

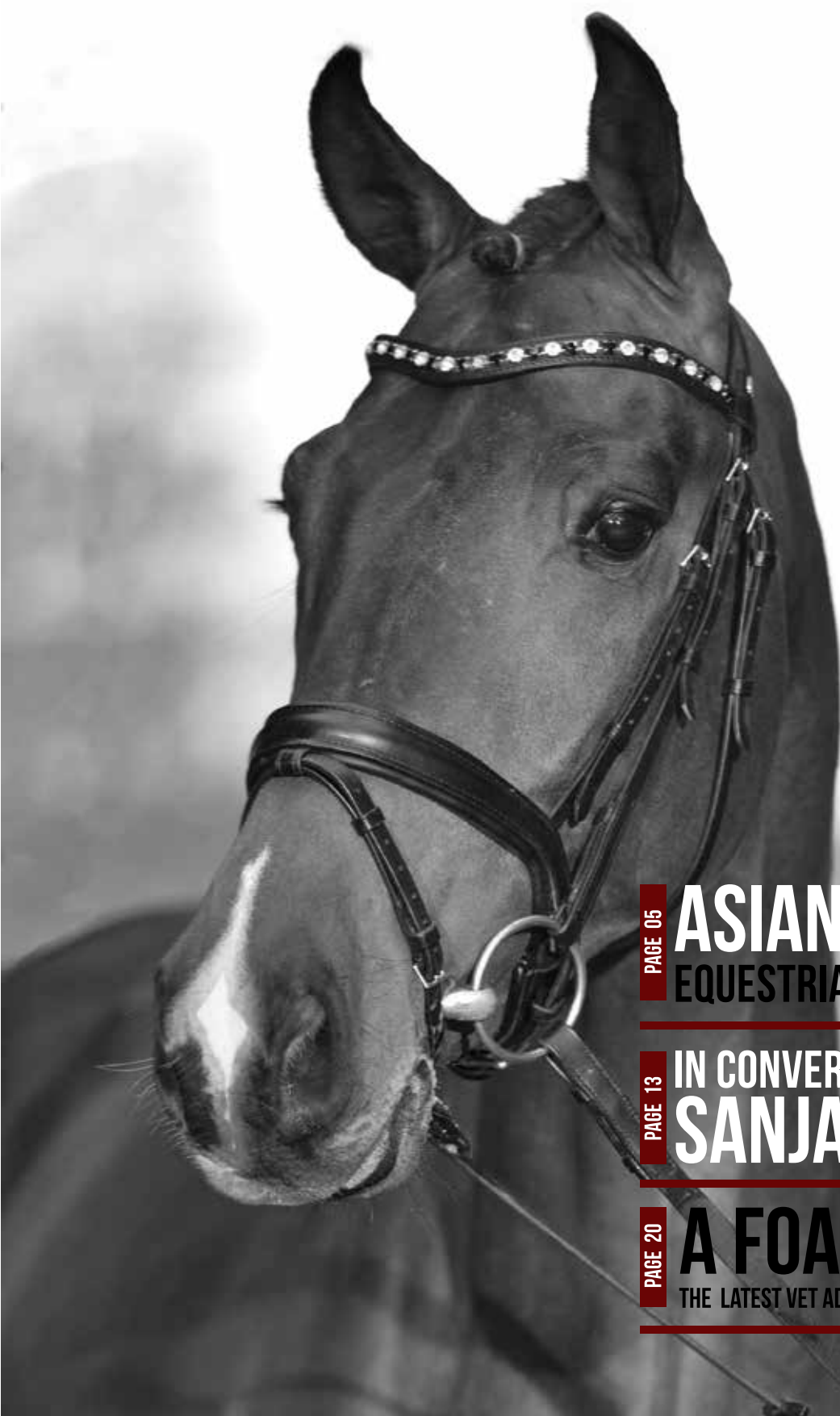


# EQUESTRIAN TIMES

AN INDIAN EQUESTRIAN NEWS LETTER

AUG 2015

For private circulation only



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## ASIAN GAMES 2014

EQUESTRIAN ROUND-UP

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## IN CONVERSATION WITH SANJAY BAGAI

PAGE 20

## A FOAL IS BORN

THE LATEST VET ADVICE TO KEEP YOUR HORSE SAFE

PRESENTING



## India's First Foal Championship and Private Sale of Warmblood Foals

### Embassy's Lorenzo

The best European bloodlines combined in one colt  
Hanoverian colt, \*29.03.2015, bay, by Lord Fauntleroy –  
Stakkato – Cornet Obolensky



### Embassy's Leona

International top progenitors in a row  
Zangersheide filly, \*10.04.2015, dark bay,  
by Levisto Z – Caretano Z – Artos Z



### Embassy's Lancelot

A look-alike of his sire Levisto Z  
Zangersheide colt, \*24.04.2015, bay (MBG),  
by Levisto Z – Calvados Z – Air Jordan



### Leonardo

Young show jumping prospect with charisma and star appeal  
Colt, \*04.03.2015, chestnut, by Domino  
– Lovis Corinth – Carismo



### Victoria's Secret

An elegant and light-footed halfblood filly  
Filly, chestnut, \*24.09.2014, by Domino out of On The Run



### Blazing Berry

Power, grace and beauty  
Filly, dark bay, \*29.05.2014, by Domino out of World Peace



**Venue:** Embassy International Riding School, Bangalore  
**Date:** Sunday 2nd August, 2015.

EQUUS  
INDIA

## EDITOR'S NOTE

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Dear Reader,

India as a country and economy is expanding and growing a lot in comparison to other countries of the world. The Equestrian sport in India is also moving upwards.

