

The 2015 European Championships in Verona

On November 7-8th, 2015 the European Arabian Championships took place in Verona. Out of the 132 entered horses 118 were presented in the show arena, among them 23 of Polish breeding and ownership. Furthermore 6 other Polish-bred horses were shown, but under foreign owners.

The Championships began on Saturday (October 7th) with the yearling fillies classes. In the A series a good performance was given by Janów's Adelita, who won the class with a score of 456,0. In the same class Białka's Celita (445,5) placed 6th. The B series saw 9 contestants, among them 6 from Poland. The class was won by Michałów's El Larinera with a score of 456,5. The remaining spots in the top five were taken respectively by: Prunella (Janów Podlaski) 452,2, Petulla (Janów Podlaski) 452,0, Wasalia (Falborek Arabians) 446,5, Foggita (Michałów) 446,0. Elwita (442,0) was seventh.

The colts were also divided into two series. Performing in the A series was Janów's Paris, who with a score of 455,5 yielded before the winner of the class, AJ Azzam from Ajman Stud (DE). Whereas in the B series also second, with a score of 455,0, placed Fuerte, bred by Jan Dobrzyński, currently owned by Sami Saad (PL).

In the 2 year old fillies class victorious was Michałów's Pustynia Kahila with a score of 455,5. Also shown was the Polish-bred and Qatari-owned Orla Turnia (446,0).

The 2 year old colts class saw 8 horses, out of which 3 were Polish. The winner was Morion (463,5) from Michałów, Calateon (456,0) of Marek Kodrasiuk was third and Genetrix (448,5) of Agnieszka Wójtowicz was fifth.



Morion and Calateon during the decoration ceremony at the 2015 Verona Championships, photo by K. Poszepczyński

In the 3 year old classes Poland was represented by: the filly Kalahari (438,5) and the colt Eternis (438,5) – both outside the top five.

Also held on Saturday were the senior stallion classes. In this difficult and numerous (12 horses) 4-6 year old stallion class the first place was secured by Equator with an extraordinarily high total score of 470,5 pts (9x20). A very good performance was delivered

by Psyche Keret from Chrcynno-Palace Stud, who with three „20s” for movement placed second in class with a score of 459,0. Janów’s Barok, with 456,5, ultimately landed fourth. The 7-9 year old stallions class did not have any of our representatives.

Whereas in the class of 10 year old stallions and above we saw Girlan-Bey bred by Michał Bogajewicz and owned by the Kristofferson family from Sweden. In the end he took second place with a respectable score of 458,0 (including 3x20) among 3 contenders in class.

Saturday was without any doubt a successful day for Polish breeding due to the achieved results. However because of the change of judging rules in the championships compared to previous years (an open championship, where the top five horses of each class qualify and every horse can be chosen by the judges), all Polish breeders awaited the Sunday rivalry with some anxiety.

The Sunday face-offs began with the senior mares. Competing in the 4-6 year old mares class were 11 contestants, including 5 from Poland. Ultimately victorious was Janów’s Euzona with a score of 460,5. Fourth place went to Janów’s Potentilla (458,5) and fifth to Białka’s Perfinka (456,0). Also shown were Emandilla (453,5) and Paema (448,0). The 7-9 year old mares class had 10 competitors, including 2 from Poland (Nasim Al Khalediah – 455,0 pts and Parmana – 454,0 pts). Unfortunately they found themselves outside of the top five, similarly to Janów’s Alabama (450,5) currently of Qatari ownership.

Whereas in the last Sunday class (mares 10 years old and above) among the 8 contestants two were from Poland, as well as one of Polish breeding. Victorious was the Michałów-bred Norma (owned by Al Muawd Stud) with a score of 464,5. Second was Emira (Michałów) with a score of 460,5 and fourth another Michałów mare, Wilda (453,5).



Emira and Euzona during the decoration ceremony at the 2015 Verona Championships, photo by K. Poszepczyński

Just as we feared, due to the used judging system the championships were not so favorable for Polish horses. The judges changed some of their decisions made earlier, as a result of which the medals and Top Five titles were often awarded to horses placed lower in classes and those from the first and second spots often stepped off the arena without any trophy. Ultimately the yearling fillies championship was won by Janów’s Adelita and the Top Five titles went to El Larinera (Michałów) and Petula (Janów). In the yearling colts championship

the bronze medal went to Janów's Paris and a Top Five to Fuerte of Sami Saad. In the junior fillies championship the favored Pustynia Kahila (Michałów) ended up only with a Top Five Title. A similar situation took place in the junior colts championship, where the highly decorated, Michałów-bred Morion claimed just a Top Five honor. The same title went to Marek Kondrasiuk's Calateon. In the stallion championship the first spot and gold medal was claimed by Michałów's Equator, while Janów's Barok (4th in class) earned a Top Five. The silver medal in the senior mare championship went to Norma (Michałów) and the Top Five titles to Michałów's Emira and Janów's Euzona.

Full results of the Verona Championships can be found [here](#).