



# **IMGA**

# **JULY 2023**

# **NEWSLETTER**



## **THINKING TO THE FUTURE**

**In the short term, IMGA has its Annual General meeting in November and we are fortunate to have been invited to the Parc Equestre at Lamotte-Beuvron in France which is the headquarters of the French Federation. This will coincide with the Indoor Cup. Please contact your International Representative if you have anything that you think needs discussing at our AGM.**

**In the medium term, we need to look how to increase participation in our sport. Numbers of teams, pairs and individuals have decreased - partly due to economic difficulties around the World but also because Brexit has catastrophically increased the costs (and stress) of crossing the English Channel. Some countries, however, are making huge efforts to participate in competitions abroad and they deserve so much respect for the commitment that they are making.**

**In the long term, we have to ask ourselves how our continual efforts to improve pony welfare and rider safety will enhance our sport to meet the demands of the modern world.**

**If you have any thoughts about these issues, please contact [imga.sc.stratplan@mounted-games](mailto:imga.sc.stratplan@mounted-games).**

# 2023 CHAMPIONSHIPS

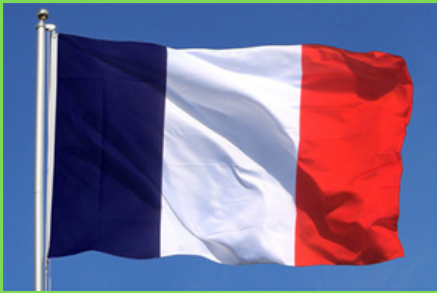
## World Team Championship Australia October 8-15

Arrival 8 Familiarisation 8-10  
Competition 11-14 Departure 15



## World Individual Championship France August 1-5

Arrival July 30, 31, August 1 Competition August 2-5  
Departure 6 August



## European Team and Individuals Championship England August 8-13

Arrival August 7  
Individuals start August 8  
Teams start August 10  
Finish August 13 Departure 14



## Nations Championship South Africa Cape Town

Stellenbosch December 15-17



# Professional Mounted Games Equipment



[www.ponymateriels.com](http://www.ponymateriels.com)



PG Sportswear

## Create your own Team Kit

**Advertise your products and  
company here!  
Full page adverts costs only £20**

**All the proceeds from the advertising  
within our Newsletters will go  
towards IMGAs Charity day.**

**Our next **Charity day** will be held at  
the European Championships 2023  
on Saturday 12 August in aid of  
The Stroke Association**

**See your business and products  
advertised round the World.**

**And all for a great cause!**



# **WORLD PAIRS 2023 VALLENSBAEK, DENMARK**

**Denmark MGA hosted the 2023 World Pairs at Vallensbaek Equestrian Centre near Copenhagen last week. 152 riders took part from 14 nations. The arena was perfect for this event and all 4 age groups displayed great skill. The organisers made a memorable competition and we hope to return in the near future.**

