



65th CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL DE GENÈVE

9th to 13th DECEMBER 2026

PRESS RELEASE

INSPIRING DREAMS FOR A CENTURY

Geneva, 6 October 2026 – A century ago, a group of equestrian enthusiasts founded a horse show that would go on to become one of the world's leading jumping events. One hundred years later, the Concours Hippique International (CHI) de Genève has lost none of its enterprising spirit. Just to prove the point and to celebrate this landmark anniversary, it is about to lay on an edition that will look as much to the event's heritage as to the future.

From 9 to 13 December, Palexpo will provide the setting for what promises to be a very special CHI Geneva, as it hosts five days of international competitions for the first time in the modern history of the event. There is more to the centenary, however, than just sport of the highest calibre. Since the start of the year, the CHI Geneva has been inviting the public to reacquaint itself with the memorable moments that have shaped its legend, through a series of videos entitled *Le CHI, d'un siècle à l'autre* ("The CHI: From One Century to Another"). Featuring archive images and interviews with leading figures who know the CHIG inside out, this trip down memory lane reveals how an event founded in 1926 has achieved global renown.

In addition, an exhibition offering further insight will take place at Les Automnales on 6-15 November before decamping to Palexpo for the CHIG itself. Finally, on 8 October, the centenary film, shot at night on the streets of Geneva, will be released on the event's various media channels.

Old favourites return

When Palexpo opens its doors for this special anniversary, the past will spring back to life, with several iconic competitions that have made their mark on generations of equestrian fans stepping back into the limelight. Spectators will thrill to the Six-Barres and the Bareback Challenge, two events that cast light on the development of jumping and the bold spirit that has driven the CHI Geneva on since its inception. And then there's Le Prix des Familles, which will celebrate the generation handover equestrianism is famed for, with parents passing their passion on to their children.

The centenary will also provide an opportunity to gauge just how far equestrianism has come. Inspired by the Challenge of Champions, the Challenge of the Century will bring together jumping's various generations for a unique event that pitches the most decorated riders on the planet together with the best performers over the first three days of the CHIG 2026. After taking on classic 20th-century-style fences, the competitors will then be faced with a more modern course, the idea being to show, in the space of just a few strides, how much the sport has evolved over the years.

History on parade and a breakfast date

Lending a symbolic dimension to the celebrations will be the Centenary Parade. Organised in conjunction with the Compagnie de 1602, which is also 100 years old this year, it will pay tribute to the event's deep Genevan roots. And while the CHIG can look on its past with pride, it



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remains firmly focused on the years ahead. A series of displays involving horses, dogs and eagles will bring even more life to this anniversary week, while Sunday morning's Breakfast of the Century will provide a unique way of seeing the legendary arena from another angle.

It goes without saying that the star-studded competitions that have helped forge the CHI Geneva's illustrious international reputation will be front and centre at this year's historic gathering. There's the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final, which will see the cream of world jumping fight it out in, not to mention the indoor cross, presented by La Tribune de Genève, which will be as special as ever. The Geneva round of the FEI Driving World Cup, presented by RTS, is a guaranteed crowd-pleaser, and the prestigious and unmissable Rolex Grand Prix will see an outstanding weekend on the highest of highs.

Farewell to a legend

One of the most emotional moments of the week is sure to come early on Friday evening, when *Grandeur de Lully CH*, the faithful gelding of Swiss eventer Robin Godel, makes his last outing. The winners of the 2021 indoor cross event, the pair have competed at no fewer than eight major championships and have just helped Switzerland qualify for the team event at the next Olympic Games in Los Angeles. It is a tribute that the horse's breeder and owner, Jean-Jacques Fünfschilling, who recently passed away, would have been proud of.

Saturday afternoon will see another tribute, this time to Steve Guerdat, the newly crowned world champion and now the most successful rider in the history of jumping, and of the CHI Geneva for that matter. Also receiving an ovation will be the wonderful *Dynamix de Bélhème*, who partnered the Swiss rider to that triumph at this year's Worlds and was his mount when he won individual European gold in 2023 and Olympic silver a year later.

There is more to celebrating 100 years of history than just reflecting on the journey to this point. It is also a question of looking to the future. In 2026, the CHI Geneva will pay homage to all those who have made it the legendary event we know and love today, while opening up a new chapter for the generations of today and tomorrow.

Even at the ripe old age of 100, the event remains every bit as committed to its original goal as it has always been: to bring equestrianism's brightest talents together and create special memories for its loyal spectators.

Information for the media

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



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