

Stockholm

The Equestrian Games of the XVith Olympiad Stockholm

June 10th to 17th.

Complete results in French text of edition

We think it unnecessary to refer at length over the reason why the Equestrian Games of the XVith Olympiad had to be held elsewhere than in Melbourne! The famous Australian law on the "quarantaine" against the importation of foreign horses has been the cause of so much talk that it is unnecessary to allude to it again. At the Athens Session in 1954, the International Olympic Committee granted to the City of Stockholm, the staging and the organizing of these Games, seeing that this irreducible law was unacceptable. At the polling, Stockholm was elected and won

by 25 votes to 10 from Paris, by 8 from Rio de Janeiro and respectively by two from Los Angeles and Berlin.

29 Nations entered

Mexico having announced a general withdrawal, 29 nations entered for the following events:

GRAND PRIX OLYMPIQUE DE DRESSAGE - THREE DAY EVENT COMPETITION

GRAND PRIX FOR OLYMPIC, JUMPING COMPETITION

These nations were : Germany - Argentine - Australia - Austria - Belgium - Brazil -

Bulgaria - Cambodia - Canada - Denmark - Egypt - Spain - United States - Finland - France - Great Britain - Holland - Hungary - Ireland - Italy - Japan - Norway - Portugal - Rumania - Sweden - Switzerland - Turkey - U.S.S.R. - Venezuela.

162 riders took part in the Games with 262 horses. Let us recall the fact that Equestrian Sports appeared for the first time on the Olympic Programme of the Vth Olympiad, the Games of which were staged in this very City of Stockholm. The show jumping contests have just taken place in the same Stadium where they were held in 1912.

Two Olympic Villages were set up in the vicinity of the Stadium. The first one was housed in the buildings of the Military Academy of Karlsberg, built at the beginning of the seventeenth century and modernized in recent years. The second was accommodated in the Swedish Naval College in the historical Castle of Näsby.

Technical Programme

For the complete run the programme was drawn as follows :

Dressage (June 11th & 12th). Cross-country (June 13th) Jumping (June 14th).

Cross-country was contested over 34 km. 850 in five distinct but consecutive parts : 7 Km 200 (on roads and paths). 3 Km. 600 steeple-chase. 14 Km. 400 on roads and paths. 7 Km. 650 of cross-country and 2000 m. of flat racing. All the events were submitted to a very strict official timing.

The conditions of entries gave the right to each nation to enter three competitors and two horses for each rider, only one of these horses could be ridden during the contest. A scoring by team consisting in the total point scores obtained by three riders — was officially recognized.

The Jumping competition was contested in two identical rounds, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, and consisted of 16 hinderances of which one was a water jump, one a double and one a triple bar obstacle. In case of a tie between individual competitors or between teams, the rules made provision for enlarging or heightening six of the jumps.

The Stadium which in 1912 could take about 21,000 spectators was enlarged to hold 25,000. It is in this old-fashioned but delightful setting that the Opening Ceremony took place.

The Opening Ceremony

In the old setting of the 1912 Stadium with its wooden stalls in the shape of a horse-shoe, His Majesty King Gustav-Adolf of Sweden opened the Equestrian Games according to a simple and at the same time impressive ceremonial. The presence at the Games of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth of England who had just been paying a

State visit to the Swedish court, came as a special proof of the interest the Queen shows towards all equestrian sports and to Olympism in general. Several high personalities were seated in the Royal Enclosure before the arrival of the King of Sweden. Among them were H. R. H. Prince Bertil, President of the Organizing Committee, the young Prince Charles-Gustav Heir-Apparent to the Throne of Sweden. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, and the Princesses of Sweden and the Netherlands. Let us recall the fact that Queen Juliana's husband, Prince Bernhard is the President of the International Equestrian Federation.