**Photos by Liv Møller Jensen**



# WORLD PAIRS 2023 WINNERS

**U12 Noemi Maccarone and Riccardo Maccarone (ITA)**

**U15 Gaia Vitale and Alessandro Pistis (ITA)**

**U18 Mathilde Peila and Federico Pedani (ITA)**

**OPENS Colin Verdelhan and Widu Moorman (FRA & GER)**





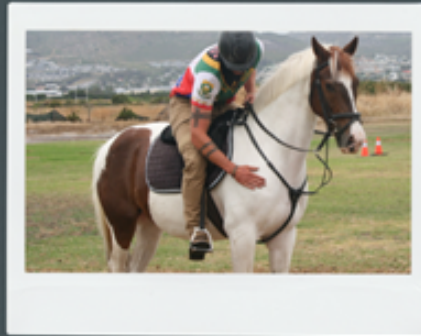
**WESTERN CAPE MOUNTED GAMES**

# Western Cape MGA

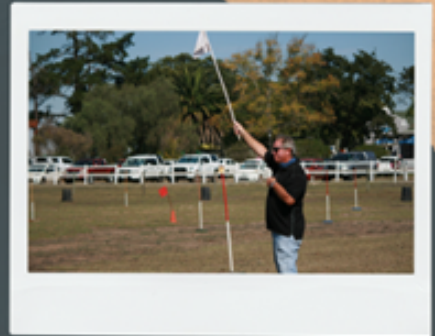
Development Programs



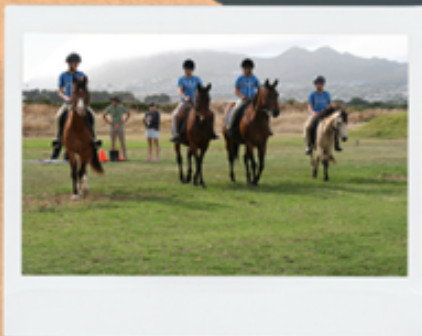
*Cape Town Uni city, coaching run by Clare Cole.*



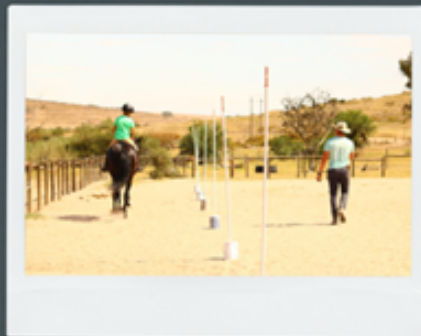
**WESTERN CAPE MGA**



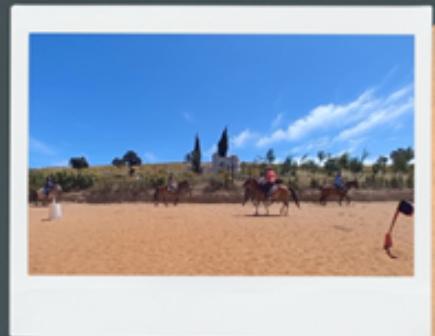
*Cape Winelands District & Nick Sloan our National Chairperson*



*West Coast District, coaching run by Joshua Menhincik*



*Coaching by Joshua, at weekly lessons*



*Pony Schooling session, the importance of ponies being on your aids. You never to young to learn.*

**invites you to the**  
**2023**  
**NATIONS Team Championships**  
**In the beautiful and world famous**  
**Cape Winelands district, CAPE TOWN**  
**FROM THE 11 - 17 DECEMBER 2023**



**EUROPEANS 2023**  
**ORANGE CHARITY DAY**

In aid of

**THE STROKE ASSOCIATION**

Wear something orange on

**SATURDAY 12 AUGUST**

**Scan the QR code  
to donate**



**Support our stall:  
Orange T-shirts and hats**

**Carrots and oranges available to buy  
kindly donated by Tesco**





**Warwick and Karen Slade from Australia visited our new member country China with two young riders Cade Smith and Ember Vanderydt. Equestrian riding in China is only recent and is focussed around riding schools. Each school owns 20 to 70 ponies/horses and employs 5 to 15 full time coaches. The schools are located across China and vary in the size of their grounds. Some schools are located on the top floor of shopping malls and others in renovated golf ranges.**

**Warwick and Karen ran lessons for riders in the school, most of whom were 12 and under and have been riding for 6 to 12 months. Two separate coaching clinics were held in the cities of Nanning and Suzhou. Riding coaches came from the local area and from neighbouring provinces. Each clinic was attended by more than 20 coaches. The coaches learnt the basics of teaching mounted games and also attended an Assistant Referee course. We now have over 40 qualified Chinese Assistant Referees!**

**China IMGA is creating a 5 year plan involving their young riders and their coaches. They plan to enter a team of their coaches in 2025 at the Nations Cup and then WTC in 2026. By 2027 their younger riders will be ready for the Under 18 WTC.**



## **ASSISTANT REFEREE QUIZ QUESTIONS**

**In Founders Race, Rider 3, Team 2 , Lane 3 runs into Lane 4 and kicks their letters out of the circle. Rider 3, Team 3, Lane 4 collects his next letter from outside the circle ( but still over the changeover line) and continues :**

