

GLOBAL CHAMPIONS TOUR MEDIA GUIDE 2009

Edition 8











Foreword

"Throughout the past four years the Global Champions Tour has proven to be the most prestigious event in the world of Show jumping.

The importance of the Global Champions Tour on the worldwide calendar makes each competition a major event in the international sport where the top riders in the world compete against each other with their best horses.

My Aim from the beginning was to improve and lift our sport to a new dimension. Thanks to the support from CN, CN Worldwide, Rolex and Eurosport , I have had the opportunity to create a unique tour that I think our sport deserves.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the event organizers whose support has played a very important role in the Global Champions Tour.

The riders have also contributed to the progression of the GCT and I would like to thank them for the continuing support and loyalty.

Due to our sponsors, partners and riders I'm sure this year we will see again exciting competition at breath taking venues."

Mr. Jan Tops President Global Champions Tour









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1.Global Champions Tour Concept

The main goal of the Global Champions Tour is to develop the equestrian sport and position itself amongst top sport.

The Global Champions Tour brings together the best riders, the best horses, the highest prize money, the best venues and facilities to create the best outdoor show jumping series.

1.1 Global Champions Tour 2009 calendar

This year the Global Champions Tour consists of 9 stages on 3 continents:

02-05 April GCT of Italy in Arezzo
08-10 May GCT of Spain in Valencia
21-24 May GCT of Germany in Hamburg
11-13 June GCT of France in Cannes

25-27 June GCT of Monaco

09-11 July GCT of Portugal in Estoril
31 July-02 August GCT of Brazil in Rio de Janeiro

21-23 August GCT of The Netherlands in Valkenswaard

11-15 November GCT Final of Qatar in Doha

1.2 Invitation system

- 60% of the riders will consist of the riders 1 to 30 on the Rolex Rankings two months prior to the event. In case of riders declining invitations replacements will be selected from the Rolex Rankings in descending order. Riders in this group cannot be lower on the Rolex Rankings than 150th place. Requirements obliging organizing committees to invite at least two riders from each NF are to be relaxed;
- 10% of the participants will be home riders and will be selected from the top 150 riders on the Rolex Rankings. Also included in this group is the FEI Wild Card. The home riders are selected by the home National Federation and the FEI Wild Card by the FEI. Should the Organizing Committee (OC) not be able to meet its quota of home riders in this group, the quota will be filled by inviting additional riders from 60% group in descending order as described above:
- 30% of the participants are selected by the OC. It is not obligatory that these participants be chosen from the Rolex Rankings.









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Rolex Rankings used for invitations

GCT of Italy, Arezzo GCT of Spain, Valencia	Rolex Rankings no. 97 Rolex Rankings no. 98
GCT of Germany, Hamburg	Rolex Rankings no. 98
GCT of France, Cannes	Rolex Rankings no. 99
GCT of Monaco, Monte-Carlo	Rolex Rankings no. 99
GCT of Portugal, Estoril	Rolex Rankings no. 100
GCT of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro	Rolex Rankings no. 100
GCT of The Netherlands, Valkenswaard	Rolex Rankings no. 101
GCT Final Qatar, Doha	GCT pre Final Rankings

1.3 The GCT Grand Prix, highlight of each stage

- The class that counts for points in the GCT ranking is the Grand Prix, presented by CN and CN WorldWide which takes place on the Saturdays of the events;
- It is a show jumping competition over two different rounds against the clock with one jump off against the clock in case of a tie on penalties for the first place;
- A maximum of eighteen participants return for the second round based on penalties and time in the first round. In any case, all participants with zero penalties in the first round return for the second round. The participants that tie for the 18th place (penalties and time) are allowed to participate in the second round;
- Participants are classified according to their penalties in both rounds and if necessary according to their penalties and time in the jump-off.
- The participants of the second round not taking part in the jump-off are classified according to their penalties in both rounds and time in the second round;
- The participants of the first round not taking part in the second round are classified according to their penalties and time in the first round.

