

Newsbrief - eventing Nov 2009

Nerves are taught at this time with Northern Farm CCI3* qualifying event just around the corner! The last training clinic with Jean-Philippe Camboulives has taken place at Kyalami Equestrian Park. The top riders (in alphabetical order) Paul Hart, Douglas Welsh, Graham Winn and Heidi Wood are in a position to obtain a qualifying result at Northern Farm thereby qualifying themselves for the World Equestrian Games 2010! The riders have raised their standard of riding beyond expectations under the guidance and coaching of Jean-Philippe. Meetings are taking place to talk about quarantine dates, departure and arrival times in Europe, possible competitions in Europe during the period March – September 2010 while riders are based with JPC in Fontainebleau. The committee has had talks about veterinary regulations and is busy studying the draft WEG 2010 schedule (some 28 pages long!) In addition, Martyn Swanepoel, Hayley Parker, Inge Hansen, Paige Shiller and Robyn Groenink are also gaining valuable experience from being under the care of Jean-Philippe with a view to future international participation. While Jean-Philippe is here we will be asking him for the plan for 2010 - as Eventing National Coach his time allotted to SA eventing will be split between looking after those eventing athletes in Europe and those who will be joining the eventing programme here at home going forward to 2012 and beyond!

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For the first time in the history of eventing in South Africa, four riders have qualified for the World Equestrian Games on their own horses in South Africa! Congratulations to (in alphabetical order) **Paul Hart, Douglas Welsh, Graham Winn and Heidi Wood** for raising the bar and proving that South Africa has the horses and the riding talent to compete at international level. The horses **Heartbreak Hill, Trinity Kings Courier, Zorba and Trinity Quantum Leap** will start their journey in Cape Town at the quarantine station at Kenilworth in early January 2010. In March they will fly to Europe to spend six months with Jean-Philippe at Fontainebleau in France where they will train and compete against the world's best! In addition to this, **Alex Peternell and Tigers Eye II**, a South Africa living and competing in Europe and the UK has also obtained a qualifying result for WEG 2010 and so South Africa has five qualified riders and horses who will work together with Jean-Philippe, an amazing achievement. Martyn Swanepoel and his young horse Kardinal is also travelling with the squad to gain experience and compete to hopefully also qualify for WEG2010.

Newsbrief - Paradressage Dec 2009

SANEF hosted the Interprovincial Team Competition event and, for the first time, it offered SA riders the opportunity to qualify for the World Equestrian Games in 2010. This will be the first time in history that Paradressage has been included in the World Equestrian Games. SASAPD and SANEF are delighted to announce that the following riders qualified at the weekend to compete in the WEG: Marion Milne – Grade I b, Wendy Moller – Grade II, Anthony Dawson – Grade II, Cathy Lloyd – Grade IV. They join Beijing Paralympic double gold medalist, Philippa Johnson, who qualified with her scores at the 2008 Paralympic Games.

Newsbrief - Vaulting Dec 2009

The second International Vaulting Qualifier took place on the 4th and 5th of December. After this event, six out of seven males entered, and four out of seven females entered, achieved a qualifying score of 6 or higher, making them eligible for participation at WEG 2010, and eligible for selection by the National selection panel. Males are Kegan Smith, Bongani Mvumvu, Sebastian Andrews, Yorick Smith, Dylan Jones, Khensani Maluleke. Females are Megan Taylor, Kelsey Jo Baumann, Kayla Gertenbach, Zahne Pienaar, Chelsey Gertenbach.

Newsbrief - Show Jumping Nov 2009

The World Cup series drew to a nail biting finish with an on form Dominey Alexander (who took the honours in the Western Province Championships the day before) riding Capital Shiraz, being pipped at the post by Sean Neill on the magnificent Gold Rush in the last of the World Cup Qualifiers hosted by Glenellen Farm in Hout Bay. Frank Rothenberger was in Cape Town for the first time to design the track for 23 starters. The finale means that Sean Neill is victorious in this series for the second time and is eligible to compete in the April 2010 World Cup Final in Geneva. This year more than 10 SA riders have qualified for the WEG on their horses, whilst we have 3 horse and rider combinations qualified in Europe. The difficulty being budget, few of these riders are planning to export their horses on the next shipment to Europe, though Barry Taylor plans to campaign a European based horse over the next few months with the target of WEG in his sights. SANEF hopes that Sean Neill and Gold Rush will join him in preparation for both the World Cup Final and the road forward to WEG.

Newsbrief - Eventing Jan 2010

The journey to WEG 2010 began this week for the event horses that travelled down to the Cape to start pre-quarantine. Douglas Welsch and Heidi Wood drove "Kings Courier" and "Quantum Leap" in their two berth - their horses are staying in the free zone until Monday 18th, when they will join "Zorba," Heartbreak Hill", and "Kadinal" at the Kenilworth Quarantine Station. Graham Winn drove behind the big float carrying the Gauteng contingent and settled them in for their first night in pre-quarantine. They are all relaxed, having been walked out and given the opportunity to walk around their temporary home. In the middle of March they will fly to Europe for the next stage of this adventure.