

ROLEX IJRC

TOP 10

FINAL



International Jumping Riders Club

15 years TOP 10



International Jumping Riders Club



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A winner
is a dreamer who never
gives up.

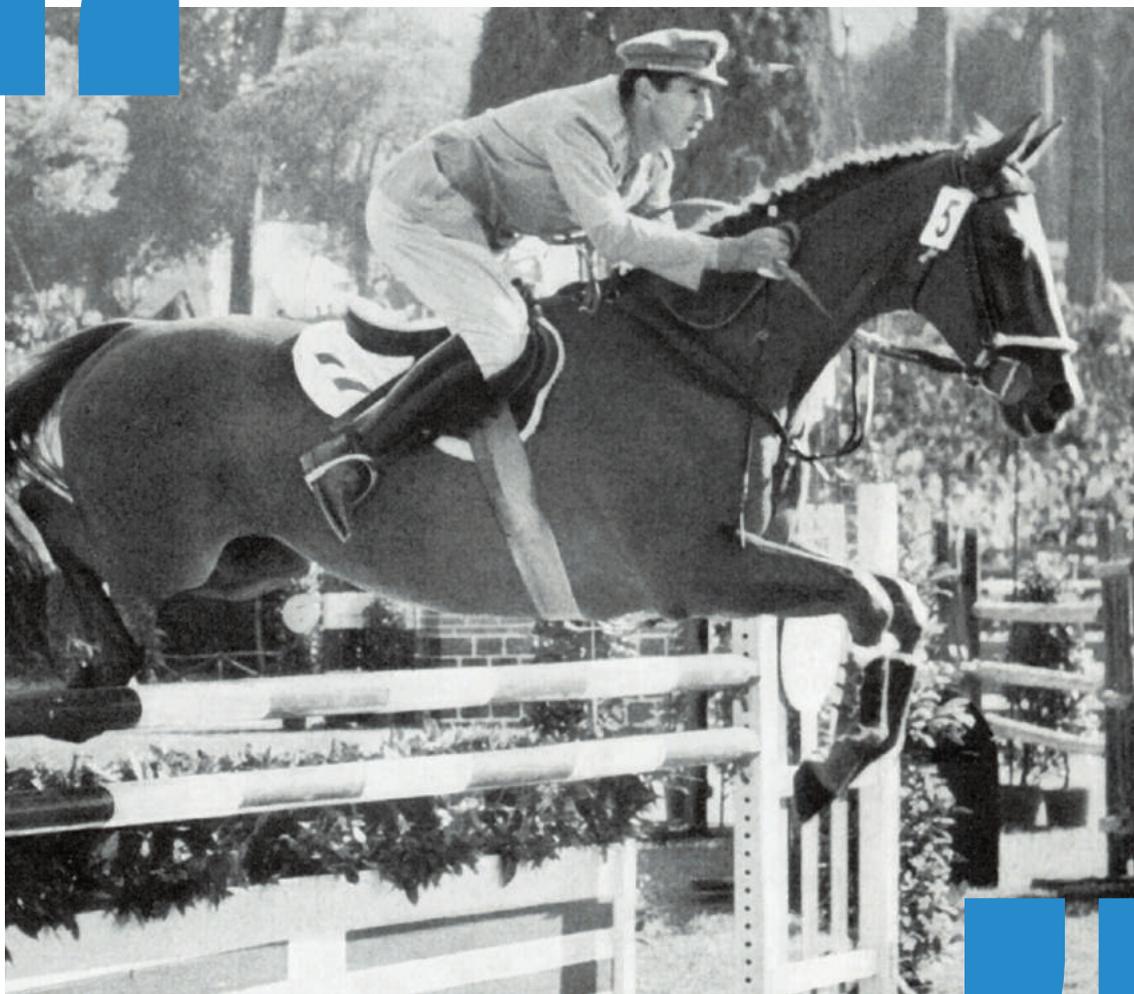
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Nelson Mandela



History IJRC

In April 1977, a group of 25 international riders, including David Broome, Raimondo D'Inzeo, Paul Schockomöhle and Nelson Pessoa, were asked create an establishment in the form of a club that could allow riders to form a group. On 24 June 1977 the International Jumping Riders Club (IJRC) was launched in Vienna.



In February 1999, former president Franke Sloothaak and Secretary General Eric Waulters asked lawyer Gianrico Moor and Dr. Eleonora Ottaviani to prepare the club's articles of association in a manner that would be more suitable to the times and guarantee their practicality.





In June 1999, the general meeting of the Riders' Club approved the new articles of association in Aachen. The meeting elected a new president, Cayetano Martinez de Irujo.

In August 2013 the IJRC appointed Christina Liebherr, the first woman to become President of the Club.