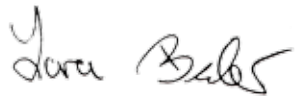
The number of imported sport horses from Europe is constantly growing. At last year's Asian Games in South Korea, India had a team in all three Equestrian disciplines - dressage, show jumping and eventing.

Breeding of sport horses is also gaining popularity. High quality young stallions, in Indian ownership, are being trained and prepared in Europe for the big sports. In India, the first warmblood foals have been bred and born.

In this first edition of the EquestrianTimes, an exclusive newsletter for riders, trainers, horse owners and breeders, we have put together different articles in the subject areas of sports, breeding and health issues.

Enjoy reading this first edition.

Yours,



Lara Becker  
on behalf of The Equestrian Times





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Design & Production  
AQUARIUZ

# The ASIAN GAMES 2014 in Incheon, South Korea



Nadia Haridass astride Toronto

From the 19th to the 4th of October 2014, 1300 athletes were competing for medals in 36 sporting disciplines at the 17th Asian Games. In Incheon, an industrial city which is situated about 30 km from Seoul, a new stadium for the equestrian disciplines was specifically built with excellent conditions for riders, trainers, grooms and horse owners with stands, offices, common rooms, press centers as well as 6 preparation areas, an indoor school, a horse clinic as well as super modern stables, which can hold 350 horses altogether, all newly build and of excellent quality.

## DRESSAGE

The dressage riders were the first to compete with 10 teams altogether. The South Korean hosts made the best team-performance at St. George – level and received the deserved Gold Medal in front of the team of Japan and the team of Chinese Taipei. The freestyle, which was held at Intermediaire I level was aswell won by the hosts. Youngshik Hang and the 11 year old Westphalian Fürstenberg, a son of Fürst Piccolo won individual Gold. The Silver

*“India has the potential to excel in this sport and I do believe that with hard work, perseverance and support, we will shine as a nation”, Nadia explains.*

Medal went to Shingo Hayashi from Japan with Veranus, a 12 year old, Dutch bred gelding by Lysander. Next was Dongseon Kim from South Korea with the 13 year old Hanoverian Finally by De Niro.

For India Shruti Vora, Nadia Haridass, Vanita Malhotra and Shubhsri Rajendra competed at the Asian Games and landed

on the eight place in the team competition. Best ranked rider in the Prix St. Georges was Nadia Haridass and her KWPN gelding Toronto. Based in Germany and trained by Hubertus Schmidt and Emma Kanerva she reached the 12th place with a score of 67.395%. “Reflecting back to the selection trials and preparation for the 2014 Asian Games, I consider myself extremely lucky to have had the opportunity to be given a fantastic horse like Toronto, to train on with world renowned trainers Hubertus Schmidt and Emma Kanerva. This is all thanks to the unconditional support from Equis India Ltd. As a sports person having played most games growing up, I find Equestrian the most challenging, yet intriguing sport. Training with veterans such as Hubertus and Emma have taught me to embrace my faults and capitalize on this opportunity to have professional guidance to never make the same mistake twice. To be internationally competitive and successful, one needs to channel several forces to achieve one goals. Baby steps were taken in India and now it is time to make a mark where it matters most.

India has the potential to excel in this sport and I do believe that with hard work, perseverance and support, we will shine as a nation”, Nadia explains. In the Intermediate I and the Intermediate I Freestyle to Music the multiple national champion Shruti Vora and her Danish warmblood mare Akira showed the best performance and landed on the 12th place in the Intermediate I with a score of 68.474.

In the freestyle she scored 67.395% and was ranked 8th.

## EVENTING

Gold for FRH Fantasia in three day event Double Gold for the South Korean team was the result of the three day event. The team of the German trainer Dr. Matthias Baumann showed an excellent performance on all competition days and won



the deserved Gold Medal. Silver went to the Japanese team and then came the riders from Hong Kong. The individual was won by the South Korean Sangwuk Song with the 14 year old mare FRH Fantasia. The mare had previously been very successful with Andreas Dibowski. Silver went to the Chinese rider Tan Hua with Temujin, an 8 year old Hanoverian stallion and the Bronze Medal went to Sire Bang from South Korea with the 16 year old Irish gelding Thomas O'Mally. The Indian eventing team with its members Ajai Appachu, Fouaad Mirza, Jay Rathore and Rajsangram Singh reached a fifth place in the team competition. Ajai Appachu and his team mate Fouaad Mirza, both based in UK and sponsored by the company Equus India reached the best results for the Indian team and finished on the eight respectively tenth place in the individual ranking with their horses Cocky Locky and Penultimate Vision. Delhi based Jay Rathore and his Irish sport horse Fleece Clover finished on the 20th place before and Army rider Rajsangram Singh and Ramases.



*Ajai Appachu astride Cocky Locky*



*Fouaad Mirza astride Penultimate Vision*

## Show Jumping

Qatar dominates the Nations Cup of show jumping. After a disappointing performance of the three day event team from Qatar, the show jumping team of the desert state made a great performance in the show jumping course and won the Gold Medal. The excellent 9 year old Holstein mare Vienna Olympic by Cassini I, the

14 year old Hanoverian mare Delloren by Drosselklang II, the 14 year old KWPN mare Tamira by Domino as well as the 9 year old KWPN gelding 'Anyway' all proved their abilities, finished with clear rounds with their riders and won the Gold Medal. Second and third were Saudi-Arabia and Japan.

The team from Saudi Arabia had also sent their top horses to South Korea, the 14 year old KWPN stallion Talan by Concorde, the 13 year old Belgian Seniorita, a daughter of Caesar van de Helle as well as New Orleans and Callahan, two horses that were once owned by Eurocommerce. They all seemed to have an easy job with the obstacles of 145 metres in the Nations Cup.





