



IMGA January Newsletter



Key Dates for 2022

July 20-23

World Team Championship
France



July 29-31

World Pairs Championship
Ireland



August 3-9

European Team and Individuals
Championship
Wales



August 25-29

World Individual Championship
England



September 19-25

Nations Championship
U.S.A.



Welcome to our January Newsletter. Here's hoping that you are all well. Moreover, here's hoping we will be able to continue our sport uninterrupted in 2022. I am optimistic that even if we have difficulties in organising and participating in competitions this year, we will be able to demonstrate some of the strength and resilience that was shown by the 2021 host organisers, volunteers, riders and parents to get Mounted Games on the international stage.

A new part to our Newsletter concerns the work that goes on behind the scenes at IMGA. There is information about what our Sub Committees are doing.

Also you can find the Minutes of our AGM on the front page of our website:-
<https://www.mounted-games.org/imga/documentation/index.html#meetings>
Can I urge you all to sign up for the Assistant Referee Course? Details are in this Newsletter.

SUB- COMMITTEES



Here are our 5 IMGA Sub Committees and a few of the issues that they are looking into. Each sub-committee has several members from across our International Community.

1. Health, Safety and Risk Management Sub-Committee. Chair:- Conor O'Leary
Continue to monitor use of the breathalyser.
Creation of a policy document covering drug use in ponies and riders.
2. Compliance Sub-Committee. Chair:- Keith Martin
Maintenance of the "How to Organise an IMGA Sanctioned Competition" (HOST) document.
Membership compliance checking.
3. Technology Sub-Committee. Chair:- Jens Martin
Investigating possibilities of providing live streaming for International Competitions.
4. Training and Qualification Sub-Committee. Chair:- Mark Crowe
Creation of policy and procedure documents covering the subject of referee training and progression, certification, assessment, recertification, etc.
5. Strategic Planning Sub-Committee. Chair:- Chris Wheeler
Creation of a long term strategy document for the future of IMGA.

Each of these Sub-Committees can be contacted. Further information can be found at:-

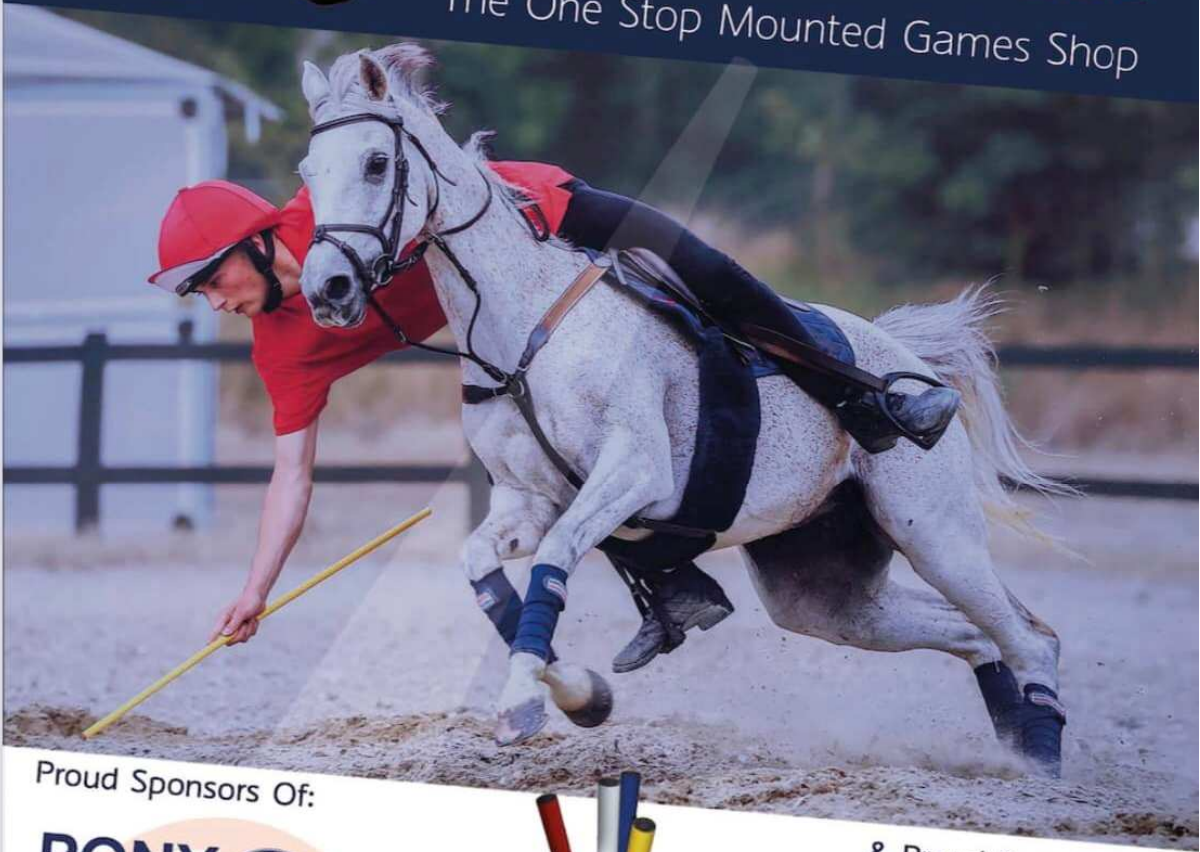
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European Indoor Championships



