Team EUROPE

Youth Equestrian Games
Aachen 2022
# TEAM EUROPE

## ATHLETE PROFILES

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Profile

Bart Junior Vandecasteele

Age: 16 (19/07/2005)
Gender: Male
Country: Belgium
Team: Europe
Competing since: 2019
Questionnaire

What’s the best thing about riding horses?
The progress together to win classes.

What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?
Feels great! It’s a once in a lifetime experience. Before the Covid I was more passionate in Cycling. Then it was my dream to go to the Youth Olympics with cycling. When the lockdown started I started to ride more and more. Everything went fast and with now going to the youth equestrian games it just makes it extra special.

Who is your favourite rider of all time?
Nick Skelton, first rider to start riding the modern way.

What music do you listen?
Spanish music

What’s your favourite movie or TV show?
Movie: Top gun Maverick/ Jurassic world    TV show: 24 (Netflix)

What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?
Cycling (in competition)

How would you define yourself as a horse rider?
Riding in a natural, competitive way

What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?
In the short future winning YEG Aachen. In the long future, being the world no 1
FRANCE

Profile

Jeanne Hirel
Age: 17
Gender: female
Country: France
Team: Europe
Competing since: 2012
Questionnaire

What’s the best thing about riding horses?
What I love above all is the connection with the horse. I also like to see that I progress in competition as the seasons go by, and of course the adrenaline in competition.

What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?
It is a great honor to represent France. And in addition to competing in Aachen which is a mythical ground, with all the great riders, it's a big chance.

Who is your favourite rider of all time?
I love the American rider Beezie Madden. I like her riding, she is one with her horse and I find it beautiful to watch. It looks so easy when you see her on the track.

In France, I really like Mégane Moissonnier. Her riding is very clean and integrating the senior French team so young, it is a model that I would like to follow.

What music do you listen?
I really like French music. One of my favorites is “I take you to the wind” by Louise Attaque.

What’s your favourite movie or TV show?
I like detective series like SWAT. My favorite movie is Jappeloup.

What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?
I like English boxing. I did it during three seasons, and I would like to do it again next year. It allows me to release tensions and emotions.

How would you define yourself as a horse rider?
Winner, someone who wants to progress. Perfectionist and passionate about horses and sport.

What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?
Participate to the Olympic Games!
Profile

Charlotte Höing

Age: 17
Gender: female
Country: Germany
Team: Europe
Competing since: 2012

GERMANY
Questionnaire

What’s the best thing about riding horses?
I love to go hacking

What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?
It’s a fantastic opportunity to meet people from other countries, all having the same interest.

Who is your favourite rider of all time?
Steffen Krehl.

What music do you listen?
To the playlist on Deezer.

What’s your favourite movie or TV show?
We watch together Germany’s Next Top Model.

What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?
Swimming

How would you define yourself as a horse rider?
I think I can get along with new horses quickly

What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?
To have always outstanding horses to ride.
Profile

Claudia Cecilia Moore

Age: 17
Gender: Female
Country: Great Britain
Team: Europe
Competing since: Age 10
Questionnaire

What's the best thing about riding horses?
Spending time with my horses every day is one of the best things about riding horses. To see them happy, healthy, and relaxed. It's fun to build and develop a relationship and bond with them. The relationship is one of trust, the more trust the horse has in me the better understanding and belief I have with them. We are learning about each other every day. Competition is also a huge part of the excitement and drive of being a showjumping rider. The horses really come alive when they enter the arena, it's something very special to feel them fighting so hard for you, I think they want to win as much as I do! They have given me some really special moments.

What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?
It is an honour to represent Great Britain and be a part of Team Europe at the Youth Equestrian Games. The competition was very strong, and I am delighted and immensely proud to have been selected.

It's a unique, a one-of-a-kind competition and experience. To come together with my Team mates from Europe to compete against the other Teams from around the world will just be incredible. I am looking forward to making new friendships and cheering on my Team mates, I wish everyone the best best of luck. Aachen is one of the iconic equestrian arenas of the world, I never believed I would have the opportunity to ride in front of the crowd there so early in my riding life. It will be something very special, definitely one that I can tick off my bucket list!

Who is your favourite rider of all time? Elizabeth Madden

What music do you listen? Pop music

What’s your favourite movie or TV show? Stranger things

What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian? I am a competitive athlete at running.

How would you define yourself as a horse rider?
I am determined, passionate, competitive and an empathetic rider who loves the challenges that Showjumping brings.

As a horse rider it gives me the opportunity to work with horses, which I love. It's fulfilling, rewarding and I to strive to be better each day. Riding teaches you a lot about yourself, it offers you a platform to set standards and goals in training and competition both for you and your horse and to be respectful of the horse.

What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?
Competitively, I would like to compete at the top of my sport, European Championships, the World Equestrian Games and ultimately the Olympic Games. As a rider, to become a great horsewoman.
GREECE

Profile

Annie Mayo Vatidis

Age: 18
Gender: Female
Country: Greece
Team: Europe
Competing since: Age 12
**Questionnaire**

**What’s the best thing about riding horses?**

The best thing about riding horses for me is that unlike any other sport I am building a bond with another living soul in order to be able to achieve results, no matter how big or small those results may be. It’s the partnership between horse and rider that is so special.

**What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?**

This opportunity for me is fantastic, it was actually quite unexpected, and has come along at an ideal time in my life. I’m incredibly grateful, and I hope through the experience of competing at the YEG, to be able to get an insight into the world of high level competition.

**Who is your favourite rider of all time?**

There are so many amazing riders, past and present. I feel I should mention ‘Laura Collett’ event rider whom I have spent some time with at her yard. I saw her determination and hard work. Laura won team Gold in the Tokyo Olympics and last month individual gold at Badminton horse trails.

**What music do you listen?**

60’s and 70’s music

**What’s your favourite movie or TV show?**

Mamma Mia

**What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?**

Snow skiing and waterskiing

**How would you define yourself as a horse rider?**

I was born and have lived all my life on a Greek Island, I have learnt to be patient as a rider, since I live such a long distance away from any competitions, I was not able to compete as often as my team mates. I have learnt that in order to do well, I must have trust in my horses and they in me. That to have good support around you from your family and team is essential, and because of this I have become a very determined rider when I am given the opportunity to compete.

**What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?**

My dream in equestrian sport is to be able to compete on horses as a career.