

LONGINES EQUITA LYON

CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL

LYON
EUREXPO
28 OCTOBRE
1 NOVEMBRE
2026

Lyon, Rhône,
29 October 2026

LONGINES EQUITA LYON, CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL FEI DRESSAGE WORLD CUP™ GRAND PRIX presented by CRE-ARA A GENUINE RECITAL BY JUSTIN VERBOOMEN AND ZONIK PLUS

The Dressage competition got the FEI World Cups™ off to a great start on Thursday morning at the Longines Equita Lyon, *Concours Hippique International*. The crowds at Eurexpo were treated to a truly incredible performance by Justin Verboomen and the amazing Zonik Plus in the FEI World Cup™ Grand Prix presented by CRE-ARA. The Belgian rider stopped Isabell Werth (GER) from claiming her sixth victory in Lyon, riding her young and promising horse, Viva Gold OLD. Belgium had two riders on the podium, thanks to the excellent third place achieved by Larissa Pauluis and her trusty horse Flambeau.

The clash of the Titans

Everyone was expecting a real battle and they were certainly not disappointed. The defending champion was up against the five-time winner of this FEI World Cup™ stage in Lyon. Isabell Werth was the first of the two champions to take to the arena and she set the bar very high. The German rider delivered a superb performance with her new ten-year-old star, only marred by a small mistake on the tempi changes. Her dark chestnut horse is extremely expressive and responsive and certainly destined for a bright future. And the pair duly took the lead in the competition with a score of 77.587%.

When being relaxed leads to perfection

Then, the silver medallists from the last World Championships took to the arena. All those watching were immediately struck by the black stallion's lightness; it seemed as if he was almost floating through the air. The two "partners" gave a genuine recital in terms of their performance, notably executing some very lively passages-piaffes and pirouettes that were close to perfection. The pair were rewarded with an excellent score of 79.065% and took first place in the class. Justin Verboomen is always trying to keep his horse as relaxed as possible and was delighted with this performance: *"Today, I just wanted to go through the routine while trying to give him a bit more freedom, at times, and demand much less from him, so that he would feel at home. Everything felt really good. He was easy to ride during the trot, the piaffe and passage, I hardly had to give him any guidance at all. In fact, I'm not quite sure what he actually did in the end, I'll have to watch the video... (laughs). During the gallop, he still needs to move more freely. Tomorrow, the objective will be to maintain the same mindset, to have fun with the music and, for me too, to enjoy the test even more."* Well, we are looking forward to tomorrow then!



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A personal best for Larissa Pauluis

Larissa Pauluis, who is a regular at the event in Lyon, took third place with a score of 74.630%, setting a new personal best in the process. *"Flambeau had energy to spare and was at times a little explosive. But that's just like him! He may be sixteen and a half, but he's constantly reminding me that he still has a great deal to offer. My aim was to reach 75% this season, and we came really close today. A few little mistakes cost us points, notably when he stumbled at the end of the diagonal. Lyon is a competition that Flambeau and I love, and one that he really seems to perform well at."*

Two French riders were competing in this FEI World Cup™ stage. Alexandre Ayache took 11th place, riding Ruling Olivia (68.543%), whilst Alizée Roussel and Bel Amour came 14th with a score of 66.783% in their first FEI World Cup™. *"Alizée was unlucky because her horse got a bit spooked by the screen. Despite that, he stayed with her and they put in a good performance. Their ranking does not reflect their performances in the arena. Bel Amour has many good qualities, but he isn't always easy to manage. He has made a lot of progress over the past year. I think he will be better tomorrow. As for Alexandre, his mare was a bit tentative during the piaffe. Still, he performed a fairly smooth test. They need to maintain the same level of activity while finding a bit more harmony,"* said Jean Morel, Head Coach of the French dressage team.

Friday: a busy programme

Tomorrow sees the conclusion of the FEI Dressage World Cup™ with the Grand Prix Freestyle, presented by the FFE at 1.15pm. Then, in the evening, it will be time to make way for show jumping, with the Longines Grand Prix of the CSI 5*-W competition scheduled to start at 8.30pm. At the end of the class, a ceremony will be held in the international arena to honour the best "D-year" Selle Français horses and their breeders, along with a presentation of the top three horses from the French Sport Selle Français Championship for 3-year-olds.

