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## BRUSSELS STEPHEX MASTERS - FINAL EVENT OF THE ROLEX SERIES

Rolex Series, Brussels August 20, 2025



### AUGUST 27-31, 2025 : BRUSSELS STEPHEX MASTERS

The Belgian capital will host the **Brussels StepheX Masters**, the final event of the Rolex Series 2025. This concluding chapter will bring together the world's show jumping elite, all determined to add their name to the roll of honour at one of the sport's most prestigious stages. Set against a backdrop of refined elegance and a vibrant atmosphere, the Brussels StepheX Masters perfectly embodies the spirit of the Rolex Series — where tradition meets innovation and excellence is celebrated at every moment. Over five exceptional days, spectators will witness world-class sport, culminating in Sunday's **Rolex Grand Prix presented by Audi**, the decisive showdown that will crown the final winner. A true celebration of skill, courage, and the harmony between horse and rider, this is where the Rolex Series reaches its most thrilling and memorable conclusion.

### WHERE CHAMPIONS RISE - ALL EYES ON THE ROLEX GRAND PRIX PRESENTED BY AUDI

Securing a place in the **Rolex Grand Prix presented by Audi** involves a demanding qualification process, designed to bring together only the very best. Just 50 horse-and-rider combinations will have the privilege of starting on Sunday, after earning their spot in the week's key competitions. It all begins on **Thursday, August 28**, with the CSIO® Table A against the clock (Competition No. 3, 1m50), where the results count toward filling the quota of starters. The spotlight then shifts to **Friday, August 29**, with two decisive competitions: the CSIO® Nations Cup (Competition No. 5), where the **top 24 riders from the first round secure their place**, and the **CSIO® Jump-Off** (Competition No. 6, 1m50), where the top 12 not already qualified earn their ticket to Sunday. Finally, if the quota of 50 riders has not yet been reached, results from the CSIO® Jump-Off (Competition No. 8, 1m50) on **Saturday, August 30**, are used to complete the list. In the event of a tie, all riders with the same score qualify. Some riders benefit from **automatic qualification**: individual medalists from the Olympic Games, World Championships, Continental Championships, and Pan American Games; the winner of the most recent FEI Jumping World Cup™ Final; and winners of a CSIO® Grand Prix in the past twelve months. Even for them, one condition remains: they must compete with their Grand Prix horse in at least one FEI competition earlier in the week before the Rolex Grand Prix presented by Audi.

This system ensures that, on the start line, we see reigning champions, rising stars, and those who have excelled during the event — a line-up worthy of the prestige of the Rolex Series.

### THE ELITE OF SHOW JUMPING ARRIVE IN BRUSSELS

Several of the sport's most iconic names have already confirmed their participation, promising an unforgettable showdown in Brussels.

One of the highlights this year will be the incredible **young generation of riders**, with **six of the world's Top 7 in the U25 rankings** set to compete: **Nina Mallevaey (FRA, World No. 1)**, **Carlos Hank Guerreiro (MEX, No. 2)**, **Emilie Conter (BEL, No. 4)**, **Thibaut Spits (BEL, No. 5)**, **Jeanne Sadran (FRA, No. 6)**, and **Antoine Ermann (FRA, No. 7)**. These rising stars embody the future of the sport and will bring youthful ambition, talent, and energy to the Brussels arena.

Belgium will shine on home soil, arriving as the freshly crowned **Team European Champions 2025**. **Pieter Devos, Nicola Philippaerts, Gilles Thomas, and Thibaut Spits** were all part of the victorious team, with **Gilles Thomas** also taking **individual bronze at the European Championships**. Alongside them, **Grégory Wathelet**, Olympic team bronze medalist (Tokyo 2020) and Rolex Grand Prix of Aachen winner, adds his vast experience. Home rider **Zoé Conter**, one of the sport's rising stars, will carry the hopes of the local crowd.

France, beyond its promising young talents, will also count on the experience of **Roger-Yves Bost**, Olympic team gold medalist (Rio 2016) and fan favourite across the world.

Great Britain brings an outstanding trio: **Scott Brash**, Olympic team gold medalist (London 2012, Paris 2024), Rolex Grand Slam winner, and **individual silver medalist at the 2025 European Championships**; **Ben Maher**, current **World No. 2** and triple Olympic gold medalist (London 2012, Tokyo 2021 and Paris 2024); and rising star **Harry Charles**, Olympic team gold medalist (Paris 2024).