*Yashaan Khambatta astride Olgy*

Callahan and Al Sharbatly are the best in the individuals. Two demanding rounds at 1.55m height were presented to the 41 participants of the individual finals, which was won by Abdullah Al Sharbatly with Callahan, which used to be owned by the Dutch company Eurocommerce. The 11 year old son of Contendro I made the distances look easy in both rounds and won with his rider the Gold Medal after an exciting jump-off for Gold and Silver.

Silver went to Satoshi Hirao with Ula-no, a son of Indoctro which was bred in Canada. Eight riders competed for the

Bronze Medal in the jump-off, which was won by Taizo Sugitano and his 15 year old KWPN gelding Avenzio by Animo. With Yashaan Khambatta, Sehaj Singh Virk and Ashray Butta the Indian team had only three riders representing their country in Korea. The best result reached Yashaan Khambatta from Mumbai with his Selle Français gelding International Horseagency's Olgy. He was the first Indian rider ever who, after two challenging rounds in the team competition reached the final of the Asian Games. "I would like to thank my parents for supporting me since I was a child. They have always supported me and nothing was better than having my parents

at the Asian Games. Credit goes to my horse Olgy who jumped out of his skin for me. It wouldn't have been possible without Lara and Marc who found me a right horse in a very short time. I couldn't have had a better team to train with. As I always say 'sky is the limit'. Especially when you have International Horseagency supporting you in every way possible", Yashaan says.



*Horse Service International B.V.*

[www.HorseService.nl](http://www.HorseService.nl)







Photo courtesy Marx

The following exercises are designed for riders who wish to work on the elasticity and collectiveness of their horses, on changes of speed and on suppleness during canter work. These exercises are specifically designed to prepare horse and rider for competition and jumping a course.

***The exercises are divided into three parts: Beginners level (3 exercises), Intermediate level (1 exercise), Advanced level (1 exercise)***

To start with, all exercises can be ridden in walk, providing poles are lying on the

floor. Once the exercise has been successfully ridden in walk, rider and horse can change to trot over the designated poles. When the exercise has been completed successfully in trot, rider and horse can change to canter. When the exercise is done in canter, one can start with the poles on the floor. Once this has successfully been ridden, the poles may be put into small crosses, verticals or oxers.

**Note:** before you go on to the next level exercise, make sure your horse has understood and done the previous exercise well.

**Remember:** all the exercises will help to work on the collectiveness of the horse, the collectiveness in trot and especially canter and the horse's balance. The aim is to work on the control of the horse, finding the right way and a harmonious interaction between rider and horse.

**Note:** distances and measurements given herein are only guidelines. Horses and their strides vary and one should start with a distance that suits horse and rider.



## EXERCISE I

### You need:

2 poles on the floor to ride through  
1 pole or cross or vertical to walk, trot or canter over.

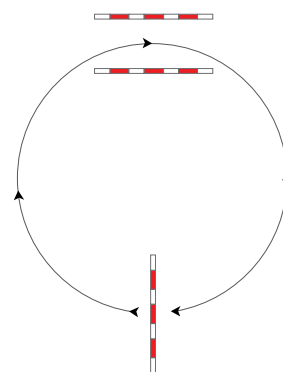
### How to do it:

Ridden first in walk, then trot, then canter  
Rider and horse ride a circle. Through the two poles and over the middle of the pole, cross or vertical opposite.

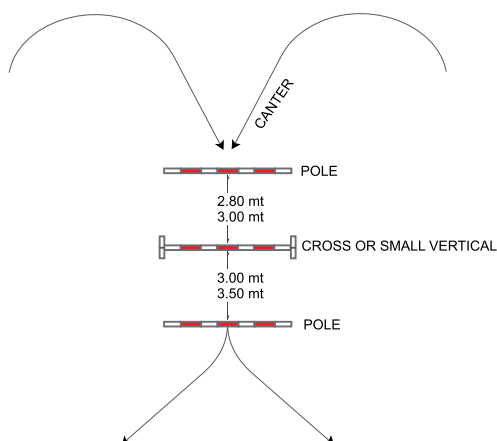
### Learning effect:

Keep the horse on a good circle line. Keep the horse on the outside rein and leg and under control. You should start on the rein that is easier for your horse. After that, change reins.

Make sure to meet the circle points and the middle of the pole, cross or vertical. Keep your horse in a steady rhythm and in balance.



## EXERCISE II



### How to do it:

Ridden in canter, distances are for canter!  
Rider and horse start on one rein, out of the corner and down the middle lane. They come over the pole, jump over the middle pole, or cross, or vertical and jump out over the third pole. Rider and horse can start by finishing on the rein they started on. Later they can start on one rein and finish on the other rein, making sure that the horse can change canter correctly.

### Learning effect:

Coming from the bend, the horse must be kept straight and in a collected rhythm. The horse must be kept in balance and between your legs. You should try to sit in the saddle coming from the bend over the middle line. Keep your outside rein and leg on your horse! The horse will learn to go down a straight line balanced and steady. If the rein is changed after the last pole, make sure you know before which rein you want to land on and slightly move your weight into the stirrup of the rein you want to end up on. If changing reins first proves to be difficult, repeat exercise until you manage.

