

MORE KNABSTRUPPER SUCCESS - 2007 JACKPOTS STUD DRESSAGE UPDATE

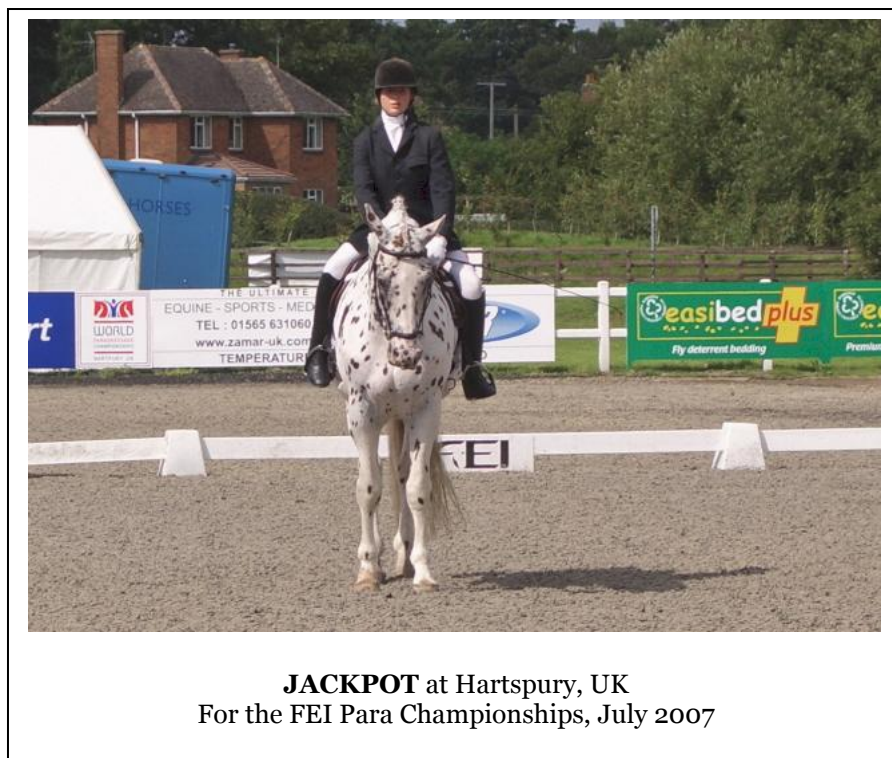
CLAIRE KNOWLES CONTINUES TO FLY THE KNABSTRUPPER FLAG IN UK AFFILIATED DRESSAGE:

Following on from her 2006 successes, Claire Knowles and her 3 Knabstruppers have been out flying the flag and doing very well in British Dressage classes this year.

Stavsdals Jackpot, a 10yo stallion, qualified for the BD (British Dressage) winter regional finals in the Open Medium, the Novice Freestyle and the Elementary Freestyle classes. This talented and trainable horse has moved quickly up through the levels, gaining scores in excess of 70% to qualify for the regionals. Jackpot has recently contested his first Advanced medium class where he was placed 2nd and has qualified for the summer regionals in the Open Medium class.

Rughavens Sheik, a 6yo son of Stavsdals Jackpot, qualified for the BD winter regional finals in the Open Novice, the Novice Freestyle and the Elementary Freestyle classes. Sheik performed beautifully in all his classes and successfully qualified for the Winter National Championships in the Novice Freestyle class. This was the second year running that Sheik had qualified for the Winter Nationals, scoring over 70% to secure his place. Sheik has also qualified for the Summer Regionals in the Open Elementary class.

Rughavens Jackpot (JJ), a 5yo son of Stavsdals Jackpot, qualified for the BD Winter regional finals in the Open Novice and Novice Freestyle classes. Several very high scoring results mean that this talented young horse has accumulated too many BD points and will only be competing very lightly until the new points rules are introduced at the end of this year.



JACKPOT at Hartspury, UK
For the FEI Para Championships, July 2007

FEI WORLD PARA DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The **FEI World Para Dressage Championships** were held at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire on 20 – 22 July, 2007 with 34 nations and 142 competitors taking part.

Stavsdals Jackpot, a 10yo Knabstrupper stallion competing at medium/advanced medium in British Dressage with Claire Knowles, was selected by the South African Para Dressage team to compete in the World Championships with team member Anthea Coullie, a Grade II rider.



Amongst athletes with disabilities there are many different types of impairments and to provide meaningful competition for these athletes, their disability needs to be classified so that people with similar levels of impairment can be grouped into Grades in which they compete together. Riders are Graded on their impairment and judged on their equestrian ability, or skill. The most disabled athletes (Grade Ia) ride tests in walk only; the least disabled (Grade IV) ride tests of medium (M) standard.

As a result of a car accident Anthea has very limited use of her right arm and leg but never showed a moment's hesitation at riding a completely unknown horse. She quickly forged a strong relationship with Jackpot and it was a wonderful experience to watch their training and their partnership develop. Anthea, who is only 16 years old, is a natural, fearless rider and it was a real pleasure to watch her working with our horse.

We knew that Jackpot has the most amazing temperament but to see him working with this young girl, who had to ride in a very different way from anything he had been used to and not once take advantage of any weakness, made us realise just what a special horse he is.

Anthea contested three classes in the World Championships, a team test, an individual test and a freestyle test, gaining scores of 59.90%, 57.8% and 59.95% and just missed out on Olympic qualification, as she needed a score of 60%! This young rider did very well to achieve these scores on a horse that she had only ridden for 2 weeks prior to the championships and riding against partnerships that ride together every day of the year. We feel immensely proud of Anthea and Jackpot and their achievements at such an important event.

We would like to thank all the members of the South African team who allowed us to be part of their training and preparation for this World Championships, we feel privileged to have been involved and wish everyone the best of luck in the future.

BD ELEMENTARY SUMMER REGIONAL FINALS

Rughavens Sheik came 8th in his class in the regional finals at College EC, Beds. This was Sheik's first year at this level and he did a lovely test, showing an exceptional level of maturity for his 6 years. Sheik has already qualified for the Winter regional finals, winning both his elementary classes with over 69%, a week ago when he went out as a warm up for the summer regionals.