Germany will be represented by **Daniel Deusser** (Rolex Testimonee), Rolex Grand Prix Ville de La Baule 2025 winner, alongside **Christian Ahlmann**, Olympic team bronze medalist (Athens 2004) and FEI World Cup™ Final champion.

From Ireland, **Cian O'Connor**, Olympic individual bronze medalist (London 2012) and **runner-up in the Rolex Grand Prix of Rome 2025**, will once again be one to watch.

Switzerland's **Steve Guerdat**, Olympic individual gold medalist (London 2012), silver medalist (Paris 2024), and current **World No. 4**, brings his trademark class, while Sweden's **Henrik von Eckermann**, double World Champion, Olympic team gold medalist (Tokyo 2021), and current **World No. 5**, will join forces with **Petronella Andersson**, Nations Cup winner at the Falsterbo Horse Show.

Finally, defending champion **José Maria Jr. Larocca (ARG)** returns to Brussels to try and claim back-to-back victories in the **Rolex Grand Prix presented by Audi**.

With the Rolex Series spotlight now on the Belgian capital for the final event of the 2025 season, Brussels will welcome a line-up that blends Olympic legends, reigning champions, and home favorites — all vying for one of the sport's most prestigious titles, on courses crafted by renowned French course designer Grégory Bodo, celebrated for his technical precision, creativity, and ability to deliver challenging yet fair tracks at the world's most prestigious events, including the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.



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FULL EVENT SCHEDULE



### EMILIE CONTER: BELGIUM'S RISING STAR DREAMS OF TRIUMPH AT HOME

At just 25 years old, Emilie Conter has established herself as one of Belgium's brightest young talents. This year, she celebrated her first CSIS® victory in Wellington and now sits 4th in the U25 world rankings. As she prepares for the Brussels StepheX Masters, the final event of the Rolex Series, Conter is dreaming of a breakthrough performance in front of her family, supporters, and an enthusiastic home crowd.

"It's always special. We look forward to this show every year. For us, the Brussels StepheX Masters is a real highlight, and I always put a bit more pressure on myself to do well. Of course, I try to give my best at every competition, but competing at home brings an extra expectation — everyone wants to see me perform, and so do I. That makes me really excited for this edition.

I plan to bring Portobella Van De Fruttkorf, my top mare, who already jumped clear in last year's Grand Prix. This time, we'll aim to repeat that and deliver an even stronger jump-off. Alongside her, I'll compete with Cilanto XC Z, my 10-year-old gelding, and Ellabelle De Rie Z, both of whom will take part in some 1.50m classes to stay sharp. I won't bring young horses this time, as they are being prepared separately for Lanaken.

My expectations? Last year we proved we could be competitive at this level, and this time I want to go a step further. A top finish would be amazing — but everything has to be aligned.

At this event of the Rolex Series, performing well really matters. I try not to focus too much on rankings, but rather on making the best plan for my horses and myself. If everything aligns, I believe we can achieve something truly special here in Brussels."

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WATCH THE ROLEX GRAND PRIX PRESENTED BY AUDI LIVE AND FREE ON OUR WEBSITE

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### ROLEX SERIES EVENTS

- Wellington International - Rolex Finale Week, March 25-30, 2025
- CSIO Roma Piazza di Siena, May 21-25, 2025
- Jumping International de La Baule - Officiel de France, June 5-8, 2025
- Falsterbo Horse Show, July 10-13, 2025
- Jumping International de Dinard, July 24-27, 2025
- RDS Dublin Horse Show, August 6-10, 2025
- Brussels StepheX Masters, August 27-31, 2025



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### ABOUT THE ROLEX SERIES

The Rolex Series brings together seven of the world's most respected equestrian competitions, each supported by Rolex. These seven historic events are now united under the banner of the Rolex Series and all share several distinctive qualities, with each globally recognized event offering some of the finest infrastructures and facilities, centuries-old traditions, the highest level of competition, and have been won by the greatest riders in the history of the sport.

Each of the Rolex Series competitions reflects Rolex's unwavering commitment to excellence, all having a deeply rooted history in equestrianism, capturing the tradition of the sport while embracing innovation with a continuous drive for improvement.

The introduction of the Rolex Series reflects the brand's ongoing support for equestrianism and its mission to unite and inspire. By being part of the group of competitions that make up the Rolex Series, each event will be distinguished as one of the best competitions in the world while also maintaining their unique and historic identities.