The official personalities of the Organizing Committee were present as well as the members of the International Olympic Committee, they were awaiting on top of the Olympic Tribune the arrival, in an open carriage of H. M. King Gustav-Adolf and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth of England. They were preceded by a squadron of Royal Horse Guards followed by a second open carriage in which rode Her Majesty Queen Louise of Sweden accompanied by H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh.

It was the first time that at an Olympic Ceremony, the horses were in the limelight parading on the lawn of the Stadium. 29 nations marched past during one hour and a half preceded by a contingent of Swedish students on horseback. Three military bands and a male choir composed of 250 singers took part in this Ceremony when the new Olympic Hymn was performed.

The Olympic Flame was lit in Olympia according to the traditional rites under the auspices of the Greek Olympic Committee. The Flame was conveyed by air from Athens to Copenhagen then on to Malmö. From there to Stockholm, a distance of 1000 km, it was transported by relays of 100 horsemen. The second part of the transport took five days. A Swedish rider Hans Wikne on « Spahi » had the honour of being chosen as the last man carrying the Flame to the Stadium, right up to the vessel set on the side of the lawn where he lighted the sacred Fire. Two athletes, a young girl and a young man carried the Flame for its last lap to the summit of the two sided towers covered with ivy. Thus these three Flames were kept burning through out the Games to the glory of Olympism and Peace.

The Opening Ceremony was perfect. If it lacked the imposing grandeur created by the masses and the variety of events at the Olympic Games, this ceremony appealed on account of its local colour, its pure simplicity and its noble dignity. Prince Bertil, in his brief speech delivered in three languages (Swedish. French and English) said:

“The chief aim of the Games is to produce sportsmen and citizens who will render great services on an International basis to their respective countries.”

With simple dignity, King Gustav-Adolf declared the Games opened, while the Flame from Olympia burnt brightly in front of the lawn, near the dark archway of the Marathon's door.

At 3.20 p. m., after a prayer said by the Archbishop of Stockholm, Major Georges de Saint-Cyr, Olympic champion for dressage in 1952 pronounced the traditional oath.

The Ceremony came to an end when a charming display of folklore dancing was performed by two hundred Swedish dancers dressed in national traditional costumes. This gave a perfect touch of colour and the pageant was fairy-like, recalling all the past history of a wonderful nation, a regal performance set to bear testimony to the perennality of the Olympic idea.

The closing Ceremony

The Olympic Flame died out while the last rays of the setting sun shone behind the stands. The final events of the afternoon had taken longer than was anticipated on the programme.

The Closing Ceremony took place according to the Olympic Protocol in the presence of King Gustav-Adolf of Sweden. President Brundage proclaimed the closing of the Games, and in the presence of Prince Bertil, President of the Organizing Committee, he handed over the official flag of the International Olympic Committee to Mr. C. A. Anderson, Mayor of the City of Stockholm. The flag will be kept in the Town Hall till the Melbourne Games take place.

The Olympic Hymn filled the Stadium with its moving rhythm and inspired music, and the curtain was lowered on the first act of the Games of the XVIth Olympiad.

Reflections on the Equestrian Games of Stockholm

The 68 year old Dutch rider Alexis Pantchouldzew, Equerry to H. M. Queen Juliana was the oldest competitor in these Games. It is true that he only won 586,5 points at the Grand Prix de Dressage as compared to the total of 860 realized by the winner of this event (the top official score allocated by the 5 judges was 1140 pts). Born at the end of last century, he kept his form very well in the saddle in this fast moving age.

Mrs. Lilian Williams, English horsewoman (dressage) was indignant when on the official programme on sale in the Stadium her age was revealed as being 61! We are fully aware that the chief qualities required in this test of dressage are endurance and painstaking training. These two competitors have now passed the age for more strenuous tests. In our opinion, they deserve a tribute of the greatest respect and unlimited admiration.

*

Still concerned with dressage, miss Lis Hartel (Denmark), who came in second at Helsinki, achieved a further victory when she won another silver medal in Stockholm. Brilliant, utterly at ease and carrying herself proudly in the saddle, she stood as an example of courage and determination to all the generations present.

