

# BRAVE AND BEAUTIFUL CONQUER EUROPE

the phenomenon of Polish Arabian horses

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El Draco RA - Gold Junior Stallion Champion

**T**he end of October brought great successes of Polish bred and owned Arabian horses, which echoed throughout the entire community, not only on a European scale. Horses of Polish ownership as well as those purchased in Poland proved that they are able to take the highest honours at the most important breeding event for European breeders - the European Championships (where Poland was finally awarded the Best Country trophy), but also showed that the correct and often exotic looking Polish Arabians can achieve good

results on the racetrack, winning considerable sums for their owners. This took place for the first time in the history of the breed in the Polish Classic Arabian Cup, which was organised this year in Poland, selecting and rewarding beautiful, typey and brave horses in one. On 21 October at Warsaw's Służewiec Racecourse Arabian horses performed in a show, and later we could watch the champions participating in a race over a distance of 1600m!



Pila - Bronze Senior Mare



Alsa - Gold Senior Mare Champion

Many of us spent the last weekend of October following the results of the European Championships in Bedizzole, Italy. Out of 18 classes held, horses of Polish breeding and representing Poland won in 13 classes. A total of 23 horses from Polish studs qualified for the championships, as well as horses of Polish breeding but owned by Flaxman Arabians and Hanaya Stud.

Eventually horses of Polish breeding won 3 gold medals (Alsa, Senior Mare Champion - bred by Janów Podlaski Stud, owned by Hanaya Arabians, Poker Face KL - Unanimous Gold Yearling Colt, bred and owned by Klikowa

Arabians, El Draco RA - Junior Stallion Champion, bred and owned by Regina Arabians), 4 silver medals were awarded in the categories: of yearling mares for Ebonita - bred and owned by Janów Podlaski Stud, in the category of junior mares – Bianca of Sinus bred by Sinus Arabians in Sweden but owned by Polia Arabians from Poland, and the stallion El Medar from Michałów Stud, in the category of junior stallions as well as Platyna NA bred in Poland by Nana Arabians and owned by Hanaya Arabians. Bronze medals went to Pila bred and owned by Janów Podlaski Stud (in the senior mares' championship) and Zloty Medal from Michałów Stud (in the senior stallions' category).



Ebonita - Silver Medal Yearling Filly



**Zloty Medal  
Gold Senior Stallion**

*A large part of the special awards also went to Polish-bred horses: Also became the Mare with the Highest Score in Class, and the horses purchased at the Pride of Poland auctions in recent years by Flaxman Arabians – Michałów Stud bred Lawinia and Janów Stud bred Pinito were awarded trophies for Best Movement. The award for Best Handler went to Artur Łojowski, who trains horses from Michałów Stud on a daily basis. The award for Best European Breeder went to Janów Podlaski Stud and the award for Best Country at the European Championships 2023 went to Poland!*

*Meanwhile, in the country, on Saturday, 21 October, at the Służewiec Racecourse in Warsaw, the All-Polish Show of 3-year-old Purebred Arabian Horses in Racing Training took place, which is part of the KOWR Ranking (otherwise known as the Polish Classic Arabian Cup), held under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and organised by the National Agricultural Support Centre (KOWR), with the Polish Jockey Club as the main patron and Totalizator Sportowy - TWK Służewiec Branch as the executive coordinator. This racing and show selection programme, held for the first time in the 2023 season, is intended for 3-year-old horses that meet the pedigree*



**Poker Face KL  
Gold Yearling Colt**

## Judges &amp; judge probationer



requirements set out by the Heritage Arabian Racing Club (i.e. those that do not contain in their pedigree the blood of the stallions Amer (SA), Baroud III (FR), Burning Sand (US), Dragon (FR), Saint Laurent (FR) or Tiwaiq (SA)) and have completed a minimum of one race.

Where did the idea for such a ranking come from? It is primarily based on the idea of the now-defunct, aforementioned HARC organisation established in 2015 on the initiative of Sheikh Sultan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan (UAE) in reaction to the disappearance of a certain