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international horseraces since 1907



Media Release

## **White Turf St. Moritz 2020 - 113 years of international horse racing on snow in St. Moritz**

### **Successful second Race Sunday in glorious sunshine**

St. Moritz, 9 February 2020 - **Against a winter picture-book backdrop and in fantastic weather, gallopers, trotters and skijorers again delivered exciting races on the second Race Sunday on the frozen Lake of St. Moritz. Thanks to the excellent track condition all races could again be held over the original distance. In addition to Zambeso's impressive victory in the skijoring for the Credit Suisse GP of Silvaplana, 9,500 enthusiastic spectators also celebrated his stable mate Notte A Roma, who had previously won the sprint race. In the second preliminary stage of the LONGINES 81st Grand Prix of St. Moritz, Ulster gave his competitors no chance, while Ugo de Tortière dominated the only trotting race.**

The grey Zambeso, who had competed in the skijoring last year but lost his rider at the very start, ran this time with considerably more luck. After a not too fast start from the outermost starting box, he continuously made up ground over the 2,700 metres racecourse, finally joining the leading group on the ropes in the last bend with mount Adrian von Gunten from Bern. The team attacked the leader Vienna Woods and left a good five length's distance between them by the finish. November Rain crossed the finish line in third place.

#### **Notte A Roma with start-finish victory**

In the same blue and grey colours as his stable mate Zambeso - both horses are trained in Avenches by Claudia Erni for Martina Stadelmann - Notte A Roma had previously won the flat race over 1,300 metres. He also had to start the race from the outermost starting box, but his jockey Cédric Harnois immediately took him into the lead - a position he never relinquished until the finish. In doing so, he was able to convincingly distance himself from the competition led by Hakam. Favourite and last Sunday's winner Elmejor took third place.

#### **Debutant Ulster surprises the competition**

Eight horses competed in the GP LONGINES, the second preliminary test for the LONGINES 81st Grand Prix of St. Moritz. These included Berrahri, the defending champion for the final main race on February 16th. He surprised, however, because - unlike his stable mate Torochica - he did not get up to speed at all. Torochica, on the other hand, led the field right from the start and was already looking like the winner when Clément Lheureux pushed Swiss debutant Ulster past her on the inside edge for victory. Ulster, owned by Laetitia Domenig from Chur, is coached by Miro Weiss. Strade Kirk finished third behind Tolochica.

With the GP Sport Mind and Friends the spectators witnessed another Grisons victory when the grey Cloud in the colours of the Weiherwiesen stable of Veronika Jud from Prättigau, firmly put the favourite Heloagain in its place. Cloud is trained in Germany by Yasmin Almenräder.

#### **Ugo de Tortière despite an error at the start**

In the only trotting race, Rubis du Gilet started fastest and set a very fast pace from the lead. Due to a mistake Ugo de Tortière lost some ground, but Fanny Homberger in the sulky equipped with runners overtook opponent after opponent with the favourite and finally won easily ahead of last year's two winners Apollo San and Super Berry Chenou.

#### **First win of the season for champion Dennis Schiergen**

In the last race of the day the reigning champion jockey Dennis Schiergen achieved his first victory of the season. He rode Renny Storm from the Chevallex stable to an easy start to finish victory against the outsider Swan Lake.

### **Third race Sunday with the highest endowed races in all disciplines**

"Many thanks to our team for making such a wonderful second day of racing possible. The atmosphere both on the track and among our guests was simply outstanding," says Thomas C. Walther, Chairman of the Board of the St. Moritz Racing Association, and he is already looking forward to next Sunday: "We all expect a rousing final day". And rightly so, since February 16 promises to be a top-class racing day with the three highest-endowed races in all disciplines - the LONGINES 81st Grand Prix of St. Moritz (gallop), the Grand Prix Credit Suisse (skijoring) and the Grand Prix BMW (trot). The Credit Suisse Skijoring Trophy will also be awarded for the 30th time on February 16. Who will be able to call himself "King of the Engadine" in this special year? Or will the spectators be celebrating another queen after last year's victory by "King" Alfredo Lupo Wolf? Those who cannot make it to Lake St. Moritz in person can also follow the third day of the races via live stream both on [www.youtube.com/user/WhiteTurfStMoritz](https://www.youtube.com/user/WhiteTurfStMoritz) and [www.whiteturf.ch](http://www.whiteturf.ch).

#### **Tickets:**

Tickets for the third and last race Sunday of the White Turf 2020 are available online at <https://www.whiteturf.ch/en/tickets/>, as well as the extensive VIP package at <https://www.whiteturf.ch/en/vip/>

#### **Accreditation:**

Journalists, media professionals and bloggers or influencers are requested to obtain accreditation via <https://www.whiteturf.ch/en/accreditation-journalist-white-turf-2020/>

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#### **About White Turf**

White Turf, held annually since 1907, is a top-class event: it combines exciting horse racing, diverse catering options, attractive entertainment with live music and various exhibitors, all staged on the frozen Lake of St. Moritz with a unique mountain backdrop. White Turf 2020, with prize money totalling around 400,000 Swiss francs, will take place on February 2nd, 9th and 16th. 35,000 visitors from all over the world are expected. The event is organised by the St. Moritz Rennverein, the main sponsors being Credit Suisse (Schweiz) AG, BMW (Schweiz) AG and Longines. <https://www.whiteturf.ch/en/>

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#### **Credit Suisse (Schweiz) AG - Main sponsor of White Turf**

White Turf celebrates winter sports in a special way: Tradition meets innovation, as horse racing takes place over an icy course and enthusiastic spectators witness a truly impressive spectacle. Because this combination is as fascinating as it is unique, Credit Suisse has been involved with White Turf for more than 40 years.

Credit Suisse has awarded the ceramic cup created by the Swiss artist duo Aubry/Broquard to the three daily winners since 2016. The combined winner from all three racing Sundays will receive the Credit Suisse Skijöring Trophy, the 30th time it has been awarded. To mark this anniversary, the artist duo Aubry/Broquard have come up with something really special, which means that the 2020 King or Queen of the Engadine can look forward to being the first recipient of the new bronze perpetual trophy.

**BMW (Schweiz) AG - Main sponsor of White Turf**

Thanks to its commitment as a principal sponsor, BMW ensures year after year a successful performance on ice and snow at White Turf in St. Moritz. Equestrian sports are part of the selected sports events that BMW supports with its sponsoring activities. The support of top performances at the highest level matches the ethos of BMW because as a premium automobile manufacturer, the company offers products to its clients that are renowned throughout the world for their quality and efficiency. Equestrian sports and the BMW brand values share the same essential core attributes of dynamic force, aesthetical sense and performance.

**Longines - Main sponsor of White Turf**

Longines has been based at Saint-Imier in Switzerland since 1832. Its watchmaking expertise reflects a strong devotion to tradition, elegance and performance. Longines has generations of experience as official timekeeper of world championships and as partner of international sports federation. Known for the elegance of its timepieces, Longines is a member of the Swatch Group Ltd, the World's leading manufacturer of horological products. With the winged hourglass as its emblem, the brand has outlets in over 150 countries.