From December 19 to 21, the first edition of the European Indoor Cup was held at Lamotte Beuvron in France.

After a day of training for French referees and course managers, (18 of them) it was time for the games to start!

Organised expertly by a top team, this first European Indoor Competition saw several sessions taking place over three days and in this exceptional site made available by the FFE, several sessions with a high level of play.

In an atmosphere that was both convivial and sympathetic but also enhanced with the excitement of finally being able to meet here at The French Federation headquarters; and to be able to show off the virtues of our discipline, which are among others: sportsmanship, pugnacity, a taste for effort, that of doing well and a sense of team spirit.

It was certainly a little cold but the heat in the eyes and in the hearts, after so many months of deprivation far from the Garden of Eden, of the French riders being in this magical site and this immense indoor arena could be read at every moment. Imagine: 7 lines in an indoor arena!

Several nations were represented in the teams. Here they are in alphabetical order: England, Belgium, France, Italy and Switzerland ...

As for the podiums or podia, here they are:

U15 in pairs: Aoife and Flavie (France) in gold. Paloma and Margot (France) in silver and the Appaloosa gang (Italy) in bronze. With a final contested to the very end with a tie-break for the third step of the podium.

U18 in teams: Team Maindru Photos (France) were outstanding in their final with 63 points ahead of Gariguettes (France) with 47 points just ahead of the English team of Sussex with 46 points. There was only a 4 point gap between this team and the seventh team after the TWELVE game final! Imagine how much this final offered us such incredible suspense!

Open Teams: Also an international podium for this category with on the first step of the podium the Sussex team with 66 points (England) which included two of the best French riders; the Way-ups (France) climbed on the second step of the podium with 57 points and just a single point ahead the Italian team: the Italian Open which therefore climbed to the third step was just half a point ahead on Team Pony-Mat France. The other teams were obviously of great quality: "I never lose, either I win or I learn" as Nelson Mandela said.

A very warm thank you and huge congratulations to the entire competition's organisation, to the FFE (French Equestrian Federation), to the Federal Park and its employees, to the sponsors and to the volunteers who have all worked tirelessly during these three days, being there to serve the great family of Mounted Games. Many thanks also to Chris Wheeler, President of IMGA who attended this competition.

We all hope that this first edition will be followed by many others and that they will welcome more teams to this extraordinary site.



open podium

U15 podium



officials

U18 podium





European Indoor Cup !

Par Thierry Lacombe

Du 19 au 21 décembre s'est tenue la première édition de l'European Indoor Cup à Lamotte Beuvron.

Après une journée de formation pour les arbitres et les chefs de piste français, (le 18) place au jeu et aux jeux !

Organisée de mains de maîtres par une équipe au top, cette première compétition européenne indoor a vu se disputer durant trois jours et dans ce site exceptionnel mis à la disposition par la FFE, plusieurs sessions avec un niveau de jeu élevé.

Dans une ambiance à la fois conviviale, sympathique mais aussi teintée de cette joie de pouvoir enfin se retrouver ici ; ont point les vertus de notre discipline que sont entre autres : la sportivité, la pugnacité, le goût de l'effort, celui de bien faire et le sens de l'équipe.

Il faisait certes un peu frais mais la chaleur dans les yeux et dans les cœurs après tant de mois de privation loin du jardin d'Eden des cavaliers Français que sont ce site magique et ce manège immense se lisait à chaque instant. Imaginez : 7 lignes dans un manège !

Plusieurs nations étaient représentées dans les équipes. Les voici dans l'ordre alphabétique :

L'Angleterre, la Belgique, la France, l'Italie et la Suisse...

Pour ce qui concerne les podiums ou les podia, les voici :

U15 en paires : Aoife et Flavie (France) en or. Paloma et Margot (France) en argent et les Appaloosa gang (Italie) en bronze. Avec une finale disputée jusqu'au bout avec un tie-break pour la troisième marche du podium.