Now 35 years old, it is a known fact that Lis, following a serious attack of poliomyelitis, took up riding as a form of reeducation. Four years ago, she walked with the greatest of difficulty, helped by crutches, nowadays, she can walk without any support whatsoever. and each new step spells a new victory for her. When she received her medal at Helsinki, she burst into tears, when she received her silver medal at Stockholm, she smiled happily. She deserved her medal. and as a great colleague of us said if the judges let their hearts speak when allotting her her score, who could blame them? Let us give Lis the credit she deserve and the judges theirs.

*

The German competitor Hans Günther Winkler is not an ex-pro as some people say. His own federation did not therefore require to reinstate him as an amateur seeing that he has never been anything else. We can speak with full knowledge of the facts, as we possess the straightforward evidence on the record of this horseman who has never been classified as a professional by the International Equestrian Federation.

*

For the dressage competition the Jury judging this event consisted of: Baron General de Trannoy (Belgium), General Berger (Germany), General Colliander (Sweden), Colonel Yannes (Chile), and Col. Fog (Denmark).

*

The Swedish rider Bolenstern topped the list- on the Roll of Honour at the end of the first day's dressage but failed to be classified among the first six after the "cracks" came in. Let us credit Bolenstern on having competed in the following Games: Los Angeles, (1932), London (1948), Helsinki (1952) and recently in Stockholm. A very fine record after all!

*

The Ministry of National Defence decided to entrust as "a personal favour" the horse *Illuster* to the care of Sgt. Petrus Kasterman, winner of the Dressage and Endurance Tests. It was, however, prudently stipulated that it was not a present but a proof of exceptional favour!

*

As the Olympic Rules do not lay down an age limit. General Lekarsky competed already in the Paris Games (1924) and in those of Amsterdam (1928). He made a come back 28 years later, when he particip-

ated recently in the Stockholm Games, imbued with de Coubertin spirit. He did not however achieve a score higher than 369,5 points.

*

As we have already said in one of the last issues of the Bulletin, nothing can be changed with regard to appreciation and different opinions, each time that classification depends on the human element for judging, the latter will always be questioned. As far as the question of dressage in the Equestrian sports is concerned, the matter is even more complex. This fact was particularly noticeable on all accounts, in Stockholm, where the judges showed openly a strong leaning towards the German school whose principles stand in opposition with the ones in force in the French school. It was Fernand Albaret of *L'Equipe* who wrote this when he put forward this theory supported by technical explanations which are beyond us.

*

Major Henri Saint-Cyr (Sweden) winner of the dressage event, is 54 years old and has been riding for 44 years. Stockholm was his 4th Olympic selection. At the Berlin Games in 1936 he entered for the full Three Day Endurance Tests but, as he said "since my hair has turned white, I devote myself to dressage."

The Financial Result of the Equestrian Games

The Organizing Committee has published the result of those Games. 135,000 spectators have taken part during eight days to the events on the Olympic Stadium. To this total one should add 40,000 persons who followed the cross-country competition. The total gate receipts amounted to 1,600,000 Crowns, amount of which 25% are going to the Administration of the Stadium. The latter will have to spend about 60,000 Crowns to bring in order the Stadium and the ground. The flowers decoration has cost 7,000 Crowns.

FOR TABLE SEE FRENCH TEXT

Should the Dressage be eliminated from the Olympic Programme ?

Under this title, the great daily Sports newspaper *L'Equipe* expressed severe criticisms on some of the judges chosen to referee the events for the "Grand Prix de Dressage." The majority of these judges were not very highly commended. As far as we are concerned, we maintain that the problem is bound to remain unsolved as long as the judging is left to the human element, without the use of chronometer or "fil d'arrivée". Our Colleague, in his article drew the conclusion that "Seeing that a good solution cannot be found, that it is impossible to eliminate blind partiality and that it is impossible to establish a compromise with the view of conciliating opposed tendencies in the principles which rule the different schools, much the best and simplest way would be to eliminate the *Grand Prix de Dressage* of the Olympic Programme. As it was, the dressage events spread over in a proportion of two days over four allocated for the "concours complet"; the dressage has taken up two more days of the Equestrian Programme. This was excessive and one grows tired of overdone testing."