- a] Team 3 is eliminated for not returning their letters to the circle**
- b] Team 2 is eliminated for not returning Team 3`s letters to their circle**
- c] The race is stopped, Team 2 eliminated and the race is re-run without Team 2**

**In the 2 Flag Race, a cane breaks but the team can continue with the broken flag. No fault is found with the flag canes :**

- a] The team is not eliminated because they completed the race**
- b] The race is re-run with all teams**
- c] The team is eliminated for broken equipment**

**The referee notices that a bottle in Lane 3 has been placed by the arena party on the edge of the bin in Bottle Shuttle. This is the third time that that member of the arena party, selected by the team in that lane, has set out the equipment to the advantage of that team.**

**The referee :**

- a] Corrects the bottle himself and continues with the race**
- b] Eliminates the team from that game and stops that member of the arena party from taking part**
- c] Leaves the bottle where it is but warns the arena party member not to do it again**

**Dans le jeu de NPATRICK, le cavalier 3, de l'équipe 2, ligne 3 entre dans ligne 4**

**et éjecte les lettres. Le cavalier 3, de l'équipe 3, ligne 4 ramasse sa lettre à l'extérieur du cercle (mais derrière le ligne de changement) et continue :**

**a) L'équipe 3 est éliminée car ils n'ont pas replacé les lettres dans le cercle**

**b) L'équipe 2 est éliminée car ils n'ont pas replacé les lettres de l'équipe 3 dans leur cercle**

**c) Le juge-arbitre arrête le jeu. L'équipe 2 est éliminée et on refait le jeu sans l'équipe 2**

**Dans le jeu des 2 drapeaux, un drapeau est cassé mais l'équipe peut continuer avec le drapeau cassé. Les drapeaux n'avaient pas de défaut :**

**a) L'équipe n'est pas éliminée parce qu'ils ont fini le jeu.**

**b) On refait le jeu avec toutes les équipes**

**c) L'équipe est éliminée pour bris du matériel.**

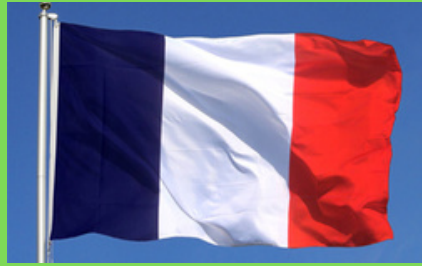
**Le juge-arbitre aperçoit qu'une bouteille en ligne 3 a été placée par un placeur de matériel au bord de la poubelle pour le jeu de la Bouteille. C'est la troisième fois que cette personne, sélectionnée par l'équipe, a placé du matériel à l'avantage de son équipe.**

**Le juge-arbitre :**

**a) Corrige la bouteille lui-même et continue avec le jeu**

**b) Elimine l'équipe de ce jeu et interdit ce placeur de matériel de participer**

**c) Laisse la bouteille où elle se trouve mais avertit le placeur de matériel de ne pas le refaire**



**WORLD INDIVIDUALS WEDNESDAY 2ND TO  
SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST IN LABONDE - FRANCE**

**Included in the entry : camping pitch, 1 stable,  
breakfast from Tuesday to Saturday and Gala  
Diner on Saturday. Theme Party : Labonde in  
Paris.**

**You also have to book in advance hookup and  
meal package for the week.**

**Opening ceremony on Tuesday August 1st from  
5 to 10 p.m at the Moulin. Barbecue Party  
offered for riders and 5€ for family & friends.**

**BREAKING NEWS : human & animal wellbeing is  
important to us, so you can find on site  
wellbeing professionals.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS :  
IMGA@labonde.org And follow our Facebook  
page @competlabonde**

**DOMAINE EQUESTRE DE LA BONDE, 3 RTE DE  
BEZU 27140 SAINT DENIS LE FERMENT**



**Sunday 8th Rider and Pony arrival**

**Welcome Dinner**

**Monday 9th Pool pony practice**

**Tuesday 10th Pool pony practice**

**Wednesday 11th Opening ceremony**

**Session 1**

**Thursday 12th**

**Session 2**

**Session 3**

**Friday 13th**

**Session 4**

**Final 1**

**Saturday 14th**

**Final 2**

**Gala Dinner**

**Sunday 15th Depart**



## **TRAINER TOP TIPS from Giorgia**

**Yoll Campionato europeo è sicuramente una delle gare per cui ogni Nazione e ogni cavaliere lavora di più durante l'anno.**