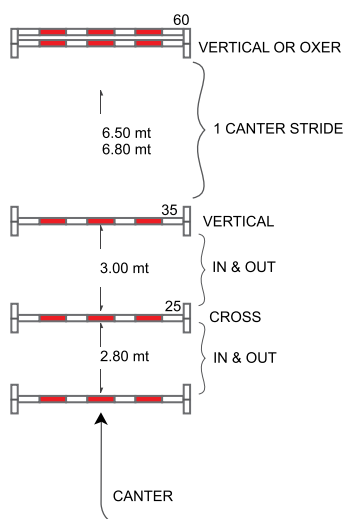
L'Ete du Grand Parquet - Fontainebleau - CSI\*\*\*\* - 2014



## EXERCISE III

### How to do it:

Ridden in canter, distances are for canter!  
Rider and horse come over the first pole, over the cross (25cm) in and out over the vertical (35 cm), then with one stride over the final vertical or oxer (60cm)



### Learning effect:

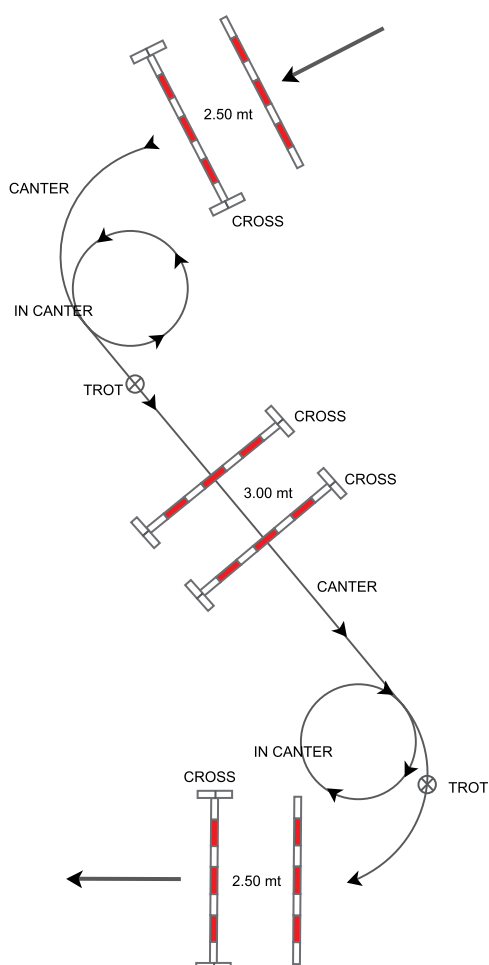
This one is a classic exercise. You keep your horse straight and in a steady canter. Keep your legs and reins in contact with the horse. Support your horse with your legs. If you feel comfortable with the distances you may shorten them slightly in order to achieve a better collectiveness and a better, more round jump of your horse. Don't let your horse rush over the first pole, keep a steady, collected rhythm.



Photo courtesy Wallrafen



## EXERCISE IV



### Intermediate level:

#### EXERCISE

#### How to do it:

Ridden in a combination of trot and canter. Rider and horse start in trot over the first pole and jump out over the cross. They land in canter and ride a small circle in canter. When they cross the circle line again, the horse comes back to trot. In trot onto the diagonal and over the in and out crosses. After the in and out, canter into a small circle. When crossing the circle line change to trot. In trot over the pole and the cross. Out in canter.

### Learning effect:

This exercise is designed for the control of the horse by changing paces and riding circle lines. You must concentrate on finishing in the correct canter after the pole and the cross. In order to keep your horse steady and under control you will ride the small circle, in which you have to keep your horse on the outer leg and rein. After the circle you change to trot. It will help controlling the speed of the horse and aid the collectiveness. It is important to come onto the diagonal in a straight line in order to meet the middle of the in and out. Keep your horse between your legs. After the in and out, your horse will land in canter. You should concentrate on landing on the correct rein by slightly having your weight to the side that you want to land on. The circle after the in and out will help you collect your horse again and you will notice if you have your horse under control when the change of paces is done well and easily. Should you land on the wrong rein in canter, change to trot and canter again on the right rein.

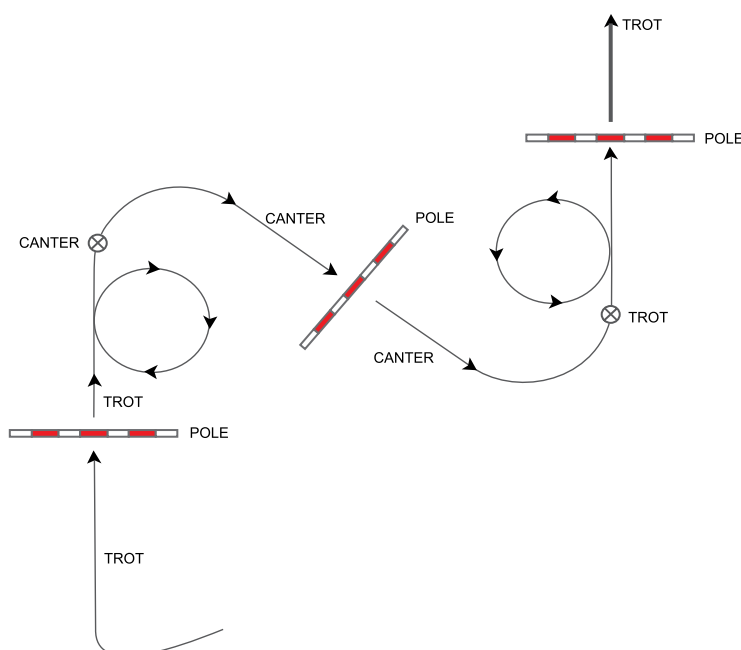
## EXERCISE V

### How to do it:

Ridden in a combination of trot and canter. Coming out of the bend over a pole in trot. After the pole into a circle. Just after the circle into canter. Changing onto the diagonal over the pole. Trot in the corner. Into a small circle in trot, out of the circle over the pole.

### Learning effect:

This exercise is good for preparation for jumping the course. The single jump on the diagonal, out of a sharp corner, is a difficult task to ride. You and your horse learn quick reactions in this exercise. You have to focus on the jump quickly and in a very short time. By adding small circles to this exercise, your horse will be kept under control and you work on the suppleness of the horse. The horse's reactions are trained here. This is not an easy exercise and once you manage it, well done!