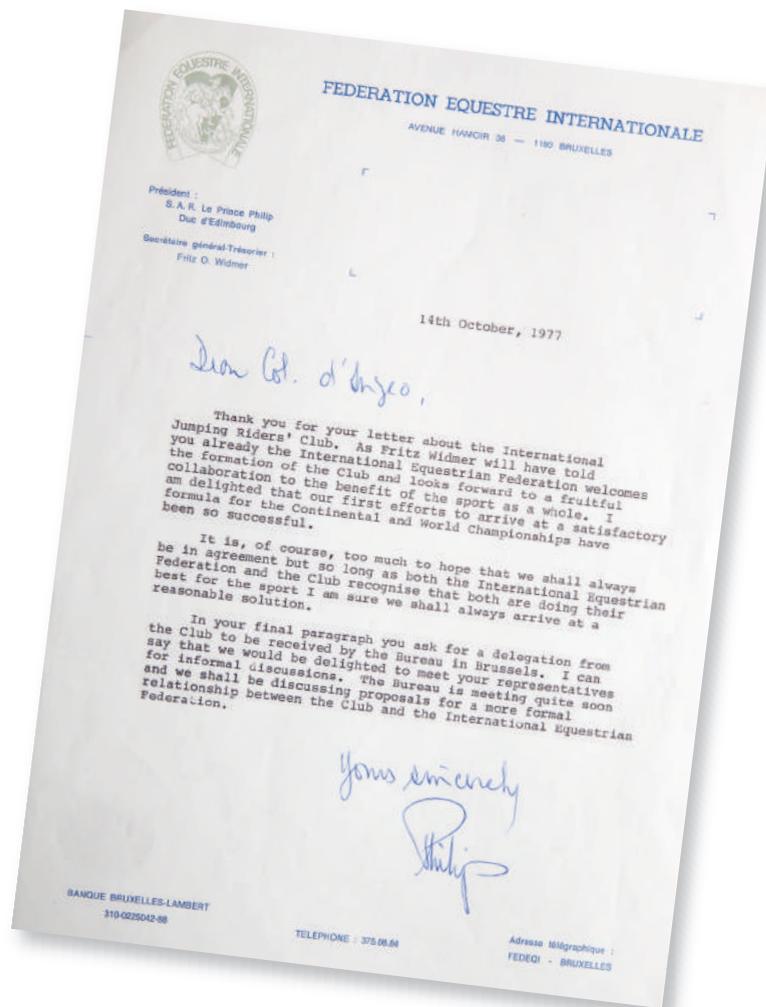


IJRC is recognized as the world's premier riders' association, representing the interests of all riders within FEI and sporting institutions across the globe.





It is, of course, too much to hope that we shall always be in agreement but so long as both the International Equestrian Federation and the Club recognizes that both are doing their best for the sport I am sure we shall always arrive at a reasonable solution.



Thank you for your letter about the International Riders' Club. As Fritz Widmer will have told you already the International Equestrian Federation well wishes the Club and looks forward to a fruitful cooperation to the benefit of the sport as a whole. I am sure that our first efforts to arrive at a satisfactory solution for the Continental and World Championships have been successful.

Of course, too much to hope that we shall arrive at a solution but so long as both the International Equestrian Club and the Club recognise that both are doing their best for the sport I am sure we shall always arrive at a satisfactory solution.

In the final paragraph you ask for a delegation from the Club to be received by the Bureau in Brussels. I can assure you that I should be delighted to meet your representatives for discussions. The Bureau is meeting quite frequently and is discussing proposals for a more formal agreement between the Club and the International Equestrian Federation.

Yours sincerely
Philip

Adresse té

FEDEQI -

IJRC Top 10 Final

The story of the IJRC Top 10 Final

The Top Ten was born at the end of the nineties, when the International Jumping Riders Club, in the persons of Eleonora Ottaviani, François Mathy Jr. and Rodrigo Pessoa, started to work to improve the formula of the ranking list.

They also found a sponsor: Susi Gandini, a woman of high fashion, the sister of current Italian Federation president Vittorio Orlandi. A special class was created to thank and to give visibility to the sponsor, which had helped to develop a more accurate ranking list.





The result of this was the invention of the Top Ten Final, which recognizes and celebrates the achievements of the best show jumpers in the world.

The initial sponsors were Gandini and Rolex. Only the Top Ten riders in the global rankings were invited to go head-to-head and only a brilliant sportsman or sports-woman able to perform at their very best on every occasion, is capable of winning this elite competition, which demands exceptional timing, courage and skill.



IJRC Top 10 Final

The format

According to scientific research, the average spectator is able to watch television, without interruption, for no more than 45 minutes at a time. With this in mind, a competition was created that was just 40 minutes long.

The shorter competition format created for the Top Ten has proved to be ideal for TV and has undoubtedly contributed to the large global audience who watch the show from around the world.

Again with television in mind, it was decided that the contest should have a small number of starters and ten riders seemed about right.