Starting order

- The starting order will be established according to a draw. Participants are divided into two groups based on their position on the Rolex Rankings at the time of the event. The competitors in the group with the higher ranked participants start last in the first round.









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- The order of starting in the second round is according to the reverse order of penalties and time in the first round.
- The order of starting in the jump-off is according to the same order as in the second round.

Point system for the GCT ranking

- The 18 riders that start in the second round will receive points;
- After the 8th leg (Valkenswaard, The Netherlands), a full count will be made up of the Global Champions Tour Ranking and the best 25 riders will be invited to participate in the final in Doha, Qatar.
- Number of points that can be earned during the first 8 legs:

1 st place	20 points	10 th place	9 points
2 nd place	18 points	11 th place	8 points
3 rd place	16 points	12 th place	7 points
4 th place	15 points	13 th place	6 points
5 th place	14 points	14 th place	5 points
6 th place	13 points	15 th place	4 points
7 th place	12 points	16 th place	3 points
8 th place	11 points	17 th place	2 points
9 th place	10 points	18 th place	1 point

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1.4 The Global Champions Tour Final

The Global Champions Tour Final of 2009 will take place in Doha, Qatar from 11 to 15 November.

The invitations are being done by the final Global Champions Tour Rankings, appearing after Valkenswaard on 23rd of August 2009.

The best 25 riders of the Global Champions Tour Rankings will be invited.

In case of riders declining invitations replacements will be selected from the Global Champions Tour Rankings.

Round1

- It is one round against the clock;
- A maximum of twenty five participants start in this 1,60m class;
- The order of starting in this class is the reversed order of the Global Champions Tour Rankings. The rider with most points starts last;
- The class is the qualifier for the Grand Prix on the 11th November. The best 18 qualify.

Round 2

- It is one round with a jump-off;
- A maximum of eighteen participants return for this 1,60m class based on penalties and time in round 1;
- The order of starting in this class is the reversed order of the first round. The winner starts last;
- The riders all start on the same level.









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2.The sponsors and partners

2.1 CN and CN WorldWide

"We're North America's Railroad. But our support of show jumping is as big as the world."

As a leader in North American rail transportation, CN has a long history of equestrian event sponsorship. Horsepower is something we just can't seem to get enough of.

As we extend our activities overseas and around the world in the global freight forwarding market, it is only fitting that our love of equestrianism and show jumping in particular follows us.

That's why we've been proud to sponsor the Global Champions Tour since 2006, soon after we launched our global freight forwarding subsidiary, CN WorldWide, provider of seamless, single-source transportation services for transpacific and transatlantic shippers.

CN is a familiar and highly respected name in transportation from the Pacific to the Atlantic to the Gulf of Mexico. And, the Global Champions Tour is perfectly suited as an ambassador for our company, exemplifying our beliefs and showcasing our values for our new friends, customers and business partners abroad, and helps us extend our reach overseas.

When we look at the sport of show jumping, we see a set of ideals that we've espoused since the age of steam, when we helped open up the continent to ever-increasing business. Ideals like fostering strong connections and relationships, both locally and around the world. Our passion for excellence and for continuous improvement as we compete against the world's best. And how we take the very same principles of precision used to execute a perfect jump and apply them to our rail operations at home and our freight forwarding activities abroad.

CN is proud to sponsor the sport while demonstrating what we stand for, both as a worldclass provider of global freight forwarding services, and as a leader in North America's rail market.

There's something noble about horse and rider taking on the course and the clock, an exercise in perfect synergy. With our Global Champions Tour sponsorship, CN wants to share its devotion to the sport with our customers and avid spectators of show jumping wherever our business takes us. On the tracks or the turf, wherever seamless perfection is the goal.

2.2 Rolex

Rolex and equestrian sport

Rolex has been present in equestrian sports since 1957. In these sports, excellence flows from flawless timing, precision and the grace of the horses and riders.









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Today, Rolex is actively involved in four disciplines:

- · jumping,
- dressage,
- eventing,
- · polo.

Rolex is a partner of the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI), the major international association governing the sport, and also supports some thirty of the most renowned events on the international circuit.