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Interview

# SANJAY BAGAI

*I have been lucky to train with some of the world's best. My career started with Herbert Meyer, the ex-chef of the German team. From there I trained with Karsten Huck one of the most influential trainers in my life. We then had Bernie Traurig for a few years and then lastly the great Eddie Macken for 3 years.*

*Sanjay, you were the first Indian rider who ever competed at the World Equestrian Games. Tell us something about yourself and your career in showjumping.*

I am 48 years old, I am married with 3 children, Thea 21, Jack 18 and Tommy 17. My wife also rides at the Grand prix level and we train in Petaluma California, which is roughly 45 mins North of San Francisco. I took up riding not so long ago; I am an investment banker and technologist and took up riding very late in life. I had no idea that riding would become the most passionate pursuit in my life when I started to ride and now it is an activity we pursue 24 x 7. I am now competing at an International level. Which means that I mainly attend 4 and 5 star shows. I still self-fund my own riding and competing, and so I still work at my career at the same time.

*How and when did your career in show-jumping start?*

Actually started by fluke. I was recovering from a long legal battle and a friend of mine took me trail riding as a way to relax and have some fun. From an innocent trail ride, it has now become this passionate and intense pursuit of excellence. However, having said that my father was always into horses, he loved horses and owned many race horses. My two brothers rode at the Tollygunge club Gymkhana and on holiday in Kashmir we used to ride as kids. I also went religiously to the Delhi Riding Club. I have always loved horses, but never in my wildest dreams did I think this would be result of that deep passion.

*Where did you train the last 10 years? What are your experiences in the different countries? Is there a difference between Europe, America and Asia?*

In the last 10 years, I have been lucky to train with some of the world's best. My career started with Herbert Meyer, the ex-chef of the German team. From there I trained with Karsten Huck one of the most



a huge and very significant difference between Europe USA and Asia. Even within Europe there are huge differences between the Germans, French, Italians and Irish, although as riding evolves most top trainers and riders are reaching very similar conclusions in their styles and methodologies. The main riding styles are deep seat, light seat and two point, with the frame of the horse being controlled with different levels of flexion.

### *What was most significant during your time in Europe and USA?*

In Europe, the arenas are tiny and so riding in front of the leg is paramount, there is very little time and space to accommodate a horse behind the leg, at the same time, Europeans ask very difficult questions from the horses, from small distances and tight corners, therefore only the very best horses survive in European circuits. In the USA which is traditionally a thoroughbred country and also much larger arenas, they present longer distances to prepare for the oncoming jumps. So rider and horse can actually create scope and or prepare. The tradition and the discipline in Europe is very strong, it is a popular sport with lots of spectators and involvement from all levels of society. There are many stables spread out through the community, so distance to the barn is not an issue and thus it becomes a community affair. In the US the country is not so densely populated with stables breeders and competitions thus the riding becomes a week end event. In the US the jumping disciplines are divided into 4 with hunters, equitation, eventing and jumpers, and each discipline has its very own specific requirements and style.

### *How many horses do you have now? How does their daily work look like?*

Last year I cut down from 13 active competing horses to 6, which includes my wife's horses. I have 2 top level horses and she has 4, that number keeps changing between us as we actively sell and buy horses all the time. The horses are first fed at 6:00am, then they go on a walk for 45 minutes after which they are thoroughly groomed and put in the green grass pastures for 1.5 hours. They are then taken back to the stable iced and put back in the stables. Even though I am at the barn early, my first horse is typically at 9:00am. I work every horse for 1 hour which includes a 10 minute warm up and 5 minute cool down. The work typically follows the German Pyramid for young horses, which I constantly reinforce with advanced level Dressage, but at the core of all of this is looseness strength and reaction. They then return to the stable for lunch, after which they walk again for 30 minutes and turn out for another 45 minutes. Then the stable starts to shut down and they get groomed bandaged iced, I do medications feed charts next day plans and they get their evening feed at 5:00pm. The last barn check is typically at 10:00pm but we have cameras on them 24 x 7. We have 3 grooms so about 2-3 horses per groom.

### *You are the 1st Indian rider who competed at the WEG. How are your impressions about the WEG in France?*

The WEG in France was an amazing experience; it was always my dream to compete at WEG and the Olympics. My own personal experience with the organization was that it was absolutely amazing, everything was super top class. I didn't do as well as I had wanted, that year was a very hard year for me, I had my worst injury in the

sport with 15 broken bones and severe brain damage and also my horse had a very close call with death and so his training as suspended too close to WEG. As a result when we got there we were under prepared, however getting there and being ready in itself was a learning experience that has prepared me for the next games. Competing at this level is even more difficult and challenging than competing at the 5 star level so I have now learned an even higher level of performance than what I am used to.

### *What are your goals for the future?*

Like it is for all riders, my future goals all depend on what horse I have. If I have the right horses, then I would like to compete and do well at the next Olympics and continue to do well in the 5 star sport. I would also like to teach and bring on a team that competes on behalf of India.

### *What do you advise young riders who want to start their career in showjumping?*

Patience, hard work and always learn. These are very important attributes for a show jumper, often after jumping 1,20m there is a lot of bravado but let me assure you the 1,20m ring does very little to present the challenges at the 1,60m ring. A normal talented show jumper will take a decade before he is ready to execute at the 1,60m level and in those 10 years you have to ride more than 5 horses per day and attend as many shows as possible, you probably will use over 15 horses before you are able to comprehend the complex concepts of show jumping. This is a huge time, life and financial commitment and it would be wise to put those three in order so you can focus on your growth.