As selection criteria is determined by a rider's position in the Rankings, the event naturally attracts some of the most well-known and accomplished athletes in the world and creates an exciting atmosphere which is unrivalled in indoor jumping events.

The original formula - still in place today - has two courses, allowing the riders to jump the first longer course with a Gran Prix horse, and the second speed course with a particularly fast horse.

Two different horses are still permitted today.

The idea of competing over two courses is additionally linked to the importance of giving a face to these champions and of introducing them to the public. At the end of the first course the riders dismount from their horses and walk back into the arena to be interviewed.

This formula also thinks of the horses' welfare, without forcing them to pause immediately after jumping the course because the rider has to be interviewed.

Since the beginning, then, far-sightedness and modernity have been the basic ingredients of the Top Ten Final, now one of the highlights of the equestrian calendar. The aim is to make jumping an involving, fast-moving spectacle, and to transform riders and horses into stars on a par with other sports. Ten riders, ten styles and ten personalities are the focus of this event.

The Top Ten final is probably the most competitive Show Jumping contest in the world with only the Top Ten riders in the global rankings invited to go head-to-head. Only a brilliant sportsman or sports-woman able to perform at their very best on every occasion, is capable of winning this elite competition, which demands exceptional timing, courage and skill.



Location

Once the success of the competition had been established, the International Jumping Riders Club began looking for a suitable location that had to be linked to an already successful international competition, taking place at the end of the year. Finding the right arena wasn't easy; most events organizers were not open to new competitions and there was concern about which horses would then compete in the Grand Prix. Initially, Geneva seemed to provide the ideal solution and Alban Poudret and Pierre Genecand gave the IJRC Club full confidence.

They dedicated one entire evening of the Geneva competition to the Top Ten, and allowed the IJRC Club to organize everything as they wanted within their event. After the first editions, other organisers expressed interest in hosting the Top Ten. The event became itinerant, with the aim of increasing visibility for the Club, its goals and riders - who were all committed to working for the good of the sport.

Besides Geneva, Brussels, Paris, Stockholm have all hosted the Top Ten Final and many others competitions have expressed interest in providing a temporary home for the event.

The inaugural competition took place in Geneva and was held in the city for seven years in a row, from 2001-2007. 2010 marks the 10th anniversary of the popular competition and it is set to return to Geneva, after being held in Brussels and Paris in 2008 and 2009 respectively. In 2013 Stockholm played host to the event.

Prize money

The Top Ten's prize money has increased significantly year after year, but what makes this class special was best explained by Ludger Beerbaum, who, following the first edition said that he would have taken part even without a prize money, because of the competition's special atmosphere - and because he felt he was doing something for the IJRC. The Club has special meaning for riders, who know that it always supports the athletes, whatever the necessity.

The International Portuguese rider, Luciana Diniz, who will take part in the Top Ten 2015 for the first time, had the same thought. Luciana first reaction when she qualified for the Top Ten Final class was as follows: "It is a dream come true. I will take part in this competition for the pleasure of doing it and not for the prize money."



IJRC Top 10

The formula

The IJRC Board worked hard to ensure the success of this event. Having two courses - and a break between them that lasted not more than 5-10 minutes - proved crucial. The riders, too, were anxious to show what the IJRC was capable of from an organization point of view. The formula required experienced personnel in the warm-up arena and near the main arena entranceway.

As a result, Emile Hendrix and François Mathy Jr were appointed to coordinate and organize the event. The formula is somewhat unusual; for example the riders can't see the other competitors. It's a bit like a ski race in which the athletes are asked to race without knowing the previous scores. With its unique formula, over the years, the Final has played host to some spectacular and memorable performances including Ludger Beerbaum's consecutive victories in 2001 and 2002.

Meredith Michaels-Berbaum (2004 & 2006) and Rodrigo Pessoa (2003 & 2005) join Ludger as the only three riders to have raised the trophy twice.



The consideration of the “Dottorressa”!

From the book: “Le Concours Hippique International de Genève, from 1926 up to today, a History of Passion”, Written by Alban Poudret, Editions Slatkine.

Known affectionately as the ‘dottorressa’, Eleonora Ottaviani, the dynamic IJRC Director, shares her notes from the first final, written in the little notebooks she carries around:

“Friday the 7th December 2001: During the music of the winners round in Geneva, typical of the city, I became very emotional, as I knew that tomorrow would be the big day. The Top Ten was a project that we had long dreamed about and created all together, by mutual consent. The formula was there, the TV presence had been thought out; above all I think that it is easy to work with people that, as here in Geneva, have sport as their main priority. It is a pity that it isn’t like this every where...”

The day after: “At the curtain, the tension is at its height. I have a ball in my stomach, it’s like attending an examination. The credibility of our club, the IJRC depends on this final, but the riders don’t realize this, we could lose face.”

“Fortunately, everything looks good, the stadium is full, Peter and Alban have never seen such a vibrant stadium and so full ... the volunteers tribune is packed and we had to improvise some extra places.