Since 2002, Rolex has sponsored the FEI World Equestrian Games, considered to be the most prestigious equestrian competition in the world. This event, unique in its genre, takes place every four years at a different venue and brings together for two weeks the seven disciplines officially recognized by the international equestrian authorities: jumping, dressage, eventing, endurance, vaulting, driving and reining.

In 2010, for the first time, an eighth discipline, para-equestrian sport, will be part of the programme.

In jumping particularly, Rolex is associated with several annual international competitions and events:

- the CHIO Aachen (Germany),
- the CSI-W Geneva (Switzerland),
- the CSIO Spruce Meadows (Canada),
- the Brussels International Jumping (Belgium),
- the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final.

Since 2007, Rolex has been Title Sponsor of the Rolex FEI World Cup™ Final, one of the most exhilarating equestrian jumping competitions.

Rolex is also the "Official Timekeeper" of the Global Champions Tour, a series of high-level international outdoor jumping competitions.

In the discipline of eventing, Rolex in the 1980s became the Title Sponsor of the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event (four-star event), which takes place annually in Lexington, Kentucky (United States). Rolex also sponsors two other major international competitions in this discipline: the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials (since 1999) and the Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials (since 2000). These two four-star contests take place in the United Kingdom.

In 2001, Rolex created the Rolex Grand Slam of Eventing. This trophy is awarded to the rider who wins consecutively at Lexington, Badminton and Burghley. To date, only British horsewoman Pippa Funnell has succeeded in this accomplishment, in 2003.

In polo, Rolex sponsors several prestigious events in Argentina, one of the leading countries in this discipline: the Copa de Oro Ellerstina and the Open Championship.









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Rolex Testimonees include five men and women with exceptional records:

- Brazilian rider Rodrigo Pessoa, Olympic jumping champion, is considered to be one of the most remarkable riders of his generation;
- A German rider of American origin, Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum is the first woman to be ranked world number one in jumping (in 2005). In 2006, for the second time, she took first place on the podium at the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final in Geneva.

Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum won the Rolex FEI World Cup™ Final in 2005 and 2008;

- British rider Zara Phillips, a talented young horsewoman in the discipline of eventing, was awarded the title of individual world champion in 2006 at the FEI World Equestrian Games in Aachen;
- British rider Pippa Funnell is the first woman to be ranked number one in her speciality, eventing, and, to date, is the first rider ever to have won, in 2003, the Rolex Grand Slam of Eventing;
- German rider Isabell Werth is one of the most decorated riders in dressage. She won the team gold medal and an individual silver medal at the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008. In 2007, she finished first at the Rolex FEI World Cup™ Final in Las Vegas

2.3 Eurosport

Eurosport : Europe's leading sports channel

Eurosport is Europe's N°1 sports channel with more viewers, more top events, more live sport and a huge diversity of sporting disciplines.

Distribution of Eurosport

- Eurosport is the most widely distributed sports channel in Europe with the broadest geographical coverage:
- The channel is available in 116 million homes.
- 22 million viewers every day are watching Eurosport
- The channel is broadcast in **59 countries**
- It is the only sports channel available in **20 languages**: 95% of Eurosport viewers receive the channel in their native language
- Eurosport delivers the richest, most diverse and most appealing sports offered to its viewers: Over **6,000 hours** of the best sports events and **more than 100 different sports**

Eurosport and The Global Champions Tour

Eurosport is the media partner of the GCT since the 2007 series.

Eurosport brings their broadcaster's expertise in order to define the best programming timeslot and the best TV format. The objective is to provide the public, the fans, as well as the partners, with a high quality live program with a real editorial consistency throughout the season.









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The growing number of viewers shows that the Global Champions Tour is truly taking the sport of show jumping to the next level, and Eurosport Event is very proud to contribute to this development, to underline the heritage and beauty of the host cities and its surroundings, and to offer a wide and top level broadcast.