U 18 en équipes : La Team Maindru Photos (France) a survolé sa finale avec 63 points devant les Gariguettes (France) avec 47 points juste devant l'équipe anglaise du Sussex 46 points. Il n'y avait, à l'issue de cette finale de DOUZE jeux que 4 points d'écart entre cette équipe et l'équipe septième ! Imaginez donc combien cette finale nous offrit un suspense inouï !

Open en équipes : Podium aussi international pour cette catégorie avec sur la première marche du podium l'équipe du Sussex avec 66 points (Angleterre) dans les rangs de laquelle concourraient deux Français et pas des moindres ; les Way-Up (France) montèrent sur la deuxième marche du podium avec 57 points et juste un petit point sur l'équipe italienne : l'Italien Open qui monta donc sur la troisième marche avec elle-même un demi-point d'avance sur la Team Pony-Mat France.

Les autres équipes n'ont évidemment pas démerité, loin de là et puis : « Je ne perds jamais, soit je gagne soit j'apprends » comme le disait Nelson Mandela.

Un très chaleureux merci et d'immenses félicitations à l'ensemble de l'équipe d'organisation qui a donné sans compter, à la FFE (Fédération Française d'Equitation), au Parc Fédéral et ses salariés présents, aux sponsors et aux bénévoles qui n'ont tous eu de cesse, durant ces trois jours, que de servir la grande famille du Pony-Game.

Un grand merci aussi à Chris Wheeler, Président de l'IMGA qui a honoré de sa présence cette compétition.

Nous espérons toutes et tous que cette première édition sera suivie de nombreuses autres et que ces dernières accueilleront plus d'équipes encore dans ce site extraordinaire.

Assistant Referee Course

Don't forget to sign up to the online Assistant Referee course:-

In order to maintain our high standards of refereeing, IMGA is asking that all Assistant Referees at IMGA competitions to have passed Assistant Referee training.

This means that from January 1 2022, all Assistant Referees will either have to have passed the Assistant Referee in-person course within the last 3 years or to have passed the online Assistant Referee course which is now available.

This online course has training and a set of questions. Typically it would take about 4 hours which can be done over several sessions if you prefer.

To access the course:-

Go to the following link:

<http://training.eventsecretary.com.au/imga-training/login/index.php>

Click "Create New Account"

Complete the details.

You will receive a confirmation email. Click the link.

Once confirmed Click Site home.

Then click IMGA Assistant Referees 2021

Then click Enrol me.

Don't forget to select your nationality on your profile!

If you have any queries, please contact Warwick Slade:-

imga.ass.refs.training@mounted-games.org

Anyone certified before Jan 2019 will need to take the course.



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Down Under



Mounted Games Victoria ran their first competition for the year at the beautiful Phillip Island, home of the Moto GP and Fairy Penguins. On Saturday we included a class for riders to bring Novice ponies that are starting their training for the World Teams Championships in October 2023. On Sunday we ran a swinging pairs competition where riders from all age groups were joined together and pairs drawn out randomly. It was a great opportunity for the open riders to bring their horses back into competition and for our younger riders to compete with the older riders.



Rangiora Showgrounds in North Canterbury, New Zealand.



Assistant Referee questions: Some questions require more than one answer!
Certaines questions nécessitent plusieurs réponses!

7. In Hula Hoop, two teams in lanes 4 and 5 are finishing side by side but still in their own lanes. A pony in lane 5 shies away because the other horses are close :

- a) The team in lane 4 is eliminated for obstruction
- b) Neither team is eliminated
- c) The team in lane 5 is eliminated for obstruction

7. Dans le jeu du Pneu, deux équipes en lignes 4 et 5 finissent leurs jeux, une à côté de l'autre mais restent dans leurs propres lignes. Un poney en ligne 5 fait un écart parce que les autres poneys sont proches :

- a) L'équipe en ligne 4 est éliminée pour gêne
- b) Aucune équipe n'est éliminée
- c) L'équipe en ligne 5 est éliminée pour gêne

8. In Windsor Castle, the 4th rider of team 3 collects the orb from the bucket and attempts to place it on the turret but knocks the turret off the cone. Whilst he struggles to replace the turret, team 5 knocks over their own bucket spilling all the water. All the other teams finish except team 3 and the referee blows the whistle:

- a) Team 3 is eliminated for not replacing the turret and orb
- b) Team 5 is eliminated because the orb could not be floated in water in the bucket
- c) Team 3 receive 1 point
- d) Team 3 receive 2 points
- e) The referee should rerun the race because of faulty equipment

8. Dans le jeu de Windsor, le 4^{ième} cavalier de l'équipe 3 ramasse la balle dans le seau et en essayant de la placer sur la tour, il fait tomber la tour du cône. Pendant qu'il tente de remplacer la tour, l'équipe 5 renverse son propre seau, versant toute l'eau par terre. Toutes les autres équipes finissent sauf l'équipe 3 et le juge-arbitre siffle :