We are all switched on, Jos (Lansink) told me that he gathered his nervous strength: the parade can go on! Cayetano and Emile (Hendrix) ran to me from the paddock: Michael (Whitaker) had a problem with his horse, we have to replace him... with only 15 minutes to go!
The first round went fine, but Michael had to retire; that’s normal if you have to make a last-minute change to the horse!

Second round: the interviews were good. Markus made a mistake on the last fence, but did not lose his sense of humour at the microphone.
Even Rodrigo with 8 points looks happy about the Final: everything went well! A sublime race, our race, a world championship in 50 minutes!

Ludger beat Ludo, they congratulated each other and we have a beautiful winner: Ludger, celebrated by everybody!

The prize-giving ceremony was splendid: the podium, the joy, the adoring public during the winners’ round. Is this real?



Trophy



The Trophy

For a rider to win a cup is infinitely rewarding, so the IJRC Club well understands the importance of having a trophy connected with the Top Ten.

IJRC Club Director Eleonora Ottaviani likes art, crystal and sculpture. For this reason she tried to hunt down attractive crystal trophies, though this was not always possible.

Over the years, the Top Ten trophy has been often changed, sometimes appearing in crystal, sometimes created by the sponsor or by others involved.

Nowadays the trophy is the well-known Rolex model - which has become a classic, and will continue into the future as well. Meanwhile, the Top Ten prize has maintained crystal as the material.



On tour

2001-15 GENEVE



2009-2011 PARIS



2008 BRUSSELS



2013 STOCKHOLM



THE FEW



WINNER



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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

BEERBAUM Ludger



2001-2002

After fifteen years of the Top Ten final, what are your thoughts?

“The Top Ten formula was invented by IJRC and has not changed. Now there is still the same formula as the first edition and it has proved to be very exciting and interesting to have two rounds. In general, at the end of the year it is a very prestigious event, and it is wonderful to compete exclusively with the ten best in the world.

It is, of course, especially rewarding if you are the best of the ten. Mainly, over these fifteen years, we have been in Geneva, but we have been also in Paris, Brussels and in Stockholm. Geneva has proved to be a very good place for the Top Ten final because of the environment and the place.

The public is more sensitive to the Top Ten there than everywhere else.

The Top Ten is a very prestigious event and it is very nice to be able to take part.”





ROLEX
EQUUS
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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

PESSOA Rodrigo



2003-2005

“After going to Lisbon to watch the 2000 Tennis Masters, won by my fellow countryman Gustavo Kuerten, I really believed that show jumping needed a Top Ten final as well. The IJRC board talked about it in Geneva in December of the year 2000 and it was born the following year.

I think the Rolex IJRC Top Ten Final has become a highlight of the season on the show jumping calendar for the riders involved. It's always very special to be able to participate in this prestigious competition and eventually to win it.”

After his first win riding Baloubet du Rouet in 2003 in Geneva Rodrigo commented: “It is fantastic to have a horse like this. He’s an extraordinary horse, now 16 years old, but you would never know.”





ROLEX



IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

MICHAELS-BEERBAUM Meredith



2004-2006

“To me to win the Top Ten Final means to be the best of the best! It is one of the greatest honors and achievements in our sport. To get into the Top Ten alone is extremely difficult. It is not only a true measure of consistency but also of horse management.

There are so many outstanding riders in our sport and to make it into this exclusive group means you have succeeded at the highest level over a long period of time. Then to win the Top Ten Final is the absolute culmination of show jumping.

My greatest memory is riding in the Rolex Top Ten Final in Geneva as number one in the world, on one of the best horses to ever live, Shutterfly, and beating the best, coming out on top.

I am most grateful to the IJRC for organizing this great event for many years. It has always been a highlight in our sport, enjoyable both for rider and spectator!”





ROLEX

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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

