## A non profit association ATHENAFUM

To the National Federation Dear President Dear General Secretary

We are proud and happy to be able to invite you to the second year of the Riders Academy for promising riders (18 – 23 of age). We hope that this initiative will be of great benefit to your Federation and for your young athletes.

The "Riders Academy" has been developed by a group of equestrian professionals with the cooperation of the International Jumping Riders Club (IJRC), the European Equestrian Federation (EEF) and with the generous support of Rolex. The aim of Riders Academy is to assist in training show jumping young talents and preparing their career as future professionals in this sport.

The Riders Academy program, thanks to Rolex, will give the chance to five promising riders to get about six months of "taylor-made" training and boarding at a well-known professional stable with no costs. On top of that, the program also includes professional education in communication, business and economics, veterinary and legal practice connected to show jumping. The ambition is to create future ambassadors of our sport!

Each European Federation is invited to enter up to three candidates for the program. Out of these entries, a selection panel consisting of Emile Hendrix, Dirk Demeersmann, Otto Becker and Sven Holmberg will select 25 riders who will be invited to one of two events either in Arezzo during the last week in March or to Redefin in northern Germany first week of May, depending on travel distance. By the mid of May, the above panel will identify the five final participants. One spot will be dedicated to a rider from central/eastern Europe. If nessesary a special selection event will be located in this part of Europe. Eight to ten riders, not selected among the final five, will get two weeks of fully paid training with a professional rider.

The selection will be based on jumping results (140 -150 classes), availability of horses and candidate's personal profiles. The trainers that we contacted and have accepted to take part are Kevin Staut, Ludger Beerbaum, Dietmar Gugler, Rolf Göran Bengtsson and Gerco Schröder. The assignment of the trainer to each participant will be decided by the selection panel in agreement with the participant himself. Additional trainers may also be included.

Entries should be sent at the latest by February 28:th 2015 to the address below. There are no obligations for the NF and the program will not be in conflict with other programs the NF may have for their young promising riders. To the contrary we are fully prepared to find ways of cooperation both in planning and follow-up.

The draft program, experiences from the first year and the entry form can be found on the web-site www.ridersacademy.eu where we kindly ask you to enter your candidates within the above deadline.

If you require additional information please contact Sven Holmberg at sven@ab-holmbergs.se

Kind regards

Eleonora Moroni Ottaviani

Sven Holmberg

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Lugano, January 2 2015

To fulfill the entry form go to the web-site www.ridersacademy.eu or link to:

Link: ridersacademy.eu/login User: nationalfederation Password: ridersacademy