

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTED GAMES ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER

2015



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THE CHAIRMAN'S WORD

Looking back on IMGA's activities in 2015

Every year, at the IMGA Annual General Meeting (and I've now done quite a few of them) I start the proceedings by looking back at what's happened over the year.

Now that we have this regular newsletter, I'd like to present that review of the year to a wider audience.

Of course there were the year's major championships, starting with the Worlds Individual Championship (WIC), and right from early in the year things didn't look good because of problems with the venue. But a lot of work by a lot of people put that right and in the end we had the biggest championship ever. The story was similar for the World Pairs Championship (WPC) later in the year, with a record number of riders taking part.

The World Team Championship (WTC) was held in Kentucky in July, the first time in North America since 2003 with 14 teams taking part. It was during this championship that we all found out that the European Team and Individual Championship (ET&IC) scheduled to be held in Cluny at the beginning of August had been cancelled by the hosts. There was an immediate reaction around the world and in just a few days, with the cooperation and goodwill of so many people, we had a plan up-and-running to hold the Championship at La Bonde, on the same dates and in the same country. IMGA usually plans major championships with a 2½ year lead time, but this time everything was done in 3 amazing weeks.

Then there was the Nations Championship (NC) in Australia and the U-17 age group of the WTC in Florida. Five major annual championships spread over three continents!

But all of this is only the visible part of what IMGA, its officials, and its members are involved in during a typical year. As well as the usual requirements of running a limited company, officials were actively involved in the setting up and running of 9 sub-committees, each dedicated to the development of a specific area of activity. Referee training and certification continued. A procedure for selecting games to be played at championships was developed. The problems associated with the "first come first served" approach to WIC and WPC entry were addressed and a new system devised. Newsletters became a regular feature on the IMGA website. And problems associated with draws were also studied and the immediate problems resolved.

Each year this work load increases as the scope of IMGA's activities grows. There is simply more and more work to be done each year, with the level of activity during 2015 being about double of that two years ago. I've referred above a couple of times to a lot of people doing a lot of work, and it's thanks to them all that 2015 has been an outstanding year for the worldwide Mounted Games community. Now let's get started on doing even better in 2016.

Happy New Year everyone !

Keith Martin
Chairman, International Mounted Games Association

To Victor Voeltzel



Last week, we had to say goodbye to one of our friends, Victor Voeltzel.

Victor, a 26 years-old very talented rider, was a member of La Bonde club team, and also a rider of the French MGA Team for many years. He was an important element in those teams, winning many medals and trophies.

Victor was also known from everyone for his smile, his sense of humor, and his capacity to always do his best, professionally, sportively or personally.

His disappearance leaves an enormous gap, and we're going to miss his incredible personality.

Rest in peace champion, have fun up there as much as you had down here.

We will never forget you.

COMPETITION RESULTS NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

- **French Open & Senior Pairs Championship – November 7th & 8th – Cluny (France)**

OPEN

- 1st : Bertrand Cavé & Julien Henri
2nd : Mathilde & Victor Hévin
3rd : Léa Sapin & Julien Brun-Cosme

SENIOR

- 1st : Joël Pépin & Sarah Villard
2nd : Valérie Couturier & Camille Picard
3rd : Ambre Guanzioli & Emilie Esteve

- **Nations Championship – November 13th to 15th – Clarendon (Australia)**

Champions : Australia

- **World Team Championship U17 – November 23rd to 26th – Ocala (USA)**

World Team U17 Champions : *England*

Melissa Cheeseman
Ella Clark
Lottie Watson
Lucy Burrows
William Thirlby
Rosie Hutton

IMGA INTERNATIONAL RESULTS OF THE YEAR

- **European Championships 2015 - August 5th to 9th – Gisors (France)**

U12 : England

U14 : Wales

U17 : England

Open : England

Individual : Jamie Reavey (Ireland)

- **Nations Championship – November 13th to 15th – Clarendon (Australia)**

Champions : Australia

- **World Team Championships 2015 – July 6th to 12th – Kentucky (USA)**

U17 : England

Open : U.S.A.

- **World Individual Championships – July 28th to August 1st – Chepstow (Wales)**

U12 : Amelia Swann (England)

U14 : Ben Hopkins (Wales)

U17 : Charlie Sutton (England)

Open : Widukind Moorman (Germany)

- **World Pairs Championships – September 18th to 20th – Newark (England)**

U12 : Jaime Medcalf (Eng) & Sophie Grimshaw (Eng)

U14 : Ben Hopkins (Wal) & Emma Lockyer (Wal)

U17 : Lili Antcliff (Wal) & Lottie Watson (Eng)

Open : Craig O'Connor (Irl) & Kate O'Connor (Irl)

