



ROMA



83° CSIO ROMA

PIAZZA DI SIENA



Federazione Italiana Sport Equestri

21 > 24 MAGGIO 2015

Master fratelli d'Inzeo

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ITALIAN DARING TO DREAM AT PIAZZA DI SIENA

Italian riders are in positive mood, and there is a great sense of anticipation and excitement as the **CSIO Roma Piazza di Siena - Master fratelli d'Inzeo**, prepares to get underway in Rome, Italy tomorrow morning. Their fantastic victory at the first leg of the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™ 2015 in Lummen, Belgium three weeks ago was the best possible return to the premier Europe Division 1 series, and the host nation side is daring to dream of a first Nations Cup win on home ground in 30 years. And it all seems very possible if the atmosphere at the pre-event press conference staged this afternoon in the charming Globe Theatre at Piazza di Siena is anything to go by.



New President

The recent appointment of legendary Italian showjumper, Vittorio Orlandi, as President of the national federation, FISE, has brought a whole new energy to the fixture. Just 50 days after his election to the post, the Olympian who rode alongside the legendary brothers Piero and Raimondo d'Inzeo and Graziano Mancinelli during a remarkable era for the sport in their country, is knee-deep in the organisation. And he believes his country can look forward to plenty more success, both this year and in the years to come. He already has some dramatic and interesting ideas, including the possibility of returning the iconic Piazza di Siena arena to a good-quality grass surface once again - "2016 will be very different!", he promised today. He will be canvassing the top international riders who are attending the show this year to get their views on that. And he has strong opinions about the attitude he expects from his riders. "We had a good win in Lummen, but what we really need is to ensure our teams keep their concentration in the second round. It's quite common for Italian teams to be weaker in the second round, and we need to address that" he pointed out. "I'm very motivated" Cavalier Orlandi said today, "I'm very enthusiastic, and I want to transmit my enthusiasm to everyone else!"

Professional Team

Italian Chef d'Equipe, Hans Horn talked about the new sense of empowerment and team spirit in his side right now. "This is now a very European-based sport and our riders are competing against each other all the time. Lately we have created a group of really professional riders who are prepared to work together - before everyone was going a little bit his own way - but now we are in the middle of a very professional sport with a

*Loro Piana*



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bunch of professional riders and it makes a big difference. Piergiorgio (Bucci) and Lorenzo (da Luca) are both based in Belgium for instance, where the sport is now so big” he explained. And he is delighted that Italian showjumping is back at the top of the sport. “This is an important year for us as we have moved back into Division 1. This means we are regularly competing against the very best teams and that improves our riding and raises our competitive level. The difference between this year and last year is the significant victory we enjoyed three weeks ago. Now we feel ready to take up the challenge, and team morale and self-esteem is good - we really believe in ourselves!”, he said.

Three members of the winning team from Lummen - Luca da Lorenzo, Piergiorgio Bucci and Daniele Augusto da Rios - will represent Italy in Friday afternoon’s Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™. Completing the four-man selection is Natale Chiaudani who has been notably absent from the national side for more than a year, but who returns with his good gelding, Almero with whom he claimed silver at the Italian Championship staged at Gorla Minore, near Milan, four weeks ago. The horse’s niggling injury that has interrupted his career now seems to be resolved. Talking about Chiaudani’s call-up, Hans Horn said today, “Almero is 14 years old and a very expressive and experienced horse. Both he and Natale are in great shape right now”. Piergiorgio Bucci commented today on the mood in the team - “we can feel much more confident when we have the calibre of horses we have right now.”

Confidence in Da Rios

For 39-year-old Daniele Augusto da Rios it has been a fantastic eight months. Called up for his country in the quest to win the Division 2 Furusiyya series last September he produced a great performance from his horse, For Passion, and helped Italy to victory at Arezzo which earned Europe Division 1 qualification for 2015. Based near Milan, da Rios is both a rider and coach, and it is his 10-year-old stallion who has brought him to the very top. “I have had For Passion since he was five years old and he has helped me to start my international career. We started in Nations Cup for the first time last year. Hans (Horn) was very confident about him and gave me the opportunity to be on the team - I have done my very best with that opportunity”

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• [Go to the timetable](#)

• [Go to the entries](#)



The CSIO of Rome Piazza di Siena - Master fratelli d'Inzeo organized by Integer by TBWA\Italia group according FEI, FISE (Italian Equestrian Federation) and CONI (Italian Olympic Committee) - is one of the most important show jumping event in the world. Reached in 2015 its 83rd edition, the competition will be held in the historic oval arena of Villa Borghese from 21 to 24 May and it will be the third of the eight rounds of Europe Division 1 of the prestigious circuit of Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Series.



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*Loro Piana*