



FEI European Eventing Championship

for Young Riders & Juniors 2016 - Presented By Saudia



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Equestrian, Eventing

Young rider Europeans: France reigns Europe, Italy takes bronze!

French riders win two golds and a bronze medal overtaking the German team. Italy is back on the podium after 8 years of absence

The 39th young rider individual eventing champion has been crowned today at The Military Equestrian Centre of Montelibretti. French rider Marie Charlotte Fuss rose to the top of the leaderboard riding Sillas de la Nee (51,80) climbing from 10th place after yesterday's cross-country to clinch the individual gold medal. Hella Meise conquered silver with First Filght's Beauty (53,70). She was 18th after the dressage and moved up 16 places thanks to an extraordinary cross-country performance and a show-jumping round spoilt only by 4 faults.

Another French rider to jump on the podium is Alexis Goury who rode Trompe L'Oleil D'Emery (53,90). He worked his way to the top from 21st after dressage to the bronze medal position. Ludovica Manzoli was the best of the Italians. She finished in 14th place on Pin Up de Mai (66,10).

The individual bronze medal wasn't enough for France. They won their battle against Germany and are now taking home the team gold medal. They were still second yesterday at the end of the cross-country day but kept a cool head and have been repaid with the European title. They finished on 169,00.

It was a real team effort on behalf of Victor Burtin (Early Van Ter Nieuwbeke), Thais Meheust (Quamilha), Alexis Goury (Trompe L'Oleil D'Emery) and Marie Charlotte Fuss (Sillas De La Nee). They added two gold medals to their total of 7. They now have a total of 9 titles and are third behind Great Britain (31) and Germany (23) in the European Championship's medal table.

The Germans hold on to silver (177,90) while the Italians take bronze. The riders who have competed on the team of the host nation are Ludovica Manzoli (Pin Up de Mai), Luca Mezzaroba (Laomaco), Giulio Guglielmi (Mister Brightside) and Fosco Girardi (Feldheger) who were guided by the chef d'equipe Alberto Casolari the Italian selector Andrea Mezzaroba.

Italy finished on a total of 207,20. This is Italy's first young rider medal since 2008. Pascal Forabosco, chef d'equipe for France: *"This medal is the result of a year of hard work. I would like to thank the Italian Equestrian Federation and the Military Equestrian Centre for this fantastic event"*.

Alberto Casolari, chef d'equipe of the Italian team: *"I am really proud of all of our riders, these four and the eight individuals. Italian eventing proved it can be competitive"*.

Andrea Mezzaroba, Italian selector: *"We are competing against very strong nations that are technically well prepared. They have good training facilities and many high standard events in their own countries. Our result has been a true team effort. Everyone has contributed, trainers, athletes and their families."*

Vittorio Orlandi, President of Fise: *"Italy proved once again that it is capable of organizing important events like this one, and do it well. As far as the team is concerned I am proud of them. In my role as President of FISE I promise I will support eventing. My dream is to see my riders win gold at the next Olympics"*.

General Francesco Caramia, President of the Organizing Committee: *"To have both Young Rider and Juniors in a double European Championship here at Montelibretti was a real challenge, but watching these youngsters in action repaid all our hard work. I hope that one day the Military Equestrian Centre will be elected to host other events at this or a higher level"*.

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