



Derby of the Pays de la Loire Region: Patrice Delaveau makes History

Twenty-three pairs were on the start list of the 2019 edition of the Derby of the Pays de la Loire Region. The course, designed by the course designer Frédéric Cottier, was composed of 22 fences and 26 jumps to complete within 150 seconds.

Second to go on the grass arena of the François André stadium, fully packed, the French Olivier Guillon and Andain du Thalie (9 year old Selle Français stallion), generated enthusiasm among the spectators with a clear round in 143.94 seconds. Then one of the favourites of the public of La Baule came in: the French vice world champion in 2014, Patrice Delaveau, already winner of this mythical class three times. Associated this year to Vestale de Mazure*HDC, a 10 year old Selle Français mare, the rider from Normandy offered a demonstration! Playing through the difficulties, he cleared as well, but was faster than his fellow citizen with a time of 129.94 secondes.

This French performance put pressure on all the other riders: none of them managed to clear the course after that. The Irish Mark McAuley and his 15 year old grey SWB Miebello almost did, but with a rail down towards the end of the course, on the oxer n°16 (next to the entrance, one of the most delicate of the course), they had to do with 3rd place, with 4 points in 128.17 seconds. The Swiss Steve Guerdat, world n°1, and Evita (10 year old KWPN mare), almost achieved a masterstroke. Fast and precise, they see their dream of victory fly off after a hind leg mistake from Evita on the vertical placed just before the water jump (n°21). With a total of 4 points in 129.83 seconds, the pair places 4th. The 5th position goes to the Belgian Jos Veerloy and his 10 year old Selle Français mare Valentine Belmanière, with 4 points (on the second element of the triple combination) in 130.79 seconds.

France grabs the two first places and Patrice Delaveau makes history in this class and in the Longines International Jumping of La Baule by becoming the second best competitor of this Derby of the Pays de la Loire Region with four wins (1993 with Orient de Frebourg, 2013 and 2016 with Ornella Mail*HDC, 2019 with Vestale de Mazure*HDC). The record holder remains le « Brazilian sorcerer » Nelson Pessoa with six victories.

Results : <https://labaule-cheval.com/en/event/schedule/saturday-18-may/competition-11/>

Highlights free of rights: <https://transfert.datanaute.com/evs-labaule-2019/>

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They said:

Rémi Cléro, President of the Longines International Jumping of La Baule:

« I congratulate Patrice Delaveau for this beautiful victory, thank you one more time for being here with us. La Baule and Patrice Delaveau have gone hand in hand naturally these past few years. In 2020 we will celebrate the 60th Birthday of this show, and we count on you to come back for a fifth title. »

Patrice Delaveau, winner of the Derby of the Pays de la Loire Region :

« I do not hold the record yet, Nelson (Pessoa) is ahead of me with 6 wins. It is a challenge now, but I am very happy about this 4th win. I prepare the horses I ride in the Derby two months before so they gain endurance in their canter, like the marathon runners. There is no specific jumping technique, you just need a horse that can jump naturally. When I walked the course, I found the Derby a bit more difficult. The design has changed and we jump the river in the other direction now. You also have to be able to come down from the mound, but the eventing riders probably laugh when they see that the jumping horses are scared of that. I think I could have been faster, I have been cautious towards the end of the course, but I am delighted I won one of the three main classes of the week end. »

PROGRAM: <https://labaule-cheval.com/en/event/schedule/>LONGINES INTERNATIONAL JUMPING OF LA BAULE: www.labaule-cheval.com

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