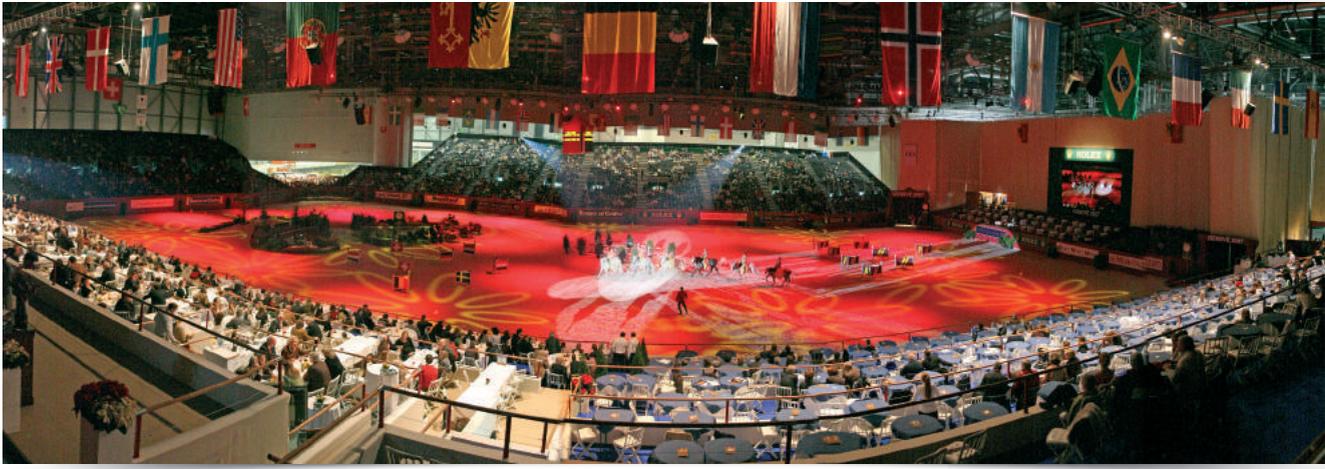
KÜR TEN Jessica

**2007**

It was Jessica Kurten for Ireland, riding Castle Forbes Libertina, who won the 2007 edition of the IJRC Top Ten Final, presented by Rolex.

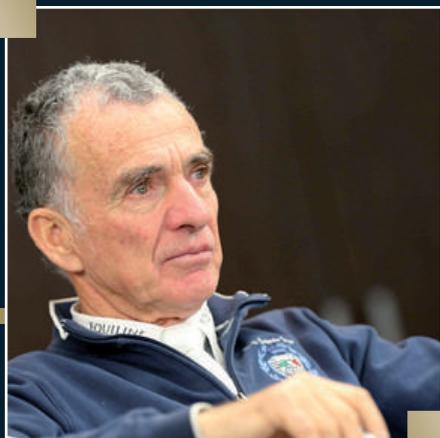
Jessica was delighted with her horse after the victory, since winning this unique competition at the end of the year is a rare achievement that can be achieved by only the most legendary champions of equestrianism.

Speaking about her horse she said: “She is the most amazing horse, I trusted her and she trusted me - she is so brave and so wonderful.”



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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

ROBERT Michel



2008

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“I think the Top Ten is a very good idea because it happens at the end of every year, so each year there is this very important competition with the top ten ranking riders in the world.

This event is very unusual, spectacular and unique; it is like a World Championship, because there are only 10 riders in the world allowed to participate. It is very difficult to get into the top ten.

When I won in Brussels, it was especially memorable because I was riding a very young horse and I didn't think I stood a chance of winning because that year there were so many good horses including Hickstead, Silvana and Shutterfly.

In Brussels, there were, as usual, two courses and I had to wait for the last horse, Shutterfly, to go into the arena before I knew that I had won.

To win in Brussels was for me especially emotional because the public was marvellous and supported me. So this win is for me a wonderful memory.”





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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

EHNING Marcus

**2009**

Welcome to Paris, host venue of the 2009 Rolex International Jumping Riders Club (IJRC) Top 10 Final.

This unique event, which was held for the first time in this world-famous city, was now in its ninth year and provided the perfect backdrop for the spectacular displays of horsemanship, guaranteed thanks to the presence of the finest ten show jumpers in the world.

To win the Top Ten means that you are the best of the best, as Marcus Ehning, the winner of the 2009 edition, knows.

He said: “The TOP TEN Final is an exciting class that is always a pleasure to be a part of and I am disappointed not to be a part of it in 2015.”



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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

GUERDAT Steve



2010

“The Top Ten is one of the best class of the year and everybody tries to qualify. It is very prestigious and it is something very special to take part. It is one of the few class which you already enjoy before starting, because you feel blessed to be in a class like this one. For a rider it is a huge achievement to take part in a Top Ten at the end of the year.”

After his win in 2010 in Geneva, Steve Guerdat said; “It’s been a long day for me today as I have waited for this final in front of the home crowd. It got to my nerves, but when I started jumping in the warm-up and felt how good Jalisca was jumping, I calmed down. I calmed down. I really think she deserved this victory as she jumped supremely in both rounds.”





ROLEX

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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

TWOMEY Billy



2011

Welcome to Paris, host venue of the 2011 Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final.

2011 was the 11th anniversary of this unique equestrian event. This was the second time that the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final was hosted in the world-famous city of Paris.

The French capital undoubtedly provided the perfect backdrop for the spectacular displays of horsemanship, guaranteed thanks to the presence of ten of the world's finest horse and rider combinations.

Billy Twomey and Tinka's Serenade were the winners of this edition. About the competition Billy says: "I didn't really realize how big the competition was until I got to Paris and saw how serious everybody was about it and how much hype there was surrounding it! So it was really nice to win!"





