



# **IMGA**

# **JANUARY 2023**

# **NEWSLETTER**

**For 2023, will we be able to stop using the word  
Permacrisis and eventually get back to pre-pandemic  
levels of participation in Mounted Games?**

**With luck, Covid may be behind us and we hope that the  
economic situation will allow more of our riders to  
compete.**

**2022 saw many determined riders competing  
internationally and it was great to see new friendships  
being made between riders, parents and supporters of  
different nations.**

**Certain individuals worked hard to organise Mounted  
Games teams to travel abroad and also generous owners  
lent their ponies to overseas riders. Andrea in Italy and  
Pete in England worked tirelessly to get riders and their  
ponies travelling between Europe and the UK. In addition,  
Warwick from Australia came to Europe to promote this  
year's World Team Championship in Melbourne this  
October.**

**Hoping that 2023 brings you all a great Games season.**

# **2023 CHAMPIONSHIPS**

## **World Team Championship Australia**

**October 8-15**

**Arrival 8 Familiarisation 8-10**

**Competition 11-14 Departure 15**



## **World Pairs Championship Denmark**

**July 17-23**

**Competition 19-22**



## **World Individual Championship France**

**August 1-5**

**Arrival July 30-31 Competition August 1-5**

**Departure 6**



## **European Team and Individuals Championship England**

**August 8-13**

**Arrival August 7**

**Individuals start August 8**

**Teams start August 10**

**Finish August 13 Departure 14**



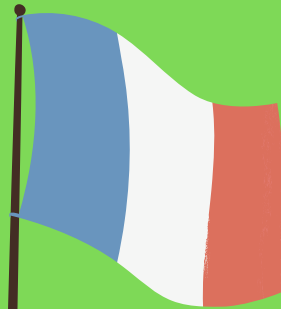
## **Nations Championship South Africa**

**Cape Town**

**Stellenbosch December 15-17**



# RIDER INTERVIEW



**Océane**

**Où habites-tu?**

**Where do you live?**

**Je vis en France, à côté de La Rochelle, dans la région nouvelle aquitaine.**

**I live in France, near La Rochelle, in the New Aquitaine area.**

**Que fais-tu?**

**What do you do?**

**Je suis étudiante dans une école de sport, en 3ème année de licence.**

**I am a student in a sports university, in my 3rd year.**

**Quand as-tu commencé à faire les Mounted Games ?**

**When did you begin Mounted Games?**

**J'ai commencé l'équitation à 3 ans par du dressage et du cso. J'ai rejoint le Mounted Games quand j'avais 8 ans, en 2010. Jusqu'en 2020, je faisais de la compétition en Mounted Games et CSO. J'ai dû malheureusement choisir de continuer que le Mounted Games lorsque je suis rentrée en école supérieure.**

**I started riding at 3 years old with dressage and show jumping. I joined Mounted Games when I was 8 years old, in 2010. Until 2020, I was competing in Mounted Games and show jumping. Unfortunately, I had to choose to continue only with Mounted Games when I went to high school.**

**Que fais-tu maintenant dans les Mounted Games ?**

**What do you do now in Mounted Games?**

**Je travaille pour ma saison à venir, pour faire toutes les compétitions françaises et internationales. Et en espérant pouvoir faire aussi certaines anglaises compétitions. I am working for my coming season, to do all the French and international competitions. And hoping to be able to do some English competitions as well.**

**Où as-tu été à l'étranger avec les Mounted Games ?**

**Where have you been abroad with Mounted Games?**

**Je suis allée en Belgique, Allemagne, Danemark, Angleterre, Pays de Galles, Irlande du Nord, Irlande et Italie.**

**I have been to Belgium, Germany, Denmark, England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Ireland and Italy.**



**Quel est ton terrain préféré?  
What is your favourite venue?**

**Mon site préféré est le parc équestre fédéral de Lamotte Beuvron. Toutes les carrières sont géniales mais je choisirais la carrière d'honneur pour son atmosphère.  
My favorite site is the federal equestrian park of Lamotte Beuvron. All arenas are great but I would choose the Honour Arena for its atmosphere.**

**Qu'est-ce que tu aimes le plus dans les Mounted Games ?**

**What do you like most about Mounted Games?**

**Je dirais la complexité et l'adrénaline des jeux, l'ambiance en dehors comme sur le terrain. Ça fait la différence avec les autres sports.**

**I would say the complexity and the adrenaline of the games, the atmosphere both outside and on the arena. It makes it so different compared with other sports.**

