with some exceptional cases of longevity at the highest level, being up to 18 or 20 years old.

Becoming a high-level horse is a real profession.

Some Owners immediately meet the rider who will take them to the most beautiful events in the world. Others change riders, teams and countries several times until they find the one with whom they will form the ideal combination.

In all cases, beyond physical qualities, the high-level horse is also distinguished by its well-developed and balanced character. It is this champion mentality that will give it the motivation and the desire to surpass itself alongside its rider.

They will always be accompanied by their groom. As a true appointed caretaker, the groom follows the horse in all its movements. For the horse, the groom is a constant point of reference and reassurance. The groom establishes routines with the horses in their care. They feed them, provide them with all the care and massages they need to perform and recover well from physical efforts. They take them out of the boxes as often as possible to let them walk, graze, meet other horses and relax, allowing them to flourish in their life as an athletic horse.



THE OWNERS : A KEY ROLE FOR SPORT

Equestrian sport flourishes thanks to the commitment of Owners. High-level horse riding requires flawless organisation, rigor and teamwork around performance. If the rider and the horse are under the spotlight during major competitions, there is another player of success, in the shadows, who is nevertheless inseparable from the performance of the combination, the owner of the horse. Indeed, it is not uncommon for riders not to own their horses.



©FFE/PSV

A TRUE TEAM MEMBER

Horse owners play a key role in choosing to entrust their horse to a rider with whom they most often form a very close relationship of trust. It is now common to see unions or companies created to share the costs linked to the training of a high-level horse. The co-owners or shareholders then share an extraordinary sporting and human adventure, around the values that surpass oneself, mutual aid, sharing and respect for animals. They have access to the biggest international competitions as real players in performance. They participate in the choice of competitions during the season, regularly see their horse in training, and regularly accompany it during its travels in France and abroad.



A MAJOR ECONOMIC CHALLENGE

The professionalisation of high-level sport has led to structural changes over the last 20 years. The marketing of sports horses is today a major element that must be taken into account in the overall organisation of sports stables. In a conventional model, one or more owners entrust their horse to a rider who is responsible for training it and taking it out in competition. Over the course of its successful journey, the horse increases in value. It is not uncommon to see negotiations begin off the track after a championship, or success in a major competition.

The question of keeping the horse or selling it is then at the heart of the project that the rider builds with its owners. Sell a good horse to buy others or to perpetuate the economic stability of the stable, keep a good horse in the hope of winning the holy grail of a championship selection or better still an Olympic selection, despite the inherent risks of bad form or injury of the horse...

SUPPORTING TRICOLOR OWNERS

For several years, the FFE has put in place personalised support for owners of horses entrusted to French riders. Bonuses for results, technical and sporting support, hospitality at competitions, help with organising travel, privileged time for discussions with federal staff... are all measures put in place to support horse owners and associate them with the federal sports project in search of medals.



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THE GROOMS: THE HORSES'S GUARDIAN ANGELS

**The groom is the veritable right arm of the rider.
They have a central place for the equine well-being and sporting performance
of the rider/horse combination.**

When it comes to equestrian sports, the rider is not the only athlete, the sport horse is also a true high-level athlete who must be taken care of and watched over tirelessly. Since the horse cannot express itself in words, its rider and everyone around them must understand its horse's language and be able to decipher the first signs of fatigue, discomfort, stress, but also the signs of satisfaction, joy, enthusiasm...

In this quest for complicity and trust, the groom plays a key role and is inseparable from performance. In close contact with the rider, the groom takes care of the horse on a daily basis, feeding it, providing it with daily care, taking it for long walks and grazing sessions between events. The first to see the horse in the morning, the groom is also the last to ensure that their protégé is calm before nightfall. The very strong bond that is established between the groom and the horse allows them to detect the slightest anomaly in the horse's routine: if it does not drink enough, lies down more or less than usual...

The groom can then alert the rider, discuss their feelings and thus adapt the work sessions, outings or treatments to provide maximum comfort to the horse. Beyond their perfect knowledge of horses, the grooms are also very versatile. They often drive trucks from one competition to another and are then responsible for several very valuable horses to cross Europe. And during plane trips, as for the last Olympic Games in Tokyo (JAP), a groom per delegation travelled with the horses, in addition to the official veterinarian.

In competition, the pressure is intense and victory is often decided in the last details on the big day. The groom is ready to deal with any unforeseen situation before the rider enters the competition. By anticipating the horse's preparation, the groom helps maintain an environment as calm as possible to reduce stress and unnecessary disturbances for both the horse and rider. A shadow worker, the groom is a key player in performance and shares victory with the entire team.



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KEY FIGURES

OLYMPIC GAMES

10,500 athletes
206 National Committees
32 sports
46 disciplines
329 competitions
4 billion viewers
6.2 million ticket holders
36,000 volunteers

PARALYMPIC GAMES

4,238 athletes
159 National Committees
22 sports
24 disciplines
528 competitions
2.15 million viewers
5,271 accredited media
5,110 hours of TV broadcast



ÉQUI ACTION

FONDS DE DOTATION DE LA FÉDÉRATION FRANÇAISE D'ÉQUITATION

The FFE EquiAction endowment fund contributes to the support and the promotion of French sporting excellence along three axes:

- Promotion of sporting excellence.
- Promotion of good practices in animal welfare.
- Development of mediation with the horse.

SPORTING EXCELLENCE

Accompanied and financial support for combinations on the "A Cheval Pour Paris" lists:

- Improve veterinary monitoring of athletic horses.
- Contribute to the optimisation of riders' training with assistance in financing an in-house rider and private coaches.
- Deploy the training center for Para Dressage with the support of Crédit Agricole d'Ile-de-France sponsorship and the French Leather Goods Federation.



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ANIMAL WELFARE :

- Support for research carried out concerning horses and riders in order to document and disseminate good animal welfare practices.
- “Happy Athlete” thesis conducted by INRAE and supported by EquiAction in order to identify the signs of well-being of high-level horses and the factors that favour them.

EQUINE MEDIATION:

In conjunction with the FFE Horse and Diversity division, EquiAction supports operational and research projects promoting the beneficial impact of contact with horses.

- 7 programs of 12 mediation sessions with the horse for Aged-care nursing home residents.
- Funding of a thesis carried out by the University of Tours on the benefits of equine mediation on children with behavioral disorders.
- In 2024, EquiAction will continue its action with Aged care nursing home residents and will support equine mediation projects for other target groups.

100 residents in Aged care beneficiaries, 87 equine mediation sessions carried out, 7 Aged care partners, 7 partner equestrian structures.



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FIND OUT EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW



ORGANISED BY
FEDERATION FRANÇAISE D'EQUITATION

À CHEVAL I I POUR PARIS



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