IMGA PROGRAMME 2016

WHEN ?	WHAT ?	WHERE ?
July, 11 th to 17 th	31st World Team Championships OPEN & U17	Millstreet Equestrian Center, Millstreet, Cork, Ireland
July, 26 th to 31 st	11th European Championships	Lumühlen, Germany
August, 1 st to 7 th	25th World Pairs Championships	Vallensbæk Ridecenter, Vejlegårdsvej 135, Vallensbæk, Denmark
August, 15 th to 21 st	31st World Individual Championships	David Broome Event Center Chepstow, Wales
To be decided	IMGA Annual Meeting	Belgium

For more information on the international programme, please check the following web link
<http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/events/2015/index.html>



THE INTERVIEW

MACKENZIE TAYLOR



For this very last IMGA Newsletter of 2015, we have decided to go to America and meet a very talented US rider. Most of you know one of the 2015 World Team Champions, MacKenzie Taylor and her famous pony Ink Spot. Let's try and learn more about her!

Hi MacKenzie. Thank you for accepting this interview! Before talking about games, could you tell us more about yourself?

Hi Mappy, it's not a problem at all! I am 19 years old and I live in a suburb of Washington DC, Maryland. I am trying to pursue a career in Real Estate and hopefully take it to England with me. My Parents own a 45 stable, 100+ acre training and boarding facility. I help train horses and teach lessons there.

2) I believe Mounted Games is a big part of your life! When did it all start?

Yes, games is a huge part of my life. My parents actually met through coaching games on the Pony Club International games exchange in 1990. My mom was coach the USA & my father was coaching the Aus team at the Royal Welsh Horse Show. So obviously I had no choice but to play games from when I could walk. I had my first games competition when I was 4 years old and I rode my Shetland names Cupcake, who I still have to this day!

3) Winning the IMGA World Team Championships in the USA this year must have been an exciting moment! How did you feel? How was the competition?

Feeling excited about winning the WTC is an understatement!! Winning the WTC was a goal I thought I would never see! It was such a close and competitive competition! Ireland went into the 2nd part of the final in first place with a 13 point lead and to say I honestly never thought we would catch them let alone beat them! We could never have come close to accomplishing this without the guidance of our amazing coach Clive Jones, I am forever grateful.

4) You've won a lot of trophies with your different ponies. Can you tell us more about your 4 legged partners?

All my ponies hold a special spot in my heart, but there is one that truly is the love of my life, Inky! I wouldn't have been successful without her! She truly is extraordinary and there's no pony out there like her! She loves the games!! Many people may not know but she was actually a Rescue Pony! It breaks my heart to think someone could neglect her spontaneous, precious self!

5) A few months after your team won the Worlds in Kentucky, the U17 US team were also fighting for the title in Florida! How did they get on? Where you there to cheer for them?

Yes I was at the u17 WTC, I wouldn't have missed it!! I flew straight from Nations Cup, held in Australia to Ocala. The USA team was on fire all week! They truly tried there hardest and rode brilliantly, but in the long run, England's experience shined in the final and tie breaker!

6) I hear you are coming back to Europe this season! What are your goals? Is there one title in particular you would like to win?

I am very excited to be going back over to Europe with my two ponies, Inky & Muffin! I'm so grateful to have such an amazing team for the 2016 season and we're all ready to have a great time!! I have 3 main goals I have set my eye on! I would love to be able to compete at the Europeans one day! Also, to be competitive in the Open World Individuals and World Pairs with Mark Devitt!

7) What do you do when you are not playing games?

Mounted Games is not the only Equestrian Discipline I am involved in. I Fox Hunt, event and competitively Show Jump! Fox Hunting has almost been as big as Games in my life! My Father has been the Master & Huntsman for hunt for over 20 years now! So I have been involved with the hunt and hunting for as long as I can remember!!

Thank you for answering all these questions. We wish you a merry Christmas, a happy new year and plenty of success for 2016.

Happy new year

Glückliches Neues Jahr

Bonne année

Wênd na kô-d yuum-songo

Godt nyttår

Glückliches Neues Jahr

مبارک نو سال (sâle no mobârak)

Sásta Bliain Nua



Felice anno nuovo

E gudd neit Joër

Kia hari te tau hou

Godt nyttår

Bliadhna mhath ur

Unyaka omusha omuhle

Gott nytt år

Es guets Nöis

Blwyddyn newydd dda

You would like more information on the International Mounted Games Association or you have a question for an IMGA Officer? It's very simple! All you need to do is to send your questions to the following e-mail addresses:

For general enquires and information:

<http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/site/contact.html>

IMGA Help Line:

<http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/site/helpline.html>

Thank you for reading this Newsletter! We would like to remind you that this document's purpose is to facilitate the transmission of information throughout the World of Mounted Games.

The IMGA Newsletter n°5 will be published February.



The IMGA Committee