### BIANCO (CADEAU BLANC)

WESTPHALIAN STALLION,\*2004, BY CHARISMA - POPCORN - LUCKY BOY



#### *A phenomenon equally for breeding and in sports*

Exceptional stallion in a wonderful ice-grey coat which combines extraordinary rideability with endless scope.

Cadeau Blanc (sport name: Bianco) is successfully ridden up to Prix St.Georges by Nadia Haridass and at the same time he is successful in advanced level show jumping classes with Ajai Appachu.

Cadeau Blanc's sire Charisma was jumping champion of his stallion performance test in Warendorf (Germany) in 1999. His sire Calido I is one of the most influential sires of Holstein breeding. With a lifetime-earning sum of more than 2,96 million Euro, he is one of the most successful stallions at present.

Kyara, the full sister of Charisma, is a sister of the dam of Bella Donna, who was successfully ridden by Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum. Bella Donna was the most successful show jumping horse in Germany in 2013.

Dam sire Popcorn is a son of the Westphalian progenitor-legend Pilot, who produced 75 licensed sons. 230 of Pilot's progeny are successful at advanced level and have won 4 million Euro prize money so far. The sister of the dam, the mare Isabella produced the international 1.60m class show jumper Marine, who is successful in the USA.

The thoroughbred Lucky Boy xx in third generation rounds of this extraordinary pedigree.

Fresh semen of Cadeau Blanc is available in India through Equus India Ltd. and the Embassy International Riding School, Bangalore.

#### *Summary:*

*Cadeau Blanc (sport name: Bianco) is successfully ridden up to Prix St.Georges by Nadia Haridass and at the same time he is successful in advanced level show jumping classes with Ajai Appachu.*

*The sire Charisma was jumping champion of his stallion performance test and is a son of Calido I, one of the most influential sires of Holstein breeding. Kyara, the full sister of Charisma, is a sister of the dam of Bella Donna, who was successfully ridden by Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum. Dam sire Popcorn, a son of the Westphalian progenitor-legend Pilot and the thoroughbred Lucky Boy xx in third generation round of this extraordinary pedigree.*





Photo courtesy LL Foto

### ***Premium stallion and crowd favourite of the Oldenburg stallion licensing 2014***

The highlight of the 2014 Oldenburg stallion auction was the final bid by Equus India for the impressive 3-year old premium sire Comerade. It is not often seen in this day and age, that a sire combines such type, a quality of the three basic gaits and extraordinary jumping abilities in such perfection as this extraordinary young show jumper does. He is a fascinating image to watch, as he possesses the classical Holstein moving mechanic in his gaits as well as plenty of scope, courage and energy, combined with an excellent leg technique and bascule at the jump. He must have been the most complete show jumper of the whole German licensing stallion selection of 2014.

His sire Castino was already amongst the top at his stallion performance test, where he received a mark of 10,0 for both free jumping and jumping the course, a mark of 9,0 for character and willingness to perform and a 9,58 for jumping ability. By now, he sired several licensed and premium sons.

The dam Lady Capriola has won intermediate level show jumping competitions and bred to Nintender, produced the licensed stallion N'oubliez jamais, which qualified for the

Bundeschampionat of the 5-year old show jumpers in 2011 and belonged to the top-offers of the 75th jubilee auction at Vechta. He continues his career in Switzerland. His full sister Nickoletta E is successful in international sports with Eoin Mc Mahon/IRL. Lady Capriola bred to Diarado, produced the licensed stallion Double Impact (finalist at the Bundeschampionat 2014) and another licensed son.

Dam sire Calido I is one of the most influential sires of Holstein breeding. The grand dam Cerrie produced Grand Prix winner Hella, the advanced level show jumper Calido, two more intermediate level show jumpers and the mare Chablis, which is via her daughter Promesse, grand dam of the licensed sire Untouchable, which was placed in Grand Prix and World Cup competitions with Daniel Deußer. The great grand dam Malwine produced the team European Champion Crocodile Man/Kevin Staut (FRA) as well as the advanced level show jumper Candy. Comerade originates from the Holstein performance lineage 18 a 2.

Fresh and frozen semen of Comerade is available through Equus India Ltd. and Galmbacher Stallion Stud.

### **Summary:**

The highlight of the 2014 Oldenburg stallion auction was the final bid by Equus India Ltd. for the impressive 3-year old stallion Comerade. With excellent basic gaits, unlimited scope and the temperament for a top sport and breeding horse, this horse unquestionably became premium stallion. His sire, the Holstein stallion Castino by Cassini II was the best jumping stallion of his 70-day stallion performance test, where he was awarded an overall score of 9.58 for his jumping ability.

The dam Lady Capriola was successful in showjumping classes herself and produced four licensed stallions and successful sport horses.

Comerade originates from the Holstein dam line 18a2, which produced amongst other top horses, the winner of the Hamburg Derby in 2014, Calle Cool and the top sires C-Trenton Z by Carthago, Chamber-tin by Cambridge and Untouchable by Hors la Loi II.





**COMERADE**

Photo courtesy Beelitz

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Diamond Hit - Santander - Freiherr

**Unbreakable Z**  
Untouched - Centauer Z - Nimmerdor

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Castino - Calido - Calypso I

**Embassy II**  
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# UNBREAKABLE Z

ZANGERSHEIDE STALLION, \*2011, BY UNTOUCHED - CENTAUER Z - NIMMERDOR

## *Unbreakable Z – International top genes for highest demands*

Modern shaped athlete for the course, large in frame with a subtle arrangement of movement. Plenty of scope at the jump combined with great back work and leg technique.

The pedigree consists of a comprised lot of famous show jumpers: his sire Untouched was premium sire in 2009 and combines international show jumpers in his pedigree. His sire Untouchable (Holstein lineage 18a2) was internationally successful with different riders (among them Christian and Andreas Schou/DEN and Daniel Deuber).

