



CHI AL SHAQAB concludes with rousing final day of competitions

Grand Prix events cap three days of world-class equestrian action

Doha: The fifth edition of CHI AL SHAQAB concluded with the world's top dressage and jumping riders competing in three Grand Prix events. The full day of action brought to a close the most international CHI AL SHAQAB to date, with 153 riders and 224 horses representing more than 30 countries.

The morning's competition opened with the 5* dressage Grand Prix Special. The 3* jumping accumulation event followed, with the final para-dressage competition taking place soon after. In the afternoon, both 3* and 5* jumping continued, and the 5* dressage Grand Prix freestyle brought the dressage events to a close. The evening, and with it CHI AL SHAQAB, concluded with the marquee event, the 5* jumping Grand Prix.

Khalifa Al Attiya, President of CHI AL SHAQAB and Executive Director of AL SHAQAB, said: "This year's CHI AL SHAQAB was the best yet, with both the riders and their horses living up to their world-class status. All disciplines at CHI AL SHAQAB have provided excellent competition, which is befitting an event that has attracted the world's top riders for five years. CHI AL SHAQAB is an important event for the local community as well, and we were pleased to see so many families enjoying the Festival Area. This year's CHI AL SHAQAB has truly had something for everyone. Qatar has a strong equestrian heritage, and we are proud to help preserve that important part of our culture through CHI AL SHAQAB.

"Thanks to the dedication and guidance of His Excellency Sheikh Joann Bin Hamad Al Thani, Chairman of the Organising Committee of CHI AL SHAQAB 2017, the event has become a flagship international equestrian event," said Alistair Routledge, President and General Manager of ExxonMobil Qatar.

"I want to extend my appreciation to the wonderful, hard-working team headed by Mr. Khalifa Al-Attiyah, responsible for organizing CHI AL SHAQAB. This year's event was a stellar one, a great experience for both the competitors and spectators. We are pleased to have supported this outstanding event since its inception five years ago," he added.

"This year's CHI AL SHAQAB exceeded all expectations with remarkable sportsmanship on display all three days. In just five years, CHI AL SHAQAB has established itself as one of the premier international equestrian events, and these three days of competition, featuring the world's top riders, shows why," said Omar Al Mannai, Event Director, CHI AL SHAQAB.

ExxonMobil was the gold sponsor of CHI AL SHAQAB 2017, and Woqod was the silver sponsor. Qatar Airways, St. Regis Hotel, Aspetar and Nasser Bin Khaled were also partners with AL SHAQAB for the event.



To learn more and participate in social media competitions, follow Al Shaqab's channels:

INSTAGRAM: @al_shaqab

TWITTER: @AlShaqab

FACEBOOK: alshaqabofficial

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AL SHAQAB – A World Class Facility

Since its establishment in 1992, AL SHAQAB's vision was to build on Qatar's Arabian horse heritage and be a leading global centre for equine professionals while providing an engaging experience for the community. Global leadership has not only meant preserving, improving and promoting the Arabian horse breed, but also encouraging the community in this unique, traditional cultural sport.

World Champion stallions Gazal Al Shaqab, Al Adeed Al Shaqab and Marwan Al Shaqab, alongside their offsprings have enhanced the pedigree of Arabian horses not only Qatar, but around the world. In 2004, AL SHAQAB became a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development to continue its mission to promote the breeding and showing of Arabian horses, and to provide educational and competitive opportunities in the equestrian arts.

Today, AL SHAQAB's impressive facilities, which are distinctively designed in the shape of a horseshoe, cover 980, 000 square metres. With a state-of-the-art Main Arena comprising both an indoor and outdoor venue capable of holding over 5000 spectators, AL SHAQAB is part of Qatar's growing reputation on the world stage that showcases its ability to host major international sports event at the highest level.

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Qatar Foundation was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Chairperson Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>