

PIAZZA di SIENA
897 CSIO ROMA 2022

POWERFUL ELEGANCE

FROM 26 TO 29 OF MAY - ROME

Press Release no. 1 - April 29th 2022

Piazza di Siena: a great show with admission free of charge

Piazza di Siena once again and at last opens to everyone. Following the cancellation in 2020 caused by the pandemic and the 2021 show organised with restrictions established by rules linked to the Covid 19 pandemic, the ancient oval in the heart of the Villa Borghese is now once again **ready to welcome all those who love sport** and wish to follow in person the Great Equestrianism of the Rome 2022 CSIO – Master d’Inzeo.



Spectators will be allowed in for free to enjoy the ancient stands as well as the ‘natural’ ones surrounding the arena. All this will take place in an atmosphere that returns to us the impression of a real journey through time, thanks to the principle of zero impact bio-architecture aimed at recreating a fresco that is as minimalist as possible and similar to that of the first shows held here at the beginning of the last century.

It is precisely in this sense that a decision was made to **not have stands with spectators paying for tickets**, thereby respecting the project’s bio-architectural concept and inviting spectators to **attend free of charge**.

WWW.PIAZZADISIENA.IT

Press Office: EQUI-EQUIPE

+39.331.4603432 / +39.06.45495394 / press@piazzaDISIENA.it



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The most beautiful show in the world is back again

Expectations are already high for the **89th edition of the Rome Piazza di Siena CSIO - Master d'Inzeo**, a show that is part of a series of top-level prestigious horse shows in the global calendar.

With forty days left before the Roman show, planned this year from **May 26th to May 29th**, the programme has already been approved. The CSIO classes will be the high point of the event, in addition to the **national categories**, the **Italia Polo Challenge** and the traditional and exciting musical rides.



In 2022 too, the **Organising Committee** (the Italian Equestrian Sports Federation together with Sport e Salute) has planned four days of great sport, staged in the now traditional two ovals **the grass oval of Piazza di Siena and the sand arena at the Villa Borghese Galoppatoio**.

Many fans will be able to closely watch the best horse and rider combinations in international show jumping as well as the newcomers in Italian show jumping. All the classes programmed (both national and international) will be **streamed live** and many also shown on television (RAI Sport HD and RAI 2) which in addition to the **intense activities on social media** will guarantee entertainment also for those unable to come to Piazza di Siena and experience it all in person.

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The international programme

With prizemoney amounting to **900,000€** (100,000€ more than in 2021), **ten classes** with tracks built by world famous chef de piste **Uliano Vezzani**, **four days** of jumping in two arenas, **grass in Piazza di Siena and sand in the Villa Borghese Galoppatoio**, the 89th edition of the Rome Piazza di Siena CSIO - Master d'Inzeo presents itself on top form.

International classes start immediately on **Thursday May 26th** at the Villa Borghese Galoppatoio with a speed class on a course with jumps up to 1.45m (prizemoney 10,000€), followed by two other classes held in the Piazza di Siena grass arena.



The first of the two classes is a competition in two phases presented by **MAG** and the other instead against the clock presented by **ENI** is a qualifier for Sunday's Rome Rolex Grand Prix, with jumps respectively measuring 1.50m and 1.55m (prizemoney 12,000€ and 25,000€).

Friday April 27th will again start at the Galoppatoio with the Small Tour, which for the first time includes a class valid for the FEI Ranking; the day will continue with a class against the clock with a jump off presented by **Safe Riding** with jumps measuring 1.45m (26,000€) and a class against the clock (jumps at 1.50m and 26,000€ prizemoney) presented by **Land Rover** at Piazza di Siena paving the way for the prestigious **Intesa Sanpaolo Nations Cup**. The eagerly awaited two-round team competition (the first class that qualifies riders for the Grand Prix, with prizemoney amounting to 220,000€) will see **ten teams** battling over courses measuring up to 1.60m.

The programme for **Saturday May 28th** is also intense and held in the Piazza di Siena oval starting with a 1.45m two phase class (10,000€) presented by **KEP Italia**.

The other two classes - both presented by **Loro Piana** - are of a high technical level as well as being spectacular, with the demanding **Small Grand Prix**, a 1.55m class against the clock with a jump off and 100,000€ prizemoney, followed by the exciting **Six Bar Competition** (20,000€).

The stage for the grand finale on **Sunday May 29th** will be reserved entirely to the prestigious and rich **Rome Rolex Grand Prix**, with prizemoney increased this year to 450,000€.

Fifty horses and riders will compete over two rounds with jumps measuring up to 1.60m with the winner assigned not only victory in what is considered one of the most coveted Grands Prix in the world but also a place in the history of show jumping.

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The Nations Cup: the teams competing

Ten teams have put their names down for the **Rome Piazza di Siena CSIO Intesa Sanpaolo Nations Cup** on Friday May 27th. Eight of these teams are European - **Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands** and **Spain** – while two come from across the ocean – **Canada** and the **USA**.

Belgium returns to Piazza di Siena in a starring role after winning the Nations Cup last year, as do Germany and France who finished in second and third place.

While for Belgium their win in 2021 was a second team victory at Piazza di Siena, the Germans and the French have respectively clocked up ten and nineteen wins, far however from the twenty-nine Italy has accumulated increasing its booty with two consecutive historical wins in 2017 and 2018.



One should also not underestimate the British, who also have a significant record in the Rome Nations Cup with eleven wins, of which two in recent times (2015 and 2016), and also the United States with their five wins.

In counting the wins achieved by the nations competing this year one must also include The Netherlands (with two) and Spain (just one a long time ago in 1954). Ireland instead has not yet won the Rome Nations Cup and for this very reason will be doing its best to change its record at Piazza di Siena.

In addition to the ten nations competing in the Nations Cup, others will be represented by individual riders. The final starting list will be available after the Monday May 9th **deadline** for confirming participants

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