[View all the results and start lists here.](#)

[Follow the events live here](#)

PRESS CONTACTS

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LONGINES EQUITA LYON, CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL'S UNMISSABLE SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

Friday 30 October

- . The FEI Jumping Ponies' Trophy, the CWD Grand Prix
- . The FEI Dressage World Cup™ - Grand Prix Freestyle presented by FFE Generali
- . The Longines Grand Prix, CSI5*-W, followed by the equestrian show *One Night at Equita*

Saturday 31 October

- . The FEI Jumping Ponies' Trophy, the CWD Grand Prix
- . The FEI Driving World Cup™ presented by Laiterie de Montaigu, first round
- . The Equita Masters presented by Hermès Sellier, followed by the equestrian show, *One Night at Equita*

Sunday 1 November

- . The FEI Driving World Cup™ presented by Laiterie de Montaigu, second round
- . The Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ leg

PLEASE NOTE:

All the FEI World Cup™ Dressage, Driving and the FEI Jumping Ponies' Trophy classes are open to everyone, who has an "exhibition" entry ticket. The Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ offers a majority of classes with free access, and three high-flying classes that the world's best riders dream of adding to their list of wins: the Longines Grand Prix, the Equita Masters presented by Hermès Sellier, and the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ leg (specific tickets are required for these three classes).

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE WESTERN AREA

Saturday 31 October

- . The NRHA European Derby Open Final Section 2

Sunday 1 November

- . The NBHA European Barrel Racing and Pole Bending Cup



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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

EXHIBITION OPENING TIMES*

- From Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 October from 8 am to 8.30 pm
- On Saturday 31 October, from 8 am to 10.30 pm (*late night opening*),
- On Sunday 1 November from 8 am to 7 pm

EXHIBITION TICKETS

- Free for children under 6-years-old and disabled people^{1,3}
- Full price: €25
- Reduced rates: French Equestrian Federation (FFE) licence holders, students and holders of Pass Région cards, groups of 15 people and more, €22.50¹
- Children from 6 to 12-years-old: €16
- 5 day-pass: €75
- Family pass (2 adults and 2 children under 16-years-old): €65 (only sold onsite)

"SPORT AND SHOW" EVENING TICKETS

- On Friday 30 October, at 8 pm*, show jumping: from €40²
 - The Longines Grand Prix followed by the equestrian show
- On Saturday 31 October, at 8 pm*, show jumping: from €40²
 - The Equita Masters presented by Hermès Sellier, followed by the equestrian show
- On Sunday 1 November, at 3 pm*, the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ leg: from €40²

To make your experience at these events even more special, a limited number of exclusive packages are also available on our online ticketing website. Check them out now!

INTERNATIONAL REINING TICKET SALES

- On Saturday 31 October, at 5.30 pm*, The NRHA European Derby Open Final Section 2: €55²
- On Sunday 1 November at 12.30 pm, the NBHA European Barrel Racing and Pole Bending Cup: €45²

*Times likely to be modified

¹ Reservations are required for group prices: no group prices will be granted at the entrance of the exhibition. FFE licence holders, students and disabled people must present their card at the entrance of the exhibition.

² Subject to availability.

³ To facilitate access to the site for disabled people, numbered seats in the stands can be reserved at the following e-mail address btoblive@fnac.com



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About GL events Equestrian Sport

GL events Equestrian Sport, the GL events Group's equestrian department, is renowned for its expertise throughout the world. The GL events Group has been involved in all the Olympic and Paralympic equestrian events since 1992.

From its creation, GL events Equestrian Sport has actively supported equestrian sports, while always prioritising equine welfare. Its team has a long-term involvement in the international promotion of equestrian disciplines, organising and installing the facilities of top-class events.

- GL events Equestrian Sport is the organiser of Equita Lyon and Longines Equita Lyon CHI,
- It is the creator of Le Printemps des Sports Équestres in Fontainebleau
- It is the provider and partner of the Saut Hermès at the Grand Palais for the House of Hermès,
- It works in collaboration with the French Equestrian Federation for the Masters Pro Championships,
- It works in collaboration with the Fédération Équestre Internationale, for the 2014 and 2018 World Cup™ Finals.

GL events Equestrian Sport also used all its expertise to contribute to the success of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, for the equestrian and para-dressage competitions in the magical setting of the Gardens of the Palace of Versailles.

In 2026, GL events Equestrian Sport organised the CDI05*, Officiel de France for dressage, at the Grand Parquet in Fontainebleau, during Le Printemps des Sports Équestres.



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