

Press release – 14 December 2024

Summary of the 2023 Nations Cup season

Cian O'Connor named most successful Nations Cup rider

The 2024 Nations Cup year was concluded in Vilamoura (POR). 768 clear rounds were shown at 30 shows around the globe. In the exclusive ranking of the Swiss equestrian magazine «PferdeWoche», Ireland's Cian O'Connor is the clear winner of the title: «Mr Nations Cup» 2024 with 15 clear rounds. Second place goes to Great Britain's Ben Maher with eleven clear rounds. Third place with ten clear rounds goes to world number one Henrick von Eckermann (SWE). There are two winners in the country statistics: Ireland and Germany with 75 clear rounds each. Bronze goes to the Netherlands with 44 clear rounds.

There were 768 clear rounds in the Nations Cup this year. The flawless rounds at 30 events counted, including the two rounds at the Olympic Games in Paris that counted for the team. This year, one rider stands out and can celebrate the title of «Mr Nations Cup». With a total of 15 clear rounds, Ireland's Cian O'Connor succeeds Steve Guerdat (SUI), who won in 2023 with 13 clear rounds.

The 45-year-old O'Connor, who runs the equestrian centre «Karlswald Stables» in Batterstown (IRL), has shone in eleven Nations Cups. He used four horses in his 15 clear rounds. With the nine-year-old French stallion Fancy de Kergane, he managed a total of eleven clear rounds, including three double clear rounds in Roeser (LUX), Prague (CZE) and Falsterbo (SWE). O'Connor also recorded a double clear with the twelve-year-old Belgian gelding K.I Maurice at the CSIO5* in Rome (ITA). In addition, there was one clear round each with the ten-year-old Oldenburg stallion Fermoy and the eleven-year-old Zangersheide gelding Iron Man.

O'Connor was delighted with the award from the sidelines of the CHI Geneva. «I think it's very special because it's unique to be able to represent your country. We jump every week as individual athletes, but when we can help each other and compete as a team, it creates a very special atmosphere and culture. And the Irish team has done so well that I feel very lucky to have been a part of it for so long. Actually, my first Nations Cup was in Athens in 1999.»

O'Connor said of the Nations Cup in general: «The Nations Cup is probably the biggest challenge for us riders. Two identical rounds at short intervals, two water jumps, two triple combinations. I think the Nations Cup is very important, not only for the development of the horses, but also for the riders. It teaches the riders that Friday afternoon is usually the time and the day to perform – just like at a championship.»

In 2024, 321 riders from 39 countries rode a total of 768 clear rounds in the 30 Nations Cups (Three to Fivestar, Olympic Games). This results in an average of over 25 clear rounds per tournament. In 2023, it was just under 21 with 731 clear rounds at 35 tournaments.

The team from Ireland won the «team ranking» together with Germany, who each had 75 clear round. There were 22 Irish and 27 German riders in action. O'Connor comments: «I think there is a lot of ambition among young Irish riders to compete in Nations Cups competitions. There are also so many good young riders coming up all the time who want to be part of it and represent their country.»