**Quelle est ton jeu préféré ? et pourquoi?**

**What is your favourite race and why?**

**Je n'ai pas de jeux préférés, j'ai un jeu que je déteste. 'marches', mes jambes se coordonnent pas**

**I have no favourite games, I have a game that I hate. 'Stepping stones', my legs won't coordinate!.**

**Quels conseils donneras-tu à un nouveau rider de Mounted Games ?**

**What advice would you give to a new Games rider?**

**Continue de travailler, crois en tes rêves et mets tous les moyens possibles en œuvre pour y parvenir.**

**Keep working, follow your dreams and do everything you can to accomplish it.**

**Parles-nous de ton cheval préféré de tous les temps.**

**Tell us about your all time favouriteb pony**

**Je n'ai pas de poney préféré. Le nombres de victoires ou de podiums que j'ai eu avec l'un ou l'autre ne définit pas mon favori. Ils m'ont tous aider à grandir et évoluer, en m'apportant toutes les compétences pour progresser et être où je suis aujourd'hui.**

**I don't have a favourite pony. The number of victories or podiums on one of them doesn't mean he is my favorite pony. They all helped me to grow up, to improve, and they have given me all the abilities to progress and be where I am now.**

**Quels autres centres d'intérêt as-tu en dehors de Mounted Games ?**

**What other interests do you have apart from Mounted Games?**

**Je suis passionnée par le sport en général et la médecine humaine.**

**I am passionate about sport in general and human medicine.**



**MGA Victoria kicked off the 2023 season with a weekend of Individuals and Swinging Pairs at the the beautiful Toongabbie Pony Club grounds in Gippsland Victoria. The weekend saw several new riders come out and try mounted games with senior riders giving advice and helping out where needed.**

**Featured rider: Riley Van De Rydt**



# Professional Mounted Games Equipment

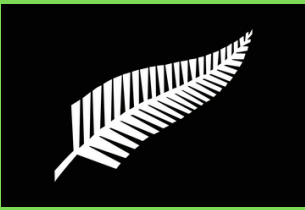


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# Canterbury MGA South Island Camp

**Jane Patton-Smith**



**Paula Power**



**Libby Smith**



**Tara Harper**



# ASSISTANT REF QUESTIONS - are you up to speed?

<p><b>16. Rider 3 rides up the arena in Flag Fliers and hits the two flags in the centre cone to try to force them apart :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a] The team will be eliminated for misuse of equipment</b></li><li><b>b] The team will not be eliminated</b></li><li><b>c]The rider must collect the flag closest to her.</b></li></ul>	<p><b>La cavalière 3 entre sur la piste dans le jeu de 5 Drapeau et frappe les 2 drapeaux dans le cône du centre en essayant de les séparer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a) L'équipe sera éliminée pour détérioration du matériel</b></li><li><b>b) L'équipe ne sera pas éliminée</b></li><li><b>c) La cavalière doit prendre le drapeau le plus proche</b></li></ul>
<p><b>17. Rider 1 collects a red flag from the cone in the 4 Flag Race but pulls out the other flags too :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a] Rider 1 must replace all 4 flags and take 1 again</b></li><li><b>b] Rider 1 must replace 3 flags but must continue with the red flag</b></li><li><b>c] Rider 1 must replace 3 flags but may continue with any colour flag</b></li></ul>	<p><b>Le cavalier 1 prend le drapeau rouge du cône lors du jeu des quatre Drapeaux mais il tire les autres drapeaux aussi :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a) Le cavalier doit remplacer tous les drapeaux et puis en prendre un</b></li><li><b>b) Le cavalier doit remplacer 3 drapeaux mais doit continuer avec le drapeau rouge</b></li><li><b>c) Le cavalier doit remplacer 3 drapeaux mais peut continuer avec un drapeau de n'importe quelle couleur</b></li></ul>
<p><b>18. In Pony Pairs, Rider 2 lets go of the rope after the changeover line and Riders 3 and 4 continue with it :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a] Riders 2 and 3 must cross the line again</b></li><li><b>b] The team is eliminated because they cannot correct this</b></li><li><b>c] There is no mistake to correct</b></li></ul>	<p><b>Dans le jeu de la Corde, la cavalière 2 lâche la corde après la ligne de changement et les cavaliers 3 et 4 continuent :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a) Les cavaliers 2 et 3 doivent retraverser la ligne encore une fois</b></li><li><b>b) L'équipe est éliminée parce qu'ils ne peuvent pas corriger</b></li><li><b>c) Il n'y a pas d'erreur</b></li></ul>

