



FINALES COUPE DU MONDE FEI JUMPING ET DRESSAGE 2018

11-15 AVRIL
ACCORHOTELS ARENA



Press release – Lyon, 24 April 2018

ALMOST 34,000 SPECTATORS FOR THE LONGINES FEI WORLD CUP JUMPING AND THE FEI WORLD CUP DRESSAGE FINALS' RETURN TO PARIS

From 11 to 15 April, the Accor AccorHotels Arena in Paris played host to the Longines FEI World Cup Jumping and the FEI World Cup Dressage Finals, which returned to the City of Light more than twenty-five years after they were last organised there. The event attracted a large turnout: almost 34,000 spectators were present for Germany's Isabell Werth and America's Beezie Madden's victories.

The FEI World Cup Finals had not stopped off in Paris since 1987 for jumping and 1991 for dressage. The organisers of the event, GL events Equestrian Sport, faced a major challenge: bringing the best horses in the world to the AccorHotels Arena, a site which hadn't played host to equestrian competitions since it had been renovated, and attracting a new generation of spectators, more than ten years after the last edition of the Jumping de Bercy.

A successful challenge

Two leading ladies of world riding were victorious in the ring, to the delight of the enthusiastic public. For dressage, the athlete who has won the most medals in the world, taking all championships and disciplines into account, Germany's Isabell Werth, won her fourth FEI World Cup title and made it two in a row following her victory last year. For jumping, the Longines FEI World Cup remains in American hands: Beezie Madden won her second Final, after a first victory in 2013, and thus succeeds her fellow countryman, McLain Ward. The competition, which lasted five days, attracted almost 34,000 spectators; on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 April, the days on which the riders were crowned, 8,400 and 9,200 people were present for the victories of the German rider and the American rider.

For the FEI, the Fédération Equestre Internationale, *"the public was extraordinary, and the atmosphere was very exciting among these very enthusiastic fans, during the two Finals. The standing ovations for the winners have become the norm in our sport, which delights the FEI."*

For Sylvie Robert, the President of GL events Equestrian Sport, *"the sport during this week of competition and celebration has been first-rate. The teams of GL events Equestrian Sport and more generally GL events, who have worked for many months to make this double event a success, have demonstrated their expertise in the organisation of world events. They can be proud of allowing a new generation of riders and spectators to discover the exceptional atmosphere a final in Paris."*

The public is now expected in Lyon, for the qualifying legs of the Longines FEI World Cup Jumping and the FEI World Cup Dressage, from 31 October to 4 November 2018, during Equita, Lyon's horse exhibition, organised by GL events Equestrian Sport.

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