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St. Moritz



Press release

White Turf St. Moritz 2023 – 116 Years of International Horse Racing on Snow

Valeria Walther wins Credit Suisse Skikjöring Trophy and becomes Queen of the Engadine for the first time

St. Moritz, February 20st, 2023 – **The third and final Race Sunday of this year's White Turf was once again held in glorious sunshine. The highlight was the crowning of Valeria Selina Walther as the new Queen of the Engadine after winning the overall standings in the Credit Suisse Skikjöring Trophy. Valeria Walther is only the second woman in the history of this traditional discipline to achieve this. The Evangelos Pistiolis Foundation 83rd St. Moritz Grand Prix, which was also eagerly awaited, was carried home by Moderator. Due to the exceptionally warm temperatures and related safety precautions, the race was run over the shortened distance of 800 meters.**

In the first flat race of the day everything seemed to go according to plan. After the favorite and previous Sunday's winner Whaze had been declared a non-runner, Identified moved up to favorite and immediately hit the front galloping into the last turn with Blazing Comet at his side. But it was here that Rene Piechulek fell. Jenny Langhard was able to avoid the incident on The Iconist and the pair went on to win the race ahead of Ventura Tormenta and Tapeten Toni.

As a result, the Evangelos Pistiolis Foundation 83rd Grand Prix of St. Moritz was delayed for half an hour – the staff wanted to try to roughen up the surface in the tricky spots. But shortly before the horses were brought onto the track, the decision was made that the distance would be shortened to 800 meters. Immediately after the start, Moderator, owned by Anton and Verena Kräuliger, took the lead together with Movin Time. Towards the finish, a duel between the 11:1 outsider Moderator and Movin Time emerged, which Moderator won by a head.

In the final flat race of the event, also shortened to 800 meters, Mark Hänni's Play All Day prevailed ridden by Rene Piechulek, who confidently repelled the attacks of Saphira Dream and Fiesta.

Skikjöring entirely in female hands

The skikjöring race, the Grand Prix Credit Suisse, was run over the regular distance. Moonflight withstood all attacks with Valeria Schiergen on her skis. The gray, trained by Peter Schiergen and owned by Murrezzan Racing Stable, relegated Atlantico to runner up. Thanks to two second places at this year's White Turf, Valeria Selina Walther, Atlantico's rider, was nevertheless crowned Queen of the Engadine for the first time. Third-placed Los Angeles was also ridden by a woman, Leta Joos.

Fourteenth of July dethrones Kiss Forever H.C.

In the Grand Prix Pontresina, the two dominating horses in the previous trotting races, Fourteenth of July and Kiss Forever H.C., met. The latter also coming in as defending champion and Stephanie Theiler immediately positioned him behind Fourteenth of July and Jean-Bernard Matthey, who had taken the lead. Although Theiler attacked in the run-in, Hedy Schlatter's eight-year-old was always in control and took his third snow victory in as many starts.

38,000 guests over all three weekends

Last but not least, White Turf 2023 was a great success in terms of spectator numbers, betting turnover and the atmosphere in the tent city. Thanks to bright weather and warm temperatures, a total of 11,000 spectators found their way onto the frozen Lake St. Moritz on today's race day. Together with the popular Family Days held on Saturdays, 38,000 people visited this year's White Turf – a new record!

High-resolution photo material is available at: www.swiss-image.ch/gowhiteturf
Please use the following photo credit: swiss-image/AndyMettler

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About White Turf

White Turf, which has been held annually since 1907, is a top-class event: it combines exciting horse racing, fine catering, attractive music and art performances in front of a unique mountain backdrop on the frozen Lake of St. Moritz. The White Turf 2023 will take place on February 5th, 12th and 19th – 30,000 visitors from Switzerland and abroad are expected. The St. Moritz Racing Club is behind the organisation, the main sponsors being Credit Suisse (Switzerland) AG and Genesis Motor Europe. www.whiteturf.ch

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Credit Suisse – White Turf Main Sponsor

Credit Suisse is one of the world's leading financial services providers, with a history stretching back over 165 years, and has close ties with Switzerland since its foundation.

White Turf celebrates winter sports in a special way: Here, tradition meets innovation, equestrian sport meets icy terrain, spectacle meets enthusiasm. It is also because this combination is as fascinating as it is unique that Credit Suisse has been committed to White Turf for over 45 years. Since 2016, Credit Suisse has awarded the three daily winners with the trophy created by the Swiss artist duo Aubry/Broquard. In addition, the overall winner across all three Race Sundays will be presented with the Credit Suisse Skikjöring Trophy and will be crowned "Queen oder King of the Engadine" with the challenge cup created by the same artist duo.

Genesis – White Turf Main Sponsor

Genesis brings premium cars with a luxury experience to Europe. The Korean brand has established itself as a true alternative within the premium segment. With a commitment to hospitality and great service, Genesis strives to build sincere relationships with customers and, above all, to respect the greatest luxury – their time. Embodying its unique design language 'Athletic Elegance', the brand continues to strengthen its range of vehicles and services across Europe having launched five premium luxury vehicles in 2021. Genesis has introduced three electric vehicles in 2022 and, from 2025, all-new Genesis vehicles will be pure electric as part of the brand's vision for a sustainable future. Genesis will also pursue a goal to become carbon net zero by 2035.

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