ROLEX
EQUUS

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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

AHLMANN Christian

**2012**

Christian Ahlmann was the winner of the Rolex IJRC Top Ten Final 2012 in Geneva, riding Taloubet Z, offering great sport from beginning to end.

“First of all I’m really happy,” Christian said afterwards.

“Taloubet jumped a super round. I took some risks, but I had to with such fast riders coming after me. It’s the perfect end to a super season!”





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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

DEUSSER Daniel



2013

The 2013 Top Ten Final edition was dedicated to two great legends of the sport all around the world, the brothers d'Inzeo. Piero and Raimondo, who were both military officers, were the first athletes in the world to compete in eight Olympic Games. Thanks to them, for many years Italy was THE force to be reckoned with in the world of international show jumping.

After fifteen years of the Top Ten final, what are your thoughts?

“It is a very special class where you have to show in advance that you are good enough to compete, as only the Top Ten, the best riders, are allowed in.

For us, it is a very interesting competition, where I have competed twice; the atmosphere is different in this class, there is something special and unique. We ride in so many class over the year, so many Gran Prix, or classes where we have to qualify, but if you know already two months in advance that the competition is coming up and that you are allowed to compete in it, it is a little like a championship event. If you win the Top Ten just once, you are part of the history. Only the best of the best are there, and only one can win. It is like to win a title for me.”

How did you feel when you won the Top Ten 2013?

“First of all, to win a title is always something special. This is a very interesting competition that comes around each year. For the public it is interesting to watch, because if you go double clear, but not fast enough, it is difficult to win.”





ROLEX LURC TOP 10 FINAL 2015

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IJRC TOP 10 FINAL

SCOTT Brash



2014

After fifteen years of the Top Ten final, what are your thoughts?

“Top Ten is a fantastic event. It is of great benefit to be in the Top Ten, and everyone would like to be in the Top Ten in December and win. I won last year and it was a fantastic feeling and it has always been my big dream to win this class. Geneva was a wonderful venue for it.”

What makes this event so special?

“It is a mix of a lot of things. There are not the usual fifty riders competing so it is a different competition with only the best ten. The spectators appreciate seeing the ten best and they really love coming and watching this class. So it is a very special and prestigious event.”





ROLEX

PROTAGONISTS

Protagonists



Eleonora Ottaviani Moroni

“It is always a marvellous adventure to work on this special event. All the editions give me unforgettable emotions, that remain: I appreciate the riders, organizers, sponsors, public and all the persons involved.

One of the best things is to know that this unique and special competition is offered every year by the International Jumping Riders Club. I wonder if all this is fable or reality.”



Rolf Lüdi

“The task I have been asked for requires very delicate planning and implementation in the arena.

For me this has been a real challenge; I have to build a course for ten of the current world's best riders, together with their horses, a sophisticated circuit, without causing injury to rider or horse, enabling all parties to get a great final result.”

“During the meeting before the class, when I presented the two courses plans, with length, height of the obstacles, distances, etc., from the attitudes and discussions among the riders, I could understand that everything could be expected as the riders were top prepared and intentioned to ride their best horses in this class.

For me the most memorable moments connected with the Top Ten were the presentation of the riders with their horses. At that moment it is clear to everyone that something special will going on in the Arena.”



GONNIST



François Mathy Jr

“The Top Ten Final is the ultimate show jumping event. It is a class that has never failed in its mission to present the best athletes in the world performing at the top of our sport. This class has unique format that provides emotion and passion.

Fans from around the world come to watch the Top Ten athletes compete against each other with their best horses, and I think that this is the greatest reward for the IJRC.”



Christina Liebherr

“For me the top-ten class is a highlight in the show jumping. Every year I wait with excitement to know which riders will battle for the title of “rider of the year.”

Participation means that you've been extraordinarily successful during the previous year.

But for the riders involved that's not enough. It's a prestigious title they all want and that's why they ride their best horses. The experience for the public is fantastic as they get a reaction from the rider directly after their performance.

That is something very emotional. When the rider has a good clear round the reaction is positive. If not, a disappointed statement for one pole on the ground, or a funny synonym for a word you cannot pronounce, have amused or surprised the crowd.

This is what our sport is about: pure sport and emotion.”



Hosts



Alban Poudret

"It's always a fantastic experience to work with the IJRC, and especially with Eleonora Ottaviani, who is so passionate and always wants the event to improve. We share this experience, the preparation and emotions, between the Geneva Team and the Riders Club. It's very important for the organizers that the riders try to give something back to the sport. They share our thoughts and difficulties, and it's important that riders are concerned about those problems and the future of the sport."

"The Top Ten Final means a lot for me, as an organizer, as a journalist and as an equestrian fan, as the International Club and the Geneva CHI try together to find the best way to create a successful media event. It is now a very important Final, one of the biggest competitions of the year for the riders, who are very proud to participate. After the big championships, the World Cup Final and the three Majors, I think it is one of the most prestigious events. It is a dream for a rider to win it or even to be on the podium."