As we are no experts on the matter, it is not for us to pass judgement on this question as the latter is after all, the concern of the International Federation which assumes full responsibilities on the technical control of its sport. However, we are basing our opinion on figures which often speak better than men and, in order that our readers can judge for themselves we publish in the French edition of this Bulletin the table of marks allocated by the judges to the first seven classified riders. We wish to join in the general tribute paid by the press who met at Stockholm to the great competence and flawless impartiality displayed by the first judge operating in the jury refereeing over the dressage events: Baron de Trannoy, former President of the F. E. I. and member of the International Olympic Committee for Belgium. By his great discrimination and his sound and fair arbitration, he gave a fine example of true sportsmanship for which we wish to congratulate him most heartily.



(Photo AB Text & Bilder, Stockholm, Sweden)



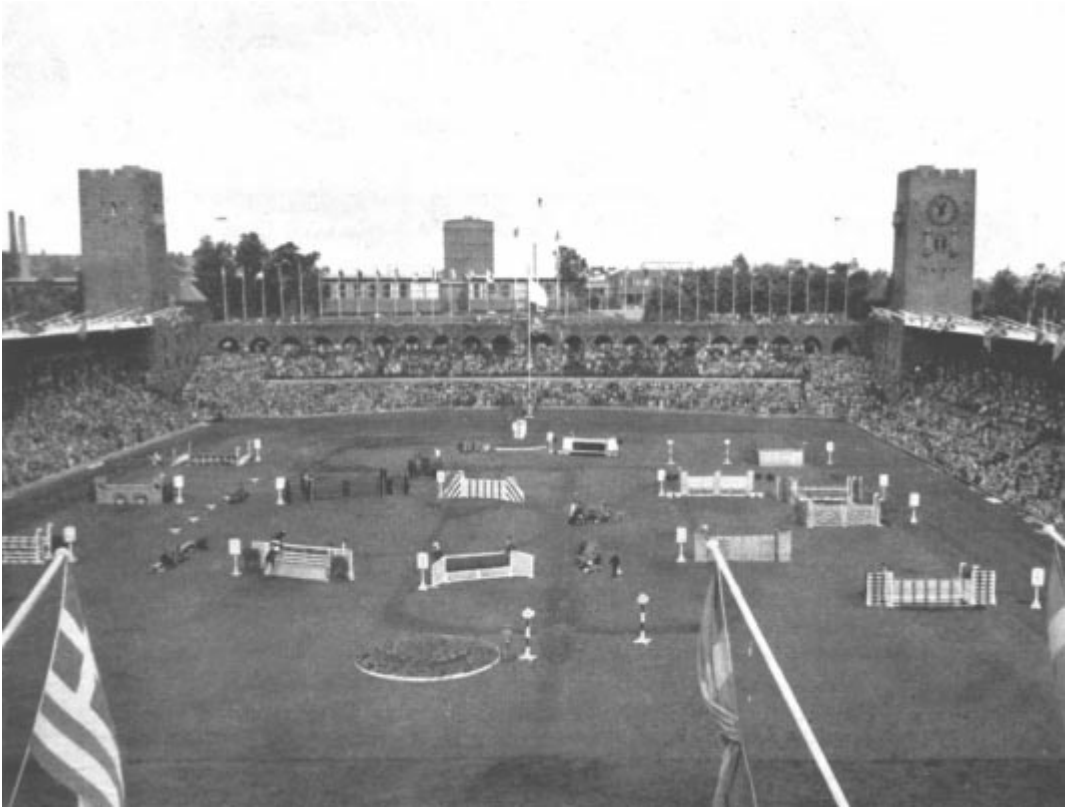
(Photo AB Text & Builder, Stockholm, Sweden)



(Photo AB Text & Bilder, Stockholm, Sweden)



(Photo AB Text & Bilder, Stockholm, Sweden)



(Photo AB Text & Bilder, Stockholm, Sweden)

Palmarès des Jeux Equestres de la XVI^e Olympiade, Stockholm

10-17 juin 1956

DRESSAGE (DU MILITARY) (57 PARTICIPANTS — 1 ÉLIMINÉ).

