

PRESS RELEASE Tuesday, 23 May 2023

# 183rd RENEWAL OF THE OATAR PRIX DU JOCKEY CLUB

Sunday, 4 june at Chantilly racecourse

#### Best of the best at the Chantilly racecourse

On Sunday 4 June 2023, the Chantilly racecourse sets the stage for the 183rd renewal of the Qatar Prix du Jockey Club. This highly anticipated day in the French racing calendar is also very popular with families who enjoy the many free activities on offer at the racecourse.

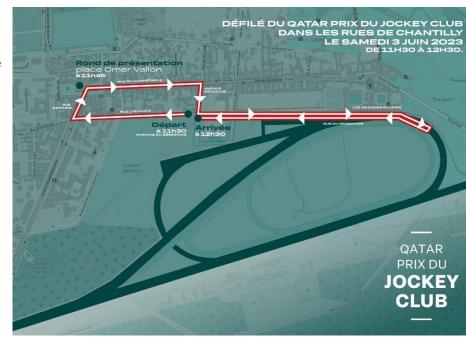
The sporting highlight of the day is the Qatar Prix du Jockey Club, an important event for 3-year-olds that is run over 2100 metres and crowns the champion of the new generation of thoroughbreds. The French derby, created in 1836, is one of the oldest sporting challenges in France. With prizemoney of 1.5 million Euros, it is the race with the second highest prizemoney in the French flat racing calendar.

VIDEO - Discover the trailer of the Qatar Prix du Jockey Club 2023: HERE

## NEW – Qatar Prix du Jockey Club Equestrian Parade in the streets of Chantilly on Saturday, 3 June

On Saturday 3 June, the day before the race, from 11.30am to 12.30pm, riders and horses from the AFASEC (jockey apprentice school), sporting the colours of this year's runners in the Qatar Prix du Jockey Club, will pass through the streets of Chantilly to parade in front of the town's inhabitants.

The parade will start on the Petite Pelouse (the small lawn) of the racecourse (rue d'Aumale) that leads to the place du Marché Omer Vallon, which will be transformed into a parade ring. The parade then continues on the rue du Connétable all the way to the Great Stables via the chemin des Officiers, before it turns around to come back the same way.



#### Chantilly racecourse in the colours of champions



For the 183rd renewal of this important race, large flags bearing the names of its iconic champions are hoisted in celebration of the history of this oldest sporting challenge.

The first Prix du Jockey Club was run in 1836. For more than a century, this race has produced outstanding champions who continue their career at stud where they pass on their incredible talent to create champion bloodlines.

Whether they are called Darshaan (winner in 1984), Peintre Célèbre (1997), Montjeu (1999), Dalakhani (2003), Le Havre (2009), Lope de Vega (2010), or Sottsass (2019), the winners of the Prix du Jockey Club have often become extremely sought-after stallions that have made lasting impressions in the Stud Book, the registry that contains the pedigrees of horses bred in France. The off-spring of Prix du Jockey Club winners have added their names to the roll of honour of the most prestigious events in the international racing calendar.

### NEW EVENTS: Free Jump, customised T-shirts, Chantilly and Derby timed events

"Dive" into the history of the Jockey Club, literally and figuratively! A spectacular Free Jump will be installed at the racecourse. With its 12 metres high platform, it will allow spectators, young and old, to take off for a big jump to land on a gigantic mattress. Thrills are guaranteed with this massive jump that is free of charge.

Adrenaline will also be pumping at the "Derby" attraction. Get on a bike and pedal as fast as you can to move your horse forward. There will be a commentator to get you going. May the best one win! Free entertainment.



In partnership with the famous Confrérie des

**Maîtres Fouetteurs of Chantilly creme**, spectators engage in a friendly match, which will be timed. The fastest three times of the day will receive a prize.

Finally, be sporty and cool with a customised t-shirt sporting messages linked to the event, which are sold in the avenues of the racecourse.

#### Many other free activities at the racecourse

On this day, in addition to the 10 flat races at the Chantilly racecourse, spectators will be able to take advantage of the "Family racecourses events", which this year can be enjoyed on 30 dates and at all France Galop racecourses (Paris-Longchamp, Auteuil, Saint-Cloud, Chantilly and Deauville).

Children will be reunited with their favourite activities: pony rides, a carousel, a bouncy castle, a treasure hunt, giant colouring boards and a creative workshop to decorate horseshoes! Other surprises await young and old.

Children are also invited to walk with the jockeys as they enter the **parade ring** and to take part in the **Kids' Race**, a sprint on the racecourse where every kid receives a medal at the end of the event. Registration is free of charge on site, subject to availability.



#### **Food for everybody**

On site, there will be several food offers:

- Savoury and sweet food trucks to satisfy everyone's preference.

#### **Pratical Informations:**

- An event by France Galop Live.
- 12.00 pm: Opening of the gates, food areas and entertainment.
- 1st race : around **1.30pm**, 10 races on the card, with a race around every 30 minutes.
- Adult ticket price: from €5 when buying from the France Galop Live ticket office.
- Free entry for children under 12.
- Parking on site to be booked before arrival.

### France Galop Live box office: <u>HERE</u>

### The origin of the Prix du Jockey Club

It all began with a group of sportsmen led by Lord Henry Seymour, a famous English dandy with a passion for equestrian sports. Together they decided to create the "Société d'Encouragement pour l'Amélioration des Races de Chevaux en France" (the society to promote and improve the breed of horses in France).

One of the first initiatives was to create a major event, which would allow to choose the best horses for breeding purposes. The Prix du Jockey Club was born. The first edition of this sporting challenge took place on 24 April 1836 in Chantilly. **It is one of the oldest sporting challenges.** 



## Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club is the official partner of the Qatar Prix du Jockey Club



The Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club (QREC) was established in the early 1960s and was officially made public in 1975. QREC is mandated with representing, promoting and advancing equine and equestrian initiatives from grassroots programmes to the international arena. Focused on equestrian sport and horse welfare, QREC is dedicated on promoting Qatar as a world-class hub for horse racing and a leader in the pure Arabian breed. QREC works in collaboration with local bodies dedicated to achieving excellence in planning, regulating and developing

Qatar's racing industry to reflect the world's best practices.

By harnessing innovation and excellence and driven by professionalism and integrity, QREC hopes to bring the joy of racing and breeding to the wider public. QREC has been the partner of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe since 2008 and the title partner of the Qatar Prix du Jockey Club, one of the most important races in the selection process, since 2021

#### **PRESS CONTACTS:**

France Galop: Héléna Dupuy – Email: <a href="mailto:hdupuy@france-galop.com">hdupuy@france-galop.com</a> – Tél.: 06 30 41 85 89

QREC: Patricia Musial – Email: <a href="mailto:p.musial@grec.gov.qa">p.musial@grec.gov.qa</a> – Tél.: +974 4419 7632

Find further press releases and photos free of rights **HERE**