



2019 PRESS RELEASE

For its 41st edition, the FEI JUMPING WORLD CHALLENGE series continues to provide less experienced Jumping Riders with an opportunity to compete in an International setting without having to leave their country.

The 2017 edition of the FEI Jumping World Challenge focused on the NOCs qualification for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games through Category A – Competition 3. The first half of 2018 was still very much oriented towards the YOG Qualification as the Jumping Challenge was part of the Individual Athletes qualification process. Athletes wishing to fill up one of the 23 spots earned in 2017 via the series (out of 30 in total) had until 31 May to obtain their Certificate of Capability and possibly represent their country in Buenos Aires in October of 2018.

A total of 332 competitions were organized worldwide in 2018 as opposed to 402 in 2017 (clear increase due to NOC YOG qualifiers). Although this may seem as a setback, the numbers actually show a good increase in comparison to 2015 and 2016 with respectfully 305 and 308 competitions organized. More NFs were meant to take part but had to cancel their events in most cases due to weather conditions.

With a constant aim to develop the sport in countries and regions where International competitions are rare, some minor amendments have been brought to the 2019 rules. These mainly concern National competitions organised in the framework of the Challenge in order to help maximize entries for organisers and provide athletes more opportunities to compete.

This year, the course plans were designed by Mr. Rakshan Radpour from Iran. Mr. Radpour has been involved with the FEI Jumping World Challenge for many years both as Course Designer and Technical Delegate during past Finals and as the appointed Course Designer for the series course plans back in 2001.

The FEI Jumping World Challenge FINAL 2018 took place for the first time in Central Asia. A total of 19 Athletes of 15 different Nationalities met in Tashkent, Uzbekistan for a memorable moment which saw Israel's 18-year-old, Nadav Sternbach on the highest step of the podium. Read more about the 2018 Final on: <https://www.fei.org/stories/uzbekistan-fei-solidarity>. In 2019 after 5 years since it was last organised in Caracas, Venezuela, the Final is going back to Latin America and will be organised for the first time in Quito, Ecuador.

In 2017 the FEI reviewed its branding strategy and a new corporate identity was developed. Consequently from 2019 onwards, the name of the series has slightly changed in order to stay in line with the FEI's new corporate identity. The series will now be referred to as the FEI JUMPING World Challenge and no longer the FEI World Jumping Challenge and a dedicated logo has been created.

All documents, logos and information related to the FEI Jumping World Challenge are available on the FEI website: <http://inside.fei.org/fei/events/fei-world-challenge/jumping/downloads>.