In his pedigree, we find Hors la Loi II/Hug-Simon (AUT), Heartbreaker/Peter Geerink (NED) and Carthago/Jos Lansink (BEL), three stallions that come directly one after another in the pedigree and that have all played a role in worldwide show jumping.

Untouched's dam Cantate Touch is a daughter of Capitol I and was internationally successful with Ben Schroeder (NED). She is also the direct daughter of the Olympic winner Classic Touch/Ludger Beerbaum (alias Wippe, Holstein lineage 4025).

Unbreakable's dam, Cassou du Rona Z is a daughter of the Holstein stallion Centauer Z and produced, next to Intertoy Z, who was highly successful with Olympic champion Scott Brash three more offspring which are successful in international jumping classes up to advanced level. Her sire Centauer Z combines the Holstein progenitor-heroes Capitol I and Lord.

The grand dam Zarona, a daughter of the Dutch champion sire Nimmerdor was internationally successful and produced four advanced level jumping horses. The great-grand dam Oline is grand dam of four internationally successful Grand Prix horses. In addition, the top horses Bon Ami, Power, Aerobic, O'Brien and Madison, Horse of the Year in the USA in 2005 and 2006 originate from this dam line.

In November 2014 Unbreakable successfully finished his stallion performance test and was awarded a score of 9 for his jumping ability.

Fresh and frozen semen of Unbreakable is available through Equis India Ltd. and Galmbacher Stallion Stud.

### Summary:

Unbreakable Z is the first approved son of the highly successful young stallion Untouched who is ridden by Olympic champion Nick Skelton. The grand dam of Untouched, Classic Touch, won the individual gold medal at the Olympic Games in Barcelona in 1992 with world renowned show jumper Ludger Beerbaum. The dam of Unbreakable Z, Cassou du Rona Z is well known as the mother of the Grand Prix horse Intertoy Z who was very successful with Olympic champion Scott Brash. Unbreakable Z is a highly modern stallion with unlimited scope and lightness of jump. He has a brilliant jumping technique and exemplary reflexes.







Photo courtesy Große Feldhaus



Colt by Unbreakable Z - Calvados Z - Cor de la Bryere





# A FOAL IS BORN

One can never say when the day comes and the foal is born, yet every breeder is waiting anxiously for that moment and although every birth is different and varies in many ways, there are a few indicators that breeders should know beforehand and with which it is becoming easier to understand the signs of the imminent birth.

Gestation of a mare is between 320 and 360 days, about eleven months. The foaling stall of the mare should be prepared and moved into at least six weeks prior to the estimated date of birth, so that the mare and her immune system can get accustomed to the environment. The foaling stall should be big enough and the bedding made of straw. Shavings are not advisable as they could be a hazard to health during birth.

## The first signs of birth

By watching the mare on a daily basis, the breeder will see changing signs which indicate that the date of the birth is approaching. After the mare's belly has grown and has almost taken the shape of a pear, the signs of imminent birth are the following

- The mare's udder begins to swell
- The teats grow
- When the teats/nipples start to lose 'wax' it is an indication that the birth of the foal will happen usually within 48 hours.
- The mare may be restless
- The mare may lie down and get up frequently – an indication for the first contractions

The birth of the foal usually begins at night, (often between midnight and 6 am) when it is quiet in the stable.

## BIRTH

After a period of about two hours in which the cervix/mouth of the uterus opens up, the foaling begins. The placental sac breaks and the waters break (amniotic fluid). Usually the mare is lying down and begins to push. The white-blue amniotic sac will appear and in it, the front feet, the mouth and the nose of the foal. Under normal circumstances, the mare will deliver the foal within 20 minutes. If the mare loses strength and the birth is taking too long, the breeder may support the birth by slightly pulling the front legs.

As soon as the chest has appeared the foal's head should be freed from the sac and any disturbing fluids, as this is the moment when the foal begins to breathe. The umbilical cord will break on its own, (usually after 10 to 15 minutes and after the mare has gotten up). It should not be cut by the breeder in order to prevent bleeding.



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1) *Ultrasound image of the foal*



2) *The mare just before giving birth*



3) *The birth alarm*



4) *The new-born foal*



5) *The fist bonding between mare and her foal*



6) *The mare and foal at the first Foal Show*

## Possible complications

If, instead of the white-blue sac, the red bag appears first out of the vulva, the breeder has to open it in order to make sure the foal can breathe and does not suffocate in the caul. If, instead of the front feet and legs, the hind feet and legs appear first (breech position), a veterinary should be called immediately.

## Aftercare

It is good to give mother and foal a time to get to know one another after birth. The mare will lick her foal. After one to two hours the foal should stand up and begin to look for the udder and nurse. The first drops of 'milk' - the colostrum - is most vital to the foal, as it contains all the important antibodies the foal needs. If the foal has difficulties finding the utter, the breeder can gently assist it towards it.

After three hours the foal should lose its first dung, very dark, usually small balls coming from the rectum. If the foal does not manage to extract the first dung,

liquids may have to be squirted into the rectum in order to assist the process.

It is important that the placenta is delivered within three hours after birth. When it hangs down it can be tied together until the mare naturally sheds it. If it is not delivered it can lead to poisoning and infections. After the foal has nursed and lost the first dung, the mare and foal should be left in peace for a while. When the foal is healthy and the mare is well, the best is to put them out into fresh air onto a nice green field. It is wonderful for the two and for the breeder it is a miraculous scene to watch!



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# WHEN COLIC STRIKES



Colic and stomach ulcers are two diseases which often have the same cause. Although there are various problems that can affect the health of the intestinal tract of the horse, one can say that they are often caused by the same triggers.