1. Otto ROTHE (Allemagne) avec *Sissi* — 98,4 pts de pénalisation.
2. Major Arthur Lawrence ROOK (Grande-Bretagne) avec *Wild Venture* — 101,6 pts.
3. Klaus WAGNER (Allemagne) avec *Prinzess* — 102,4 pts.
4. Colonel Francis-William-Charles WELDON (Grande-Bretagne) avec *Kilbarry* — 103,2 pts.
5. Ptl. Roland PERRET (Suisse) avec *Erlfried* — 105,6 pts.
6. Major Kari-Aula-Erkki TOLVANEN (Finlande) avec *Lariina* — 107,6 pts.

CROSS-COUNTRY (DU MILITARY) 34 km. 850 (56 PARTICIPANTS — 14 ÉLIMINÉS).

1. Sgt. Petrus KASTENMAN (Suède) avec *Illuster* + 69,87 de bonification.
2. August LUETKE WESTHUES (Allemagne) avec *Trux von Kamax* + 64,73.
3. Walter Goodwin STALEY (Etats-Unis) avec *Mud Dauber* + 47,43.
4. Guenko Kroumov RACHKOV (Bulgarie) avec *Euphoria* + 44,77.
5. Lev BAKLYCHKINE (U. R. S. S.) avec *Guimnast* + 42,45.
6. William Brendan MULLINS (Irlande) avec *Charteville* + 31,02.

SAUT (PARCOURS DE CHASSE) (37 PARTICIPANTS — 2 ÉLIMINÉS).

Sans pénalisation :

Klaus WAGNER (Allemagne).

— 10 pts de pénal. :

ROTHE (Allemagne),
Saint-Fort PAILLARD (France),
THOMPSON (Australie),
KIRKEBJERG (Danemark),
DE LA SERNA (Argentine),
HERBINSON (Canada),
FREEMAN JACKSON (Irlande),
Kroumov RACHKOV (Bulgarie),
J. M. MERBILHAA (Argentine),
B. J. CRAGO (Australie),
J. ELDER (Canada),
K. OZCELIK (Turquie),
G. GUTIERREZ (Italie),
E. W. CANO (Argentine),
H. C. ANDERSON (Danemark),
J. D. SILVA (Portugal).

— 10,25 pts de pénal. :

HILL (Grande-Bretagne).

— 10,50 pts de pénal. :

W. B. MULLINS (Irlande).

— 12,25 pts de pénal. :

R. A. KUISTILA (Finlande).

— 13,75 pts de pénal. :

A. L. ROOK (Grande-Bretagne).

— 20 pts de pénal. :

KASTENMAN (Suède),
LUETKE WESTHUES (Allemagne),
CHELENKOV (U. R. S. S.),
RAKLYCHKINE (U. R. S. S.),
S. KÖEHLIN (Suisse),
J. RUMBLE (Canada),
A. CAPUZZO (Italie),
G. MOLINARI (Italie),
F. W. C. WELDON (Grande-Bretagne),
etc.

CLASSEMENT FINAL DU CONCOURS COMPLET

1. Sgt. Petrus KASTENMAN (Suède) sur *Illuster*, 66,53 pts.
2. August LUETKE-WESTHUES (Allemagne) sur *Trux von Kamax*, 84,87 pts.
3. Colonel Francis-William-Charles WELDON (Grande-Bretagne) sur *Kilbarry*, 85,48 pts.
4. Lev BAKLYCHKINE (U. R. S. S.) sur *Gymnast*, 96,65 pts.
5. Guenko Krumov RACHKOV (Bulgarie) sur *Euphoria*, 111,23 pts.
6. Major Arthur Lawrence ROOK (Grande-Bretagne) sur *Wild Venture*, 119,64 pts.

