



## **54<sup>TH</sup> CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL DE GENEVE**

**11th to 14th December 2014**

### ***PRESS RELEASE***

### **THE 2014 EDITION THE ONE WITH ALL THE SUPERLATIVES**

**The Concours Hippique International de Genève (CHI Geneva) is offering an exciting show with high-end classes, outstanding competitors, and for the very first time, an Indoor cross country course to the public at Palexpo from December 11<sup>th</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>. Equestrian sports will never have been under such a strong spotlight in Geneva!**

The very best riders will be reunited on the world's biggest arena over four days, from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> December, to compete in high-class competitions. And all the world champions have answered favourably to the invitation; the Swiss Steve Guerdat, Olympic champion, the recent team World champions, the Dutch riders Gerco Schröder, Maïkel van der Vleuten and Jur Vrieling, the European champion, the Frenchman Roger-Yves Bost, the individual World vice-champion 2014 Patrice Delaveau, as well as the current number one, Scott Brash and Daniel Deusser, winner of the World Cup and the IJRC Top 10 Rolex Final. The same final that will again be taking place in Geneva on Friday evening. The ten best riders on the planet will compete a two-phase class. Germany with Daniel Deusser, Ludger Beerbaum and Marcus Ehning, as well as France with Patrice Delaveau, Kevin Staut and Pénélope Leprévost, will be the nations the best represented. The American, Kent Farrington who is very comfortable in Geneva, as well as Steve Guerdat, Scott Brash and Maïkel van der Vleuten will try and play mediator.

#### **The Grand Slam as main target**

The Rolex Grand Prix, taking place on Sunday afternoon, will of course be the highlight of this yearly equestrian rendezvous in Geneva. Being part of the Rolex Grand Slam of Show Jumping with Aachen and Calgary, Geneva and its Rolex Grand Prix have grown to a new dimension. The German rider, Christian Ahlmann, winner in Aachen last July, has well understood this. Victory in Geneva will allow him to pocket CHF 300'000, awarded to the winner of the Grand Prix, as well as the substantial amount of EUROS 250'000, which he could touch as the bonus for winning two sequential Grand Prix's.



### **Eight drivers to start**

Since 2002, the FEI Driving World Cup has been present in Geneva. This year will not defy the tradition and Sunday morning will host the competition, after the pre-qualifying leg that will take place on Friday. In total, eight drivers will take part, such as the World champion, the Australian Boyd Exell as well as three Swiss teams. If the well-known Werner Ulrich is part of the selection, Jérôme Voutaz from the Valais and Cyril Maret from the canton of Vaud were granted a wild card by the organisers. Last year Jérôme Voutaz was the best placed Swiss with his horses from the Franches-Montagnes, while Cyril Maret will take part for the very first time in a World Cup event. Without a doubt, we will be sure to hear their fan clubs roar in the public.

### **First indoor cross country in Switzerland**

A third equestrian discipline will find its place at the CHI Geneva this year: cross country. And for its premier, some of the world's better known competitors have kindly responded to the invitation. If only to cite a few, the German rider, Sandra Auffahrt, individual and team World champion as well as Gold and Bronze medallist at the Olympic Games of London, her compatriot, Dirk Schrade, Olympic champion and team World champion, the Swede Ludwig Svennerstal, European silver medallist, as well as the Dutch team, who scored the bronze medal at the last World Championships, will all jump the natural obstacles set up on the two arenas (main and training paddock) following a course designed by Peter Hasenböhler, from Switzerland.

### **Tailor made shows**

Last but not least, various shows will punctuate the sportier side of the programme in Geneva. To ensure the spectacle, the Basel Top Secret Drums Corps, with their 20 crazy drums will provide a stunning show. In a more equestrian register, twelve riders from the Maison du Roy, dressed in Louis XV period costumes will ride accompanied by ten hunting horns. Six traditional carriages, drawn by horses from the Swiss National Stud Farm and two riders from Garde Républicaine française will also feature in the show.

Geneva, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014

**Additional information: [www.chi-geneve.ch](http://www.chi-geneve.ch)**  
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