Nations Cup Season 2024

Clear rounds

1.	Cian O'Connor	IRL	15	Vince Jarmy	HUN	4	
2.	Ben Maher	GBR	11	Jessica Burke	IRL	4	
3.	Henrik von Eckermann	SWE	10	Alberto Zorzi	ITA	4	
4.	Daniel Coyle	IRL	8	Eugenio Garza Perez	MEX	4	
5.	Jörne Sprehe	GER	7	Jose Antonio Chedraui Eguia	MEX	4	
	Lars Kersten	NED	7	Harrie Smolders	NED	4	
	Willem Greve	NED	7	Leopold van Asten	NED	4	
	Adrian Schmid	SUI	7	Mathijs van Asten	NED	4	
9.	Katharina Rhomberg	AUT	6	Rodrigo Giesteira Almeida	POR	4	
	Zascha Nygaard Lill	DEN	6	Janika Sprunger	SUI	4	
	Kevin Staut	FRA	6	David Horvath	SVK	4	
	Robert Murphy	GBR	6	Amanda Landeblad	SWE	4	
	Jana Wargers	GER	6	Emma Emanuelsson	SWE	4	
	Kendra Claricia Brinkop	GER	6	Erika Lickhammer-van Helmond	SWE	4	
	Philip Rüping	GER	6	Omar Abdul Aziz al Marzooqi	UAE	4	
	Richard Vogel	GER	6	McLain Ward	USA	4	
	André Thieme	GER	6	Spencer Smith	USA	4	
	Henk Frederiks	NED	6				
	Mel Thijssen	NED	6	64.	Christoph Obernauer	AUT	3
	Pius Schwizer	SUI	6		Gerfried Puck	AUT	3
	Bronislav Chudyba	SVK	6		Markus Saurugg	AUT	3
22.	Max Kühner	AUT	5		Emilie Conter	BEL	3
	Denis Lynch	IRL	5		Frederic Vernaet	BEL	3
	Michael Pender	IRL	5		Koen Vereecke	BEL	3
	Shane Sweetnam	IRL	5		Nicola Philippaerts	BEL	3
	Giulia Martinengo Marquet	ITA	5		Niels Bruynseels	BEL	3
	Maikel van der Vleuten	NED	5		Rik Hemeryck	BEL	3
	Mans Thijssen	NED	5		Thibault Philippaerts	BEL	3
	Dominik Fuhrer	SUI	5		Thibaut Spits	BEL	3
	Martin Fuchs	SUI	5		Yuri Mansur	BRA	3
	Steve Guerdat	SUI	5		Ales Opatrny	CZE	3
	Peder Fredricson	SWE	5		Emil Hallundbaek	DEN	3
	Aaron Vale	USA	5		Mathias Norheden Johansen	DEN	3
34.	Pieter Devos	BEL	4		Aura Vasama	FIN	3
	Pedro Veniss	BRA	4		Julien Epailard	FRA	3
	Sören Moeller Rohde	DEN	4		Mark Edwards	GBR	3
	Ivan Serrano Saez	ESP	4		Leonie Böckmann	GER	3
	François Xavier Boudant	FRA	4		Mario Stevens	GER	3
	Marie Pellegrin	FRA	4		Sophie Hidders	GER	3
	Nicolas Layec	FRA	4		Darragh Kenny	IRL	3
	Simon Delestre	FRA	4		Mark McAuley	IRL	3
	Harry Charles	GBR	4		Max Wachman	IRL	3
	Oliver Fletcher	GBR	4		Richard Howley	IRL	3
	Christian Kukuk	GER	4		Seamus Hughes Kennedy	IRL	3
	Michael Viehweg	GER	4		Abdullah Alsharbatly	KSA	3
	Peter Szuhai	HUN	4		Ramzy al Duhami	KSA	3
					Michael Greeve	NED	3
					Oda Charlotte Lyngvaer	NOR	3
					Pal Flam	NOR	3
					Therese Soehol Henriksen	NOR	3
					Marek Waclawik	POL	3
					Bryan Balsiger	SUI	3
					Edouard Schmitz	SUI	3