Christophe Ameeuw

"For me the Top Ten is the final of all finals. The concept of the Top Ten is unique and the format is especially attractive to the public, the media, and is perfect for TV broadcasts. It is a concentration of excellence, talent and competitiveness and a guaranteed spectacle for all.

It remains an annual rendezvous for the riders, one that they are always proud to participate in. I truly think that after fifteen years of existence the Top Ten hasn't aged a day! Still exciting, still very spectacular, a showcase of the best that our sport has to offer."



GONIST

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Pierre Genecand

“To me, the Top Ten is the best show jumping class, taking place each December and crowning the best combination of the year.

The spectators enjoy the suspense of the class, with the many turn of events during the two rounds. For the athletes, winning the Top Ten is one of the main goals of the year. It is a real achievement and a great recognition for their pairs.

As for the media, they are always very interested and happy when there is such a great class to report on. Moreover, the Top Ten format is made for TV. It is a quick class, with action, suspense, twists and turns, and in the end the best of the best is crowned the very best rider of the year.

For the public, it is easy to follow, especially for people who do not know about our sport and do not necessarily understand formulas like Table C, drop one score etc. Here, things are clear: Two rounds, accumulation of points and the best wins!”

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Ulf Rosengren

“The Top Ten give the opportunity to present a top competition in addition to the other championships in a year. In Stockholm, the Top Ten meant we could bring the absolute top riders to our show and present a new format for our spectators. It was good to present to the media that equestrianism has an equivalent event to tennis.

The format with only ten riders makes a perfect evening class and the concept is easy to explain and market to spectators. It was especially suited to our special regular set-up in Stockholm every year, with short classes of the absolute top riders in the world in all disciplines.”



Partner IJRC Top 10



2001-2002 Gandini Tessuti

After the first Top Ten edition, the nowadays Italian Federation President Vittorio Orlandi, brother of Susi Gandini, woman of high fashion, that was the first sponsor of the Top Ten, wrote:

“My sister Susy and I were very happy with the wonderful evening of the first TOP TEN Final.

First of all, we wish to thank and compliment all the riders for their kindness and professionalism - besides their ability.

I have never watched any such high-grade competition. In the whole history of showjumping, this is the first time that ten riders of such skill do compete.

The course, with all its difficulties and heights, seemed absolutely easy. And Beerbaum course was a real show. Congratulations everybody!”

“We give all the riders, the Board and the untiring Director our warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year 2002. We will hear from one another soon next year.”

And after fifteen year from the first edition, the Italian Federation President Vittorio Orlandi, wrote:

“From the perspective of today, I'm extremely happy to have contributed, along with my sister, Ms Gandini, to the birth of this superb event, which is now recognised, worldwide, as one of the most important on the international calendar.”





CAN. VITTORIO ORLANDI
*Fulgoro, Turon,
Assago, Torino Via L. Manara, 10
Cod. 10021/225.026*

**International Jumping
Riders Club**

20th December 2001

My sister Susy and I were very happy with the wonderful evening of the first TOP TEN final.

First of all, we wish to thank and compliment all the riders for their kindness and professionalism—besides their ability.

I have never watched any such high-grade competition. In the whole history of showjumping, this is the first time that ten riders of such skill do compete.

The course, with all its details, Beerbaum course was a real success.

But let us think to the need for new sponsors, as this formula is the only one that can survive if the nation changes?

This is why we need to think and make changes.

We must think and make changes.

It is important that all riders are qualified, so the competition will be more interesting.

The formula shall be the same for the 2002.

In conclusion, we need to be ready for the 2002.

It is urgent to start to gain audience gains with the 2002.

That having been said, we give all the riders, the Board and the winners. Directress our warmest wishes of Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2002.

We will hear from one another soon next year.



Partner IJRC Top 10



2001-2015

As the crown in equestrianism for over 50 years, Rolex is proud to be a major force at play behind the sport's finest events, riders and organizations.

Whether supporting leading athletes such as Rodrigo Pessoa and Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum or maintaining tradition and excellence with the historic CHIO Aachen in Germany or the ultimate show jumping challenge Rolex Grand Slam of Show Jumping, Rolex has cultivated a privileged relationship with the elite world of equestrian sports.