The horse is an animal that lives in the free grasslands and in its natural habitat it is constantly feeding small amounts between 16 and 18 hours a day. In the modern way of keeping and feeding horses, the ratio of roughage, grain/ pellet feed and (free) movement is often not balanced. When the horse chews its feed, the horse produces saliva which contains bicarbonate, a natural buffer for stomach acid. Hay or straw can absorb stomach acid in large amounts. Unlike humans, horses produce stomach acid constantly and in order to stay healthy, it is a horse's natural need to chew and eat most of the day. When feeding the horse in a healthy way, roughage should be provided constantly. The amount of roughage should be at least 1.5% - 2% of the body weight per day. Grain and pellet feed should be reduced to a sensible amount. Periods between feeding times should not extend 4 hours. Roughage should be given before grain or pellet feed in order to activate saliva production.

Stomach ulcers are injuries of the stomach lining, which vary in depths, with some of them bleeding. The injuries appear due to an increased acid activity. About 90% of all race horses, 60% of all sport horses and almost 60% of all horses younger than a year as well as leisure horses suffer or have suffered from stomach ulcers.

There are different causes that trigger the development of a stomach ulcer. The most common cause is feed which is not orientated on the natural feeding of horses.

As said before, the horse is an animal

which is used to walk and graze 16-18 hours a day and its intestinal tract is built for that. If the stomach is empty, the amount of acid can increase unhindered, injure the delicate stomach lining and lead to irreversible damage. For this reason it is essential to continuously feed roughage (hay and straw).

Too much grain/pellet feed and its indigestible parts can, if consumed in large amounts, also have a bad influence on the stomach's activity. Grain feed should always be given after hay. It is important that the saliva production and the digestion is activated before grain or pellet feed is given.

Further causes that may trigger stomach ulcers are stress, for example during training, the way the horse is kept, transport or change of stable. Increased stress leads to a higher production of stomach acid and a decreased blood flow of the stomach lining.

Symptoms that may indicate a stomach ulcer are, for example: Selective feeding only, generally less appetite from which results weight loss, frequent colic, diminished performance, frequent yawning, gnashing of teeth, drawing back from other horses or opposed to that, aggression, resistance when being saddled, not happy about the rider mounting or no willingness to move under saddle.

To prevent stomach ulcers or not let them appear at all, it is most important to make sure the keeping, feeding and training conditions are at the best possible standards. If despite all efforts, a stomach ulcer does appear, a professional veterinary should be consulted in order to choose the right form of therapy. During treatment it is important to pay attention to the fact that acid buffers are not used for a very long time. When stomach acid production

is artificially reduced, the stomach acid cannot do its job (kill germs) which can lead to bacterial infections. Furthermore a horse with not enough stomach acid is not able to handle proteins in the way it should.

Horses are naturally used to move and graze all day. Most of our horses are not able to do so anymore. They are kept in a stable and cannot behave in the natural way which may in itself be a stress factor. Stress should be prevented and avoided at all times. Stress is related to many other diseases, for example colic.

Causes and treatment depend on the form and graveness.

## COLIC

### THERE ARE SIX FORMS OF COLIC:

#### Cramp Colic:

Most common colic in horses. Change of weather, wrong pasture, change in pasture, stress, exhaustion as well as drinking big amounts of cold water can lead to cramp colic. The symptoms of cramp colic are very severe. These symptoms are common in every case.

- Scraping
- Flemming
- Kicking the stomach / looking and turning to stomach
- Blown up stomach
- Little or no noise coming from the intestine
- Refusal of feed
- Horse lies down on a frequent basis and rolls over often
- Body position as if the horse needs to urinate
- Sweating
- Horse is lying down and can hardly get up at all
- Sits up like a dog
- Increased pulse



## Gas Colic

As the name suggests the gas in the intestine increases too much and leads to an over- expansion of it. Most of the time, the large intestine is affected. The result of this over expansion is very painful. In the worst case the gas increase can lead to a fracture of the intestine. The causes of a gas colic are often wrong feeding (for example grass from a lawn mower), fresh bread, clover or luzern grass, feed rich in sugar or generally an unhealthy intestinal flora.

## Constipation Colic

This colic leads to constipation and in the worst case to a complete closure of the horse's large intestine. The symptoms of this colic are rather insidious and less severe. The horse does not feed well; it appears passive and often shows circulatory weakness. The affected animal prefers to lay on the side.

Treatment: Rectal emptying of the large intestine, administration of painkillers and perhaps administration of oils via a pipe directly into the stomach.

## Small intestine twisting

Very dramatic form of colic.

Appears suddenly and shows severe signs of pain. Horses throw themselves on the ground spontaneously and roll over because of pain. It bends the back and the general condition of the animal gets worse very quickly. This form of colic often happens with foals.

Operation! The intestine has to be untangled and has to be brought back to its correct position.

## Stomach overload

If feed has been consumed too quickly and in large amounts. Feed that has not been soaked properly beforehand, such as linseed. The stomach wall over stretches and causes pain. Horses cannot vomit and the stomach needs to be emptied with a tube in order to ease the pain.

## Intestine Blockade

The intestine blockade, intestine twist, dislocation or convulsion. The exact name depends on the position of the colic in the intestine, worst form of colic.

Treatment: operation to remove the twisted part.

Although not every colic is preventable, the correct keeping and the best management of the horse can help prevent colic.

The horse should be fed high quality feed in an amount adjusted to its performance.

Roughage and water should be at reach always.

Feeding should start with roughage.

A daily routine of feeding and training times should be kept.

The daily amount of feed should be divided into three portions, at least.

Check the horse for worms and parasites to keep the intestinal part healthy.

Prevent stress and keep the horse as close to its natural environment as possible.



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