CLASSEMENT FINAL DU CONCOURS COMPLET PAR EQUIPES

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. Grande-Bretagne | 355,48 pts |
| 2. Allemagne | 475,91 pts |
| 3. Canada | 562,72 pts |
| 4. Australie | 618,48 pts |
| 5. Italie | 691,14 pts |
| 6. Argentine | 724,18 pts. |

GRAND PRIX OLYMPIQUE DE DRESSAGE 36 participants

1. Major Henri SAINT-CYR (Suède) avec *Juli*, 860 pts
2. Mlle Lis HARTEL (Danemark) avec *Jubilee*, 850 pts
3. Mlle Liselotte LINSEHOFF (Allemagne) avec *Adular*, 832 pts
4. Gehnäll PERSSON (Suède) avec *Knaust*, 821 pts
5. Colonel André-René JOSSEAUME (France) avec *Harpagon*, 814 pts
6. Sgt. Gottfried TRACHSEL (Suisse) avec *Kursus*, 807 pts.

Classement par équipes

1. SUEDE, 2475 pts (H. Saint-Cyr, G. Persson, G. Boltstern)
2. ALLEMAGNE, 2346 pts (L. Lisenhoff, H. Weygand, A. Küppers)
3. SUISSE, 2346 pts (G. Trachsel, H. Chamartin, G. Fischer)
4. U. R. S. S., 2170 pts (S. Filatov, A. Vtorov, N. Sitko)
5. DANEMARK, 2167 pts (L. Hartel, H. Zobel, I. Lemvig-Muller)
6. FRANCE, 2016 pts (A. R. Jousseau, J. A. Brau, J. Salmon).

GRAND PRIX OLYMPIQUE DE SAUTS D'OBSTACLES (Jumping) 66 participants (dont 21 éliminés)

1. Hans-Günther WINKLER (Allemagne) avec *Halla*, 4 fautes
2. Raimondo d'INZE0 (Italie) avec *Merano*, 8 fautes.
3. Piero d'INZE0 (Italie) avec *Uruguay*, 11 fautes
4. Fritz THIEDEMANN (Allemagne) avec *Meteor*, 12 fautes et Wilfrid Harry WHITE (Grande-Bretagne) avec *Nizefela*, 12 fautes (ex aequo)
6. Pierre Jonquères d'ORIOLO (France) avec *Voulette*, 15 fautes.

Classement par équipes.

1. ALLEMAGNE, 40 fautes (H.-G. Winkler, F. Tiedemann, A. Luetke Westhues)
2. ITALIE, 66 fautes (R. D'Inzeo, P. d'Inzeo, S. Oppes)
3. GRANDE-BRETAGNE, 69 fautes (W. R. White, P. R. Smythe, P. D. Rebeson)
4. ARGENTINE, 99½ fautes (C. Delia, P. O. Mayarga, N. M. Dasso)
5. ETATS-UNIS, 104,25 fautes (W. C. Steinkraus, F. D. Chapot, H. Wiley)
6. ESPAGNE, 117, 25 fautes (O. C. Lopez, F. Goyoaga, C. C. Figueroa).

CAVALIERS	de Trannoy (Belgique)	Berger (Allemagne)	Colliander (Suède)	Yannes (Chili)	Fog (Danemark)	Total
Saint-Cyr (Suède)	160	159	192	177	172	860
Hartel (Danemark)	157	161	166	177	189	850
Linsenhoff (Allemagne)	147	174	160	173	178	832
Persson (Suède)	154	153	190	147	177	821
Jousseaumc (France)	166	150	165	167	166	814
Trachsel (Suisse)	157	155	158	171	166	807
Bortenstern (Suède)	149	158	173	155	159	794