**Answers on last page**



# **TRAINER TOP TIPS**

**By Felicia**



**Always make sure to have a nice bond between everyone in the team, include the parents if you're working with juniors. We've had bowling night, dinners and team building by doing escape rooms.**

**Everyone is one team, the rider, pony and the people close to us who organise so that we can do what we love.**

**Make sure to practise a lot and in different orders, anything can happen during the season and we want to be prepared for the possibility of a new rider, horse and making sure we're well prepared to switch things around if needed.**

**Do your own workout routine as well, make sure to be the best rider not only for your own sake but also for our ponies, they give us all they have got and we have to make sure to give them our best as well.**

**And a tip for everyone who's doing games, doesn't matter on what level.**

**Remember to breathe, calm yourself and focus on the task.**

**I like to visualise the race I'm doing before I do it. For an example if you're doing mugshuffle, the first thing that I think about before is in what pace I'm going out in, do we need to take it slow or should I push?**

**Then the first task is picking the mug up, don't go ahead of yourself, don't stress. The next task is putting it on the second pole. Don't think about what you're gonna do next cause that's when the mistakes starts. So always make sure to do the first task before going on to the next.**

**Last but not least, make sure to have fun with your teammates, coach and pony. At the end of the day we remember all the laughs, the friends we made. It's memories for a lifetime so try to enjoy it while you're in the moment**

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# **REFEREE TOP TIPS by Brenda**



**1) Know your rules!**

**2) Make sure you have the right people in the score truck and check they are ready before each race.**

**3) Being consistent on the start line and enforcing your starts.**

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## **TACK TOP TIPS by Margaret**

**So another tack tip: this one's going to outline some things to do for your tack check at a competition.**

**Always present yourself and your pony ,on time ,and clean and tidy .**

**On time , this means that no one is stressed and you haven't annoyed the tack check people by being late and you have time to change something out that has failed the check.**

**Clean and tidy, have at least wiped your gear down so that it's not covered in mud and sweat, nose bands need to be clean so they don't rub the pony's nose, flashes need to be clean and not covered in drool and food for the same reason. A tidy pony is just a sign of respect. I'm not saying that we are looking for a show pony turn out but large poop stains on the pony's body isn't it .**

**You need to present yourself in the gear you ride in .**

**We need to see the gear you are going to ride in ,helmet , jodhpurs, boots , turning up in little little shorts and sneakers isn't it .**

**Helmets need to meet the current standards, we need to be able to read the standard code inside your helmet . I remember Davy Quinn trying to read inside a helmet and it was so greasy that he had to use a wet wipe to get through the dirt and grease to read the number ,the look on his face was priceless, it was just nasty ( smelly too ).**

**You might be asked to drop the pony's bit out of its mouth to check on the type of bit it has, also to check rubber and plastic bits to make sure the pony hasn't chewed the surface of the bit and made it rough or sharp . If your pony is a little dodgy about bridling, bring your halter and a lead rope so you can keep it under control while we do this .**

**Warn the gear person about any vices your pony has . Does your pony kick ? Us gear check people don't like being kicked . And if your pony does ,put a red ribbon on its tail . Try not to use electrical tape as it can tighten and cut off the blood supply to the tail . If that's all you have make sure it's loose .**

**If your pony is a maggot (This must be a technical term from New Zealand and for our foreign language riders, I guess it means if your pony is moody - Editor) around other ponies tell us, keep your pony out of the way of others and we will come to you to do the check .**

**Does your pony bite when you stand beside it? We get grumpy when we get bitten , strange that .**

**Organisers, try and have your gear check somewhere near the warm up arena if possible, not in it , so that rider and gear check people are safe from people warming up and zinging though the gear check area at speed . If it looks like it's going to rain having an area that's under cover would be amazing , no one likes standing waiting in the rain.**

**Remember if you change your gear it needs to be checked again , so if you are going to add gear like ear bonnets or a martingale to name some , bring it with you to the first gear check this will save you from trying to find us again when you are rushed. Hope this give you some ideas on how to keep thing running smoothly at a competition.**

# Caption competition!



**Send your captions to  
Eleanor:  
[IMGA.Communication@Mounted-Games.org](mailto:IMGA.Communication@Mounted-Games.org)  
or PM me!**

**Answers to the Assistant Ref quiz:  
1b 2c 3c**