

Germany shows up as strong competitor in eventing already on the first day!

equissima® started last night with the opening ceremony, but the real competition started today. This included the dressage competition of the European Eventing Cup. Germany, strong nation of eventing, leads both the team and individual rankings after the first day. Switzerland is in fifth place for the time being.

The first day of equissima® on the hills of Lausanne was sunny and all about dressage. At the European Eventing Cup, the European championship for riders who have never competed in 4* or 5* competitions, the dressage test for riders competing in teams was first on the agenda. A total of 42 riders participated in this compulsory dressage test. The young German rider Brandon Schäfer-Gehrau (22), member of the German eventing prospect squad, was the most competitive with his mare *Fräulein Frieda*, ahead of Madelene Gustafsson/*Miami C* from Sweden and Anna Baracca/*Exclusief* from Italy. The best Swiss rider, Christine Lang, finished ninth with *Cooper*, with whom she had already performed at the 2*-S in Radolfzell, Germany, this spring.

Germany took the lead in the provisional ranking with its four best riders in the top 7. Italy and Austria complete the podium. Switzerland is lurking in fifth place. However, nothing is decided yet with view to tomorrow's team dressage competition in the form of a quadrille. And the riders who are only competing for the individual classification of the European Cup will also have to complete their dressage test.

In the CCI 3*-S, the Swiss Eventing Champion from Fribourg, Robin Godel, with his two horses *Big Diamond* and *Damaso*, took first and second place in the intermediate classification after the dressage test. His compatriot Nadja Minder finished third with *Toblerone*. Tomorrow, the horses competing in the CCI 2*-L will be in the spotlight in the early afternoon.

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