3.GCT Results current and previous years

3.1 Global Champions Tour winners 2009

Arezzo

1. Marco Kutscher (GER) Cash

2. Michel Robert (FRA) Pepita de Kellemoi

3. Bernardo Alves (BRA) Chupa Chup

Valencia

1. John Whitaker Peppermill Ninja La Silla 2. Rolf-Goran Bengtsson 3. Edwina Alexander Itot du Chateau

Hamburg

1. Bernardo Alves Chupa Chup 2. Carsten-Otto Nagel Corradina 3. Roger-Yves Bost Ideal de la Loge

Cannes

1. Roger-Yves Bost Ideal de la Loge 2. Daniel Deusser AD Aboyeur W 3. Ben Maher Robin Hood W

Monaco

1. Richard Spooner Cristallo

2. Alvaro de Miranda **AD Picolien Zeldenrust**

3. Rodrigo Pessoa Let's Fly

Estoril

1. Leopold van Asten VDL Groep Santana B

2. Clarissa Crotta West Side V-Meerputhoeve

3. Luciana Diniz As-Taro Z

(Rio de Janeiro

1. Gianni Govoni

2. Eric Lamaze

3. Marco Kutscher

Joyau D'Opal Hickstead **Cornet Obolensky**









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3.2 Global Champions Tour winners 2008

Doha

Denis Lynch (IRL) Lantinus 3
 Alois Pollmann-Schweckhorst (GER) Lord Luis
 Steve Guerdat (SUI) Jalisca Solier

Hamburg

Thomas Voss (GER) Leonardo B
 Albert Zoer (NED) Sam
 Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum (GER)Checkmate

Cannes

Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum (GER
 Edwina Alexander
 Robert Whitaker (GBR)
 Shutterfly
 Itôt du Château
 Lacroix 9

Monte-Carlo

Richard Spooner (USA)
 Marcus Ehning (GER)
 Ulrich Kirchhoff (GER)

Cristallo
Vulkano
Carino

Estoril

Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum (GER) Checkmate
 Marco Kutscher (GER) Cash 63
 Nick Skelton (GBR) Arko III

Valkenswaard

Daniel Deusser (GER)
 Nick Skelton (GBR)
 Edwina Alexander (AUS)

Air Jordan Z
Arko III
Isovlas Socrates

Arezzo

Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum (GER) Shutterfly
 Judy-Ann Melchior (BEL) Aktion Pur Z
 Steve Guerdat (SUI) Tresor

São Paulo

Jessica Kürten (IRL)
 Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum (GER)
 Ludger Beerbaum (GER)
 All Inclusive









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3.3 Global Champions Tour winners 2007

Dala	a Daach
Pain	n Beach

Mclain Ward (USA)
 Frankie Chesler (BRA)
 Danielle Torano (USA)
 Sapphire
Picolien Zeldenrust
Vancouver D'Auvray

Cannes

Gregory Wathelet (UKR)
 Jessica Kürten (IRL)
 Jos Lansink (BEL)
 Lantinus 3
 Castle Forbes Libertina
 Al Kaheel Cavalor Cumano

Monte-Carlo

Jessica Kürten (IRL)
 Jeroen Dubbeldam (NED)
 Robert Whitaker (GBR)

Castle Forbes Libertina
BMC Nassau
Lacroix 9

Estoril

Nick Skelton (GBR)
 Beat Mändli (SUI)
 Robert Smith (GBR)

Arko III
Ideo du Thôt
Ronaldo

São Paulo

Hubert Bourdy (FRA)
 Marco Kutscher (GER)
 Malin Baryard-Johnsson (SWE)
 Toulon
 Cash 63
 Butterfly Flip

Valkenswaard

Jos Lansink (BEL)
 Nick Skelton (GBR)
 Angelique Hoorn (NED)
 Al Kaheel Spender S
 Arko III
 Blauwendraad's O'Brien

Arezzo

Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum (GER) Shutterfly
 Albert Zoer (NED) Okidoki
 Laura Kraut (USA) Anthem

Athens

Albert Zoer (NED)
 Nick Skelton (GBR)
 Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum (GER)
 Shutterfly









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3.4 Global Champions Tour winners 2006