**Quando finalmente arrivano i nomi dei ragazzi selezionati ecco che inizia per loro l'emozione Vera!**

**Ognuno cercherà di fare del suo meglio!  
Da parte dei Coach il consiglio che do sempre ai ragazzi è quello di divertirsi usando le proprie capacità al massimo, non dimenticando mai di mettersi in gioco con il cuore e soprattutto con La Testa !**

**Le gare si vincono non solo con la velocità, ma anche con freddezza ed Umiltà.  
Se un cavaliere arriva a far parte della Nazionale è perché è considerato uno tra i migliori, la differenza in gara la fa la capacità di mantenere i nervi saldi ed essere un esempio per i propri compagni di squadra.**

**Aiutare se stessi e gli altri, per fare in modo che la gara ci sia utile a crescere e a migliorare sempre di più e non solo come cavalieri ma anche e soprattutto come persone!  
Che vada bene o male non importa, dovrà sempre essere un successo!**



## **TRAINER TOP TIPS from Giorgia**

**The European Championship is certainly one of the competitions for which every nation and every rider works the hardest during the year. When the names of the selected riders finally arrive, the real emotion begins for them! Everyone will try to do their best! From Coaches, the advice I always give to their riders is to have fun using their abilities to the fullest, never forgetting to get involved with your heart and above all with your head!**

**Races are won not only with speed, but also with coolness and humility.**

**If riders become part of the national team it is because they are considered to be the best, the difference in the race is the ability to keep their nerve and be an example for their teammates.**

**Helping yourself and others, to ensure that the race is useful for us to grow and improve more and more and not only as riders but also and above all as people! It doesn't matter whether it's good or bad, must always be a success!**

# RIDER INTERVIEW

## Stevie Kieran



- **Where do you live?**

**Louth, Ireland. Just north of Dublin**

- **What do you do?**

**I am recently graduated master of chemical and bioprocess engineering**

- **When did you first become involved in Mounted Games?**

**I was about 9, I had one year left of under 10s In pony club games**

- **What do you do now in Mounted Games?**

**I mostly compete in club competitions in the UK with MGA GB and try to do as many of imga international competitions as possible!**

- **Where have you been abroad with Mounted Games?**

**Oviously in the UK a lot, also in France, Germany, Belgium, Denmark and Sweden. I will be going to Australia later this year!**

- **What is your favourite venue?**

**This is a tricky one as most competitions in the UK have terrific show grounds. I prefer to coral my ponies in general so places like Aston le Walls or Dallas are great. For bigger shows where stables are more necessary I thought Ghlin in Belgium has been the best.**



# RIDER INTERVIEW

- **What do you like most about Mounted Games?**

**I am a very competitive person so I have loved the chance to compete at the highest levels across the world. As well this what has really stood out to me is the relationships in games, friendships etc. And how these very often translate to competitors being very happy for each other when people have success**

- **What is your favourite race? and why?**

**My favourite race is sock and bucket. This is because when I started games I was absolutely terrible at it!! In under tens we used to put the socks into bins and I am not exaggerating when I say I just could not get the sock to go in the bin. When I eventually cracked part of the game about a year after I started I was just so happy hahah and so even now I look on that game very fondly!**

- **Tell us about your all-time favourite horse.**

**Another tricky one, I think for me favourite was Skylar, I found sky in a random show jumping yard in Ireland where she had been stuck in a field for years without being touched. I trained her myself and we got to compete for World and European titles in u17 and in Open. She was the perfect horse to allow me to move an age group and still feel at the top of the game! More than this it was her personality outside of the ring, it was like she was a dog and was just so loving and happy.**

- **What other interests do you have apart from Mounted Games?**

**Outside of games I have done a lot of other sports. Most notable was hockey where I competed on national and provincial underage teams. I still play hockey now as hobby. My other hobbies include chess, the gym and socialising!**