



SHANE SWEETNAM STEALS THE SHOW IN FALSTERBO'S ROLEX GRAND PRIX PRESENTED BY AGRIA

Rolex Series, Falsterbo, July 12, 2026



Ireland's Shane Sweetnam and James Kann Cruz claimed victory in the Rolex Grand Prix presented by Agria at the Falsterbo Horse Show following an exceptional two-round competition on Sunday afternoon.

Under brilliant Swedish sunshine and in front of packed grandstands, 50 of the world's leading combinations gathered in Falsterbo's historic grass arena for the highlight of the fourth Rolex Series event of the 2026 season.

Designed by renowned German course designer Frank Rothenberger, the first-round course featured 14 obstacles and 17 efforts. The Rolex Grand Prix presented by Agria was contested over two rounds against the clock, with the leading 25% of athletes, or all combinations producing a clear round, progressing to the second round. Penalties from both rounds were aggregated, with the time in the second round determining the final classification.

FOURTEEN COMBINATIONS CLEAR THE OPENING ROUND

Mexico's Luis Alejandro Plascencia O. and Huberth B opened the competition with a faultless round, immediately setting the standard for the 49 combinations still to come.

The demanding course soon began to influence the leaderboard. Martin Fuchs and Conner Jei finished on four penalties, a result matched by World No. 1 Kent Farrington and Greya, while Belgium's Pieter Devos and Casual DV Z completed their round on 12 penalties.

Fresh from Switzerland's victory in the Falsterbo Nations Cup, Steve Guerdat continued his outstanding week with a clear round aboard Albfuehren's Iashin Sitte. His Swiss teammate Gaëtan Joliat also left every fence intact, while Alberto Márquez Galobardes, Charlotte Jacobs and World No. 4 Ben Maher were among the other riders to secure their places in the second round.

World No. 2 Richard Vogel and Cloudio also produced a faultless performance, while Ireland demonstrated its strength with three riders qualifying for the decisive round.

At the conclusion of the first round, Shane Sweetnam and James Kann Cruz led the standings ahead of Jordan Coyle and Chaccolino. With 14 combinations finishing clear, all 14 returned for the second round.

SWEETNAM HOLDS HIS NERVE IN A WORLD-CLASS SECOND ROUND

Luis Alejandro Plascencia O. and Huberth B were first to return and produced their second clear round of the afternoon in 44.98 seconds.

The pace quickly increased. Charlotte Jacobs and Playboy JT Z crossed the finish line in 40.10 seconds but finished on four penalties, before Ben Maher and Point Break took the provisional lead with a clear round in 40.21 seconds.

Denmark's Andreas Schou and Napoli vH Nederassenthof then lowered the target to 39.98 seconds before Steve Guerdat delivered another outstanding performance.

Guerdat, who had stated ahead of Sunday's Grand Prix that his objective was "simple: to win", stopped the clock in 38.68 seconds with Albfuehren's Iashin Sitte to move into the lead.

World No. 2 Richard Vogel responded immediately. Riding Cloudio, the German rider produced a fast and precise round to cross the finish line in 38.63 seconds, taking the lead by just five hundredths of a second.

With only the final combinations remaining, the margins could hardly have been tighter.

Last to enter the arena, first-round leader Shane Sweetnam knew the time to beat. Partnered with James Kann Cruz, the Irish rider attacked Frank Rothenberger's course from the opening fence and delivered a perfectly judged second clear round.

Crossing the finish line in 37.68 seconds, Sweetnam secured victory by 0.95 seconds and claimed the Rolex Grand Prix presented by Agria title at the Falsterbo Horse Show.

Richard Vogel and Cloudio finished second, while Steve Guerdat and Albfuehren's Iashin Sitte completed the podium after an exceptional week for the Swiss rider.

A first Rolex Grand Prix title for Shane Sweetnam.

The victory crowns an amazing week of sport at the Falsterbo Horse Show, where packed grandstands, glorious sunshine and an enthusiastic Swedish crowd once again created one of the most distinctive atmospheres in international show jumping.