Events

Today, Rolex sponsors major international equestrian events in distinct disciplines. Most recently, the brand partnered the Rolex Grand Slam of Show Jumping, a global initiative created in 2013 by three of the world's greatest equestrian shows: CHIO Aachen, the CSIO Spruce Meadows 'Masters' Tournament and CHI Geneva. Considered by the founders to be the ultimate show jumping challenge, the Grand Slam rewards the rider who wins the Grand Prix at each show in succession. As a long-term partner to all three of these prestigious events, Rolex's decision to sup-

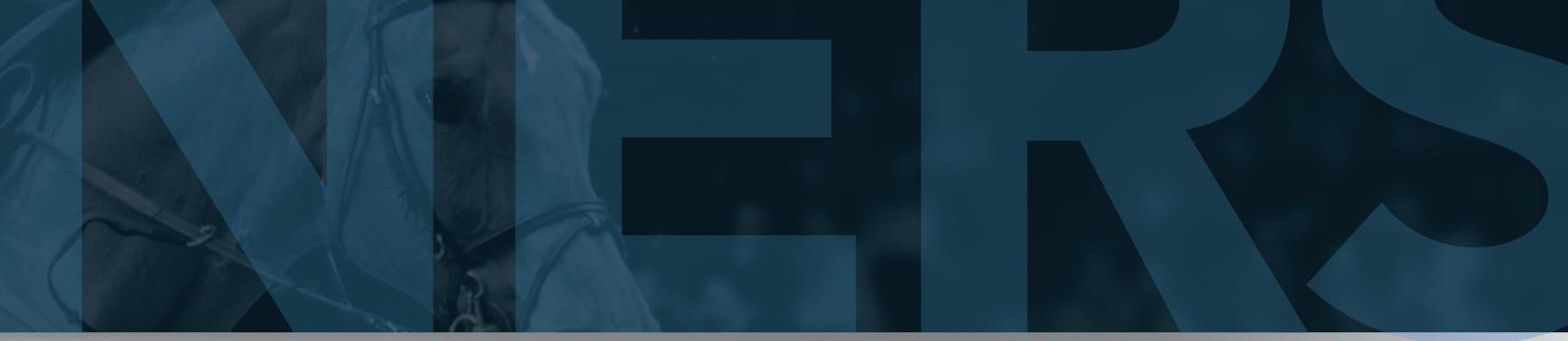
port the Rolex Grand Slam of Show Jumping was a natural progression.

Rolex has been Title Sponsor, since 2001, of the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final - a high-light on the equestrian calendar that assembles the 10 highest-ranked riders in the world - as well as a major supporter of the Young Riders Academy, developed by a group of equestrian professionals with the cooperation of the IJRC and the European Equestrian Federation (EEF).



Credit: ©Rolex/Jean-Daniel Meyer





Behind the scenes

Behind the scenes, Rolex participates in the development of equestrian through its patronage of the Jumping Owners Club, an organization that brings together and supports the world's leading horse owners involved in the discipline. The brand also partners the International Jumping Riders Club, a group comprised of the top-ranked riders that promotes the image of jumping in equestrian sport and organizes the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final.



The 2015 Rolex IJRC Top Ten Final

As every year, in 2015, the elite of international Show Jumping will gather in Geneva (SUI) for the fifteenth edition of the Top Ten Final, presented by Rolex and the International Jumping Riders Club.

The riders, who will participate in this competition, are the best in the world. These are: Scott BRASH (GBR), Kent FARRINGTON (USA), Penelope LEPREVOST (FRA), Gregory WATHELET (BEL), Daniel DEUSSER (GER), Bertram ALLEN (IRL), Simon DELESTRE (FRA), Ludger BEERBAUM (GER), Christian AHLMANN (GER), Luciana DINIZ (POR).

First of all congratulations to all these top riders for the results of the year and for qualifying to the ROLEX IJRC TOP10 Final that will be held within the framework of the 55th Geneva Horse Show next 11th December 2015.

Last year in Geneva, Scott Brash was victorious with Hello Sanctos. The British rider stole the show from Patrice Delaveau and Lacrimoso HDC. The third place was awarded to the Olympic champion Steve Guerdat with Albführen's Paille de la Roque.

Who will be the best of the best this year: 2015?

Special Prize

In this fifteenth edition of the IJRC Rolex Top 10 Final, there is a very special prize dedicated to the rider who, after 15 years, has competed in the most editions of this unique event.

The athlete will return with a crystal trophy, a Lalique Vase. A herd of wild horses gallops over this handcrafted crystal vase, their flowing manes revealing the true extent of their freedom, making this item very precious indeed.

To win this special prize means being crowned as one of the very best riders in the world for more than a decade.

The winners will be not one - but two - legends of top international show jumping: Ludger Beerbaum and Marcus Ehning.



15 years
TOP 10



International Jumping Riders Club

Concept

Fabio Petroni - Laura Borromeo - IJRC Team

Iconographic Research

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Photos

Fabio Petroni- Kit Houghton - Roland Thunholm - Amélie Bès - IJRC Archive - Archive Alban Poudret

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Texts

Laura Borromeo - IJRC Archive - Some texts from the book: "Le Concours Hippique International de Genève, from 1926 up to today, a History of Passion", Written by Alban Poudret, Editions Slatkine.

Special thanks



that made possible the realization of TOP 10







15
years
TOP 10



International Jumping Riders Club

by the athletes **ijrc**  *for the athletes*

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