- a) L'équipe 3 est éliminée pour ne pas avoir remplacé la tour et la balle
- b) L'équipe 5 est éliminée parce que la balle ne flotte pas dans l'eau du seau
- c) L'équipe 3 reçoit 1 point
- d) L'équipe 3 reçoit 2 points
- e) Le juge-arbitre devrait rejouer le jeu à cause du matériel défectueux

9. The 2nd rider in Sword Lancers takes the sword by the blade during a handover. Which is/are correct :

- a) They must repeat the handover using only the handle
- b) Rider 1 may hold the blade and give the sword to rider 2
- c) The 2nd rider may move his hand to the handle and continue
- d) This mistake cannot be corrected and they will be eliminated
- e) This mistake can be corrected

9. Le 2^{ième} cavalier dans le jeu de l'Épée prend l'épée par la lame pendant le relais. Lequel/lesquels est/sont correct(s)

- a) Ils doivent refaire le relais en utilisant seulement la poignée
- b) Le cavalier 1 peut prendre la lame et donner l'épée au cavalier 2
- c) Le 2^{ième} cavalier peut prendre la lame et peut continuer
- d) Cette erreur ne peut pas être corrigée et ils seront éliminés
- e) Cette erreur peut être corrigée

RIDER INTERVIEW

BY Michael Pernkopf



Where do you live?

In the vicinity of Linz, upper Austria, in the countryside

What do you do?

I am a student at a technical school in Linz with a focus on mechatronics.

When did you first become involved in Mounted Games?

At the age of about 5 years. Mounted Games was a sport we primary did in our old stable to learn to control our horse and be taught about riding.

What do you do now in Mounted Games?

I'm now an open rider and I'm competing in national and also in international competitions

Where have you been abroad with Mounted Games?

France (La Bonde), England (Newark, Bath and West), Denmark (Vallensbaek), Germany (Bavaria, Achim), Czech Republic

What is your favourite venue?

Bath and West Showground in UK

What do you like most about Mounted Games?

The harmony between rider and horse, competing as a team and playing the games together, sportsmanship and speed

What is your favourite race? and why?

Bank Race, the changes between being fast on your way to the cone and back to the changeover and then being controlled when you take the numbers off the cone

What advice would you give to a new Games rider?

Ride ride ride, the best way to get better in MG is of course to practise but also to go to tournaments, look for many competitions (doesn't matter if its individs, pairs or teams) and ride them, that's the best way to get better

Tell us about your all-time favourite horse.

That's my own horse, Nickita, we bought her at Europeans 2015 in France, top pony, fast, agile and nice to handle, loves the games and is the best horse of the world!!!

What other interests do you have apart from Mounted Games?

I have a bunch of other hobbies as playing the drums, being a volunteer fire fighter, playing rugby and being a pilot flying aeroplanes





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Quiz Answers

7=B

8= B and D

9= A and E



Referee Top Tip

I have been involved in Mounted Games for 10 years, and have been refereeing for 8 years.

I enjoy the reffing, and find it very rewarding when the games are flowing with minimum interruption for the riders.

The referee should always try to find a reason for not eliminating riders unless there is direct breach of rules. It's important that assistant referees and referees have full attention on the game to ensure we give the rider the best opportunities to have a successful game.

"A good start is the foundation of a good game"

By Jan Christensen



Trainer Top Tip



By Steve Chorely



Always support your team mates. If you are left out a race don't be mad or upset, every rider has a different role to play in the team to be successful so don't take it personally. You are still part of the team and race so help everyone else out by making sure they are ok or need anything like water.

Be a team. It can be hard on an international basis to put 5 random riders together and expect everyone to gel. All the different personalities and characters can be tough. So help out and reach out to all riders, eat together, drink together, watch the games together. The more of a team you are the better you will perform.

Finally listen to your coach. Crazy I know. But if he tells you to slow down, then do it. If he changes the order, respect it and try it. Coaches (good ones) are always open to change

so

just try it and if it doesn't work then it's not the end of the

world.



Tack Top Tip

This tack top tip is about helmets .

Your helmet might save your life so let's look after it. Try not to drop them on hard ground as this might damage them . Keep them as clean on the inside as you can. It is stomach turning to try and check a helmet's legality by looking for the number and there is so much grease and dirt on the inside surface that the number is unreadable.

And the smell can be revolting when they are that grimy!
If you have a bad fall which involves your helmet, you might want to get its soundness checked.

If you ride in New Zealand we use helmet tags. Every time there is an update in the rule book, it is easier too see. This means that gear check is fast.

If you have a fall and it impacts your helmet and probably your head, we cut the tag off. If you get your helmet checked then we put the tag back on.

Look after your helmet please.

