



65th CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL DE GENÈVE

9th to 13th DECEMBER 2026

PRESS RELEASE

CHI GENEVA THINKING BIG FOR ITS CENTENARY

Geneva, 21 May 2026 – The CHI Geneva (Concours Hippique International de Genève) turns 100 this year, and the best is yet to come. To celebrate the occasion, the organisers are rolling out a special programme of events that will run all year long and will see the show break new ground. For the very first time in its history, the CHIG will comprise five days of international events. The celebrations will kick off this evening, with the first instalment in the series “Le CHI, d’un siècle à l’autre” (“The CHI, from one century to another”), a deep dive into the event and what makes it tick. The year’s festivities will then reach their climax on 9-13 December at Palexpo.

To mark the show’s centenary, the organising committee has come up with a programme befitting an event that has negotiated the geopolitical and economic turbulence of the last 100 years and established itself as a cornerstone of Geneva’s sporting heritage. It is a centenary that will be celebrated right throughout the year in a number of ways, including the video series “Le CHI, d’un siècle à l’autre” (“The CHI, from one century to another”), the first episode of which drops on social media and the event website today.

Created by Nicolas Bossard of Swiss video production company MS Prod, the seven monthly instalments tell the story of the CHI Geneva and are narrated by the journalist Alban Poudret, the event’s sporting director and historian. The series creates a point of connection between the generations and features contributions from Sophie Mottu Morel, the general manager of the CHIG for more than 20 years now, and Swiss riders Steve Guerdat and Martin Fuchs, both leading lights of the modern-day equestrian scene. This fascinating journey through time starts with an in-depth look at the early days of the show, the period between 1926 and 1938, making use of previously unseen images of its seven first editions.

Jumping from past to present

The event’s history will also take centre stage this coming December. On the Saturday evening of CHIG 2026, the Palexpo arena will provide the setting for the Défi du Siècle (Challenge of the Century), a competition inspired by the Défi des Champions event held in 2008, 2011 and 2013. The concept behind it is unique, with around 20 of the most successful riders in the world, among them Olympic, world and continental champions, joining the best riders of the first three days of the CHI Geneva and coming face to face with the change their sport has undergone over the years.



Additional information: www.chi-geneve.ch
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In the first of the competition's two rounds, the riders will pit their wits against some classic 20th-century-style obstacles, including a bank, natural fences and a Derby-style oxer jump. The top eight then go through to a winners' round in which they take on some modern-day, not to say futuristic fences. Taking part will be Steve Guerdat, who won the Défi des Champions in 2008 on *Trésor V*, with fellow Rolex Testimonee Kent Farrington doing likewise on *Blue Angel* five years later. Will one of them be crowned the first winner of the Défi du Siècle or will that honour go elsewhere?

A vital link

With the exception of 1996 and 2010, when Geneva hosted the World Cup Finals, this is the first year of the modern era in which the event will feature five evenings of international competition. It is for that reason, along with the many celebrations taking place, that the 2026 CHIG will provide an important link between a century of history and the best that modern-day equestrianism has to offer. As usual, the programme will feature CHI mainstays such as the Rolex Grand Prix, the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final, the indoor cross event presented by La Tribune de Genève and the Swiss round of the FEI Driving World Cup presented by RTS. Returning to the programme, meanwhile, will be other competitions that have helped shape the 100-year history of the CHIG and which have been revived to mark this very special occasion. More details to follow in the coming months.

To build anticipation, the organisers will gradually reveal the high points of the centenary celebrations as the big event nears. Before becoming the focal point of the CHIG in December, the history of the show will be on display at Les Automnales, held at Palexpo on 6-15 November. The exhibition will then take up residence at the CHI Geneva, in a space set aside for it and some of the show's other jealously guarded secrets.

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Information for the media

Please contact our press officer, Corinne Druey, on 0041 21 312 82 22.



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