For Shane Sweetnam, victory with James Kann Cruz marks his first CSIO5* Grand Prix win and adds one of the Rolex Series' most prestigious titles to his record.

Final results Rolex Grand Prix presented by Agria

Shane Sweetnam & James Kann Cruz – 0 / 0 – 37.68 sec

Richard Vogel & Cloudio – 0 / 0 – 38.63 sec

Steve Guerdat & Albfuehren's Iashin Sitte – 0 / 0 – 38.68 sec

RESULTS



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Shane Sweetnam

“I feel very lucky. I have a great horse and the level of riders and horses here was incredibly strong, so to get the win is really special. This is also my first CSIO5* Grand Prix victory, which makes it even more special to me. My strategy was simply to be quick enough. I knew what I had to do and I was lucky to be the last rider to go, which gave me the advantage of knowing exactly what was required.”

“To compete at Falsterbo and to win a Rolex Grand Prix is very special to me. Hopefully, I can do it again. If I had to sum up the week in one sentence, I would simply say: it has been fantastic.”

Richard Vogel

“My week has had its ups and downs. I was the last rider to go for Germany in the Nations Cup and we had a miscommunication, so Friday was disappointing for me. I really wanted to come back and deliver a good result with Cloudio today.”

“He was very consistent in the first round and, looking back at my second round, I don't think I could have done anything better. I am really happy with my performance and very pleased to finish second.”

Steve Guerdat

“Shane was in a league of his own today. We came close, but he was unbeatable. I have no regrets because his time was simply out of reach. I am happy with my performance. We had a good first round and I felt also confident going into the second round. I am very pleased with my horse today”

“It has been a really good week. I have enjoyed coming to Falsterbo for many years and we always bring our best horses here. Rolex has continued to raise the level of the show and every year we see the very best riders coming to compete. Many of the horses we have seen here will be competing at the FEI World Championships in Aachen.”

“The atmosphere and the public here are truly special. When you leave Falsterbo after a week like this, you go home with an incredible feeling, a smile on your face and the motivation to come back and do even better.”

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THE ROLEX SERIES HEADS TO DINARD



Following an exceptional week of sport at the Falsterbo Horse Show, the Rolex Series will return to France for its next event, the Jumping International de Dinard, taking place from 30 July to 2 August 2026.

One of the most historic venues in international show jumping, Dinard will once again welcome the world's leading riders and horses to its iconic grass arena, instantly recognizable for its signature pink surroundings. The week will culminate on Sunday with the Rolex Grand Prix de Dinard, as the battle for one of the most prestigious titles at a Rolex Series event continues.

From Sweden to France, the next chapter of the Rolex Series awaits.

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ROLEX SERIES EVENTS 2026

- Winter Equestrian Festival - Rolex Finale Week | March 24-29, 2026
- CSIO Roma Piazza di Siena | May 27-31, 2026
- Jumping International de La Baule - Officiel de France | June 11-14, 2026
- Falsterbo Horse Show | July 8-12, 2026
- Jumping International de Dinard | July 30-August 2, 2026
- Gallagher Dublin Horse Show | August 5-9, 2026
- Brussels Stephex Masters | August 26-30, 2026

ABOUT THE ROLEX SERIES

The Rolex Series brings together seven of the world's most iconic showjumping events, each of them supported by Rolex. The pinnacle of each of these events is the Rolex Grand Prix, where the best horses and riders in the world compete for seven of the most coveted Grand Prix-titles in the sport of showjumping.

United through the Rolex Series, which was launched in 2024, these seven unique events all have their own distinctive qualities but also share certain common denominators. Firstly, each of the events that are part of the Rolex Series honours the heritage and traditions that so uniquely characterize the sport of showjumping. Furthermore, the venues that make up the series many of them with a rich equestrian history offer facilities and infrastructure which are globally renowned. The seven venues are also all especially valued for their highly enthusiastic and knowledgeable spectators who create an unparalleled atmosphere known to make horses and riders perform at their absolute best.