Palm Beach

Norman Dello Joio (USA) Glasgow
 Samantha McIntosh (BUL) Loxley 38
 Kimberley Prince (USA) Couletto K James

Cannes

Thomas Frühmann (AUT)
 Nick Skelton (GBR)
 Michel Hécart (FRA)
 The Sixth Sense
 Arko III
 Itôt du Château

Monte-Carlo

Ludo Philippaerts (BEL)
 François Mathy Jr. (BEL)
 Richard Davenport (USA)

Parco
Ivoire du Rouet
Nelson Z

Estoril

Ludo Philippaerts (BEL)
 Edwina Alexander (AUS)
 Bernardo Alves (BRA)
 Parco Isovlas Pialotta
 Chupa Chup 2

Valkenswaard

Leopold van Asten (NED)
 Gerco Schröder (NED)
 Ludger Beerbaum (GER)
 VDL Groep Fleche Rouge
 Eurocommerce Milano
 Gladdys S

Lanaken

Rodrigo Pessoa (BRA)
 Thomas Frühmann (AUT)
 Kristof Cleeren (BEL)
 Oasis
 The Sixth Sense
 Sea Coast Conan









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4.Coming event: Global Champions Tour of the Netherlands, Valkenswaard

4.1 Presentation

Equestrian Sport is a life style. In Valkenswaard this life style can be enjoyed by everybody: riders, horses, sponsors, grooms, press and of course the audience. The show is hosted by Stal Tops, the show jumping stable owned by GCT President and Founder Jan Tops. It is known as one of the best jumping stables in the world and every inch of the property is quality.

International Concours Valkenswaard will be held for the 16th time this year on August 21.22.23rd The weekend before the Horse Festival will take place on August 14.15.16th. Highlights of the International Concours Valkenswaard are the VDL Groep Grand Prix, eighth leg of the Global Champions Tour on Saturday August 22nd. The CN WorldWide Derby will create again a spectacular finish on Sunday August 23rd. During the entire event, showjumping sport at the highest level is ensured with a total of six competitions which count for the Rolex ranking. The natural arenas, the surrounding buildings and the rural environment create a wonderful and relaxed atmosphere for the more than 30.000 spectators to enjoy.

Last year, it was Stal Tops' own rider Daniel Deusser (GER) with black stallion Air Jordan Z, who won the VDL Groep Tour Grand Prix beating Nick Skelton (GBR) riding Arko III and Edwina Alexander (AUS) riding Islovas Socrates. Since Valkenswaard will be the last leg before the Global Champions Tour final in Doha (Qatar) many riders will try to gain more points and do their very best to finish within the top 25 of the Global Champions Tour ranking, which gives them access to the prestigious final. Will last leg winner and best rider of Rio de Janeiro, Gianni Govoni, gain enough points for final qualification? Many things are still to be decided at this all important, final round in the Netherlands.

4.2 Riders 8th GCT stage Valkenswaard

Michel Robert Kevin Staut Penelope Leprevost Roger-Yves Bost Julien Epaillard

Leopold van Asten Gerco Schroder Albert Zoer Henk van de Pol Harry Smolders Erik van der Vleuten Piet Raijmakers Jurg Vrieling Leon Thijssen Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum Ulrich Kirchhoff Ludger Beerbaum Daniel Deusser Marcus Ehning Marco Kutscher









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4.3 Actual GCT ranking

All the riders compete to gain points for the GCT ranking. Please refer to the attached PDF document for the actual ranking which is based on the results of the 7 completed rounds of Global Champions Tour 2009 to date.











5. Media Services

5.1 Website press registration

In order to help you, we have built this year a special area on our website www.globalchampionstour.com reserved for journalists.

On the home page, click on "About GCT" and you will see a section called "Media services".

You will find in the media services:

- The updated media-guide
- All the press releases
- A selection of pictures, free to download

To become a member of the media services, you will have to register, in order to receive your password. Then, you will have always access to the latest press tools.

5.2 GCT press team

In order to assist you, don't hesitate to contact us:

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		agent

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5.3 Press officers on sites

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