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Clear rounds

	Petronella Andersson	SWE	3	Maximilian Lill	GER	2
	Rolf-Göran Bengtsson	SWE	3	Philipp Weishaupt	GER	2
	Wilma Hellström	SWE	3	Angelos Touloupis	GRE	2
	Abdullah Humaid al Muhairi	UAE	3	Kriton Zafiroopoulos	GRE	2
	Abdullah Mohd al Marri	UAE	3	Bertram Allen	IRL	2
	Ali Hamad al Kirbi	UAE	3	David Simpson	IRL	2
	Salim Ahmad al Suwaidi	UAE	3	Diarmuid Howley	IRL	2
	Mykola Pylypeiko	UKR	3	Jenny Rankin	IRL	2
	Laura Kraut	USA	3	Matt Garrigan	IRL	2
				Michael G Duffy	IRL	2
108.	José Maria Larocca	ARG	2	Tom Wachman	IRL	2
	Gabrielle Chugg	AUS	2	Angelica Canonici	ITA	2
	Bertrand Genin	BEL	2	Antonio Maria Garofalo	ITA	2
	Gilles Thomas	BEL	2	Arnaldo Bologni	ITA	2
	Gregory Wathelet	BEL	2	Bruno Chimirri	ITA	2
	Katja Haep	BEL	2	Emanuele Camilli	ITA	2
	Pieter Clemens	BEL	2	Filippo Bassan	ITA	2
	Wilm Vermeir	BEL	2	Giacomo Bassi	ITA	2
	Yves Vanderhasselt	BEL	2	Nico Lupino	ITA	2
	João Victor Castro Aguiar			Paolo Paini	ITA	2
	Gomes de Lima	BRA	2	Roberto Turchetto	ITA	2
	Luciana Diniz	BRA	2	Taizo Sugitano	JPN	2
	Luiz Felipe Neto de Azevedo	BRA	2	Takashi Haase Shibayama	JPN	2
	Stephan de Freitas Barcha	BRA	2	Khaled Almoby	KSA	2
	Elizabeth Bates	CAN	2	Odile Gierrech	LUX	2
	Lea Rucker	CAN	2	Victor Bettendorf	LUX	2
	Tiffany Foster	CAN	2	Ali al Ahrach	MAR	2
	Armando Trapote	ESP	2	Andres Azcarraga	MEX	2
	Carolina Aresu Garcia Obregon	ESP	2	Ernesto Canseco	MEX	2
	Diego Ramos Maneiro	ESP	2	Nicolas Pizarro	MEX	2
	Imma Roquet Autonell	ESP	2	Kevin Jochems	NED	2
	Mariano Martinez Bastida	ESP	2	Ruben Romp	NED	2
	Sergio Alvarez Moya	ESP	2	Tani Joosten	NED	2
	Annina Nordström	FIN	2	Simon Rahbek Yde	NOR	2
	Alix Ragot	FRA	2	Adam Grzegorzewski	POL	2
	Charles Henri Ferme	FRA	2	Dawid Kubiak	POL	2
	Jeanne Sadran	FRA	2	Michal Tyszko	POL	2
	Marc Dilasser	FRA	2	Tomasz Miskiewicz	POL	2
	Nina Mallevaey	FRA	2	Gyula Zárug	ROU	2
	Olivier Perreau	FRA	2	Gilles Müller	SUI	2
	Olivier Robert	FRA	2	Dominika Gaalova	SVK	2
	Victor Laudet	FRA	2	Radovan Sillo	SVK	2
	Adrian Whiteway	GBR	2	Irma Karlsson	SWE	2
	Donald Whitaker	GBR	2	Marcus Westergren	SWE	2
	Jodie Hall McAteer	GBR	2	Ottilia Lundgren	SWE	2
	John Whitaker	GBR	2	Anastasia Bondarieva	UKR	2
	Joseph Stockdale	GBR	2	Oleksandr Prodan	UKR	2
	Scott Brash	GBR	2	Karl Cook	USA	2
	Tim Gredley	GBR	2	Kelli Cruciotti Vanderveen	USA	2
	Christian Ahlmann	GER	2	Lillie Keenan	USA	2
	Katrin Eckermann	GER	2	Michael Hughes	USA	2
	Marie Ligges	GER	2			

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Clear rounds

200.	Mariano Ossa	ARG	1	Simon Crippen	GBR	1
	Matias Larocca	ARG	1	Skye Higgin	GBR	1
	Thaisa Erwin	AUS	1	Carsten-Otto Nagel	GER	1
	Thomas McDermott	AUS	1	Daniel Deusser	GER	1
	Alessandra Reich	AUT	1	David Will	GER	1
	Christian Rhomberg	AUT	1	Hannes Ahlmann	GER	1
	Fritz Kogelnig jun.	AUT	1	Marcus Ehning	GER	1
	Aaron Tijskens	BEL	1	Maximilian Weishaupt	GER	1
	Celine Schoonbroodt-de Azevedo	BEL	1	Nicola Pohl	GER	1
	Jeroen Appelen	BEL	1	Patrick Stühlmeyer	GER	1
	Jérôme Guery	BEL	1	Rene Dittmer	GER	1
	Marine Scaufilaire	BEL	1	Robin Naeve	GER	1
	Mathieu Bourdeaud'hui	BEL	1	Sandra Auffarth	GER	1
	Olivier Philippaerts	BEL	1	Ilias Baliouis	GRE	1
	Roy van Beek	BEL	1	András Kövy jun.	HUN	1
	Thomas de Wit	BEL	1	David O'Brien	IRL	1
	Luiz Felipe Cortizo Gonçalves			Francis Derwin	IRL	1
	de Azevedo Filho	BRA	1	Jason Foley	IRL	1
	Luiz Francisco de Azevedo	BRA	1	Thomas Ryan	IRL	1
	Mariana Frauches Chaves	BRA	1	Ashlee Bond	ISR	1
	Marlon Modolo Zanotelli	BRA	1	Daniel Bluman	ISR	1
	Rodrigo Pessoa	BRA	1	Camilla Bosio	ITA	1
	Amy Millar	CAN	1	Francesco Turturiello	ITA	1
	Erynn Ballard	CAN	1	Giacomo Casadei	ITA	1
	Kara Chad	CAN	1	Giampiero Garofalo	ITA	1
	Kyle Timm	CAN	1	Omar Bonomelli	ITA	1
	Dayro Arroyave	COL	1	Piergiorgio Bucci	ITA	1
	Juan Manuel Galledo	COL	1	Riccardo Pisani	ITA	1
	Nicolas Toro	COL	1	Eiken Sato	JPN	1
	Anna Kellnerova	CZE	1	Kamal Abdullah Bahamdan	KSA	1
	Linda Portychova	CZE	1	Andrius Petrovas	LTU	1
	Sara Vingralkova	CZE	1	Abdelkebir Ouaddar	MAR	1
	Anne Kristine Truelsen	DEN	1	Jose Antonio Chedraui Prom	MEX	1
	Laura Baaring Kjaergaard	DEN	1	Anastasia Nielsen	MON	1
	Nicolas Pedersen	DEN	1	Bas Moerings	NED	1
	Alvaro Gonzalez de Zarate Fernandez	ESP	1	Finn Boerekamp	NED	1
	Laura Roquet Puignero	ESP	1	Gerben Morsink	NED	1
	Petra Heikkinen	FIN	1	Kim Emmen	NED	1
	Alexis Deroubaix	FRA	1	Mart Ijland	NED	1
	Charlotte Leoni	FRA	1	Ingrid Gjelsten	NOR	1
	Edward Levy	FRA	1	Marit Haarr Skollerud Cox	NOR	1
	Harold Boisset	FRA	1	Geir Gulliksen	NOR	1
	Megane Moissonnier	FRA	1	Andrzej Oplatek	POL	1
	Roger-Yves Bost	FRA	1	Cassandra Orschel	POL	1
	Stanislas de Maret	FRA	1	Jaroslav Skrzyczynski	POL	1
	Claudia Moore	GBR	1	Maksymilian Wechta	POL	1
	Faye Sutton	GBR	1	Msciwój Kiecon	POL	1
	Jack Whitaker	GBR	1	Przemyslaw Konopacki	POL	1
	Jane Annett	GBR	1	Rodrigo Sampaio Peixoto	POR	1
	Leo Lamb	GBR	1	Daniel Ionut Bucur	ROU	1
	Matthew Sampson	GBR	1	Luca Ruxandariu	ROU	1
	Robert Whitaker	GBR	1	Urh Baumann	SLO	1

Nations Cup Season 2024

Clear rounds

Alain Jufer	SUI	1
Eva Gautschi	SUI	1
Evelyne Bussmann	SUI	1
Sasha Barthe	SUI	1
Hannah Akerblom	SWE	1
Karin Martinsen	SWE	1
Linda Heed	SWE	1
Malin Baryard-Johnsson	SWE	1
Mathilda Bohlin	SWE	1
Derin Demirsoy	TUR	1
Alisa Danilova	UKR	1
Rostyslav Dementiev	UKR	1
Callie Schott	USA	1
Coco Fath	USA	1
Jessica Springsteen	USA	1
Kent Farrington	USA	1
Lucy Davis	USA	1
Raleigh Hiler	USA	1
Zayna Rizvi	USA	1

All Nations Cups are taken into account with the exception of the one- and two-star competitions. Also included are the two rounds that count towards the team decision at the Olympic Games Paris.

Past winners

2023	Steve Guerdat	SUI	13
2022	Kevin Staut	FRA	12
2021	Jérôme Guery	BEL	7
	André Thieme	GER	7
2020	<i>Not counted due to corona</i>		
2019	Daniel Deusser	GER	8
2018	Steve Guerdat	SUI	10
2017	Steve Guerdat	SUI	10

Country statistics

Total clear rounds per nation (Top 20)

1.	Ireland	75
	Germany	75
3.	Netherlands	62
4.	Belgium	51
	Great Britain	51
6.	France	48
7.	Sweden	47
8.	Switzerland	44
9.	Italy	36
10.	USA	31
11.	Austria	23
12.	Brasil	20
13.	Danmark	19
14.	Spain	18
15.	Poland	17
16.	UAE	16
17.	Mexico	15
18.	Norway	14
	Slovakia	14
20.	Canada	10

Number of podium places (Top 5)

1.	Ireland	15
2.	Germany	12
3.	Great Britain	9
4.	Netherland	8
5.	Belgium	6

Past winners

2023	Irland	60
2022	Belgien	83
2021	Irland	48
2020	<i>Not counted due to corona</i>	
2019	Irland	46