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SVĚTOVÝ POHÁR V PARKUROVÉM SKÁKÁNÍ FEI WORLD CUP SHOW JUMPING

J&T BANKA CSI***W OLOMOUC 2018

Tisková informace, Olomouc – 20. 6. 2017

OPATRNÝ WILL TRY TO DEFEND HIS WIN AT GP OF OLOMOUC

Nearly three hundred of horses and half the number of riders have arrived on Wednesday 20th June to the venue of the World Cup in show jumping. They are going to compete in 6 categories in total of 18 competitions. The biggest domestic star is Aleš Opatrný....

This long-time Czech show jumping number one has found time in his busy schedule to participate in the show jumping World Cup in Olomouc, although for him the most important is the participation in the Global Champion League, where he represents the team Prague Lions together with Anna Kellnerová and other 3 foreign colleagues. He has only the best memories of the last year's Grand Prix event, where he did not have a defeater.

„It is a nice feeling to have won the Grand Prix a year ago and to come back to the same place. I do not know how many spectators are coming this year, but there is always great attendance here, and I am looking forward to it,“ said Aleš Opatrný. This time in Olomouc, he will not saddle up Dimar, with whom he won the main competition a year ago, however, he will present 3 promising horses in the most challenging three star category. „I have brought one 7-year old into the young horse category, two 9-year olds and one 8-year old into the CSI3*W category. I will evaluate how they jump on Thursday and according to their performance I will put them into further competitions.“

The Olomouc event traditionally has a large number of spectators who can watch the show from an immediate vicinity of the show ring. This may be unusual for many of the horses and riders, however, both the domestic and foreign riders enjoy this sparkling atmosphere. „I am motivated by this, when the spectators welcome the riders in the ring by applause which always cheers me up and motivates me to even a better performance. For me, this is a big plus.“

Thanks to his participation in the prestige Global Champions series, Aleš Opatrný can compare the arena in Olomouc with other arenas hosting the highest level show jumping events. According to his words, the arena of the Equine Sport Center has a very high standard, although it is not the biggest one. „Of course, I have been around the world and I have always had the feeling that this ring is rather small, however, having been on many Global Champions Tour competitions, I want to confirm that the arena in Olomouc is big enough,“ said Opatrný with a smile.

Peter Schumacher has been the course designer for this event since two years and Aleš Opatrný praises his work. „He built already the last year's courses and I liked them very much.“ And what are the ambitions of the Czech number one for the top competition of the 5th year of J&T BANKA CSI3*W Olomouc? „This year, I do not have the most experienced horses with me in Olomouc, my horses are relatively young, so it will be difficult to defend the success. I would be very happy to make it into the jump-off,“ Aleš Opatrný concluded.

You can find the detailed show programme on www.csiolomouc.cz, where you can also follow the live stream all four days.

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- zkratka CSI3*-W: concours de saut international – mezinárodní skokové závody kat. 3 hvězd (1 až 5 hvězd) se soutěží zařazenou do světového poháru – W (world), další zkratky: J (junioři), YR (young riders – mladí jezdci), YH (young horses – mladí koně)
- The abbreviation „CSI3*-W: concours de saut international“ – international show jumping competition of category 3 stars (1 up to 5 stars) with a competition within the World Cup, further abbreviations: J (juniors), YR (young riders), YH (young horses)
- ESC Olomouc – riding facility Equine Sport Center in Olomouc Lazce, operating since 2013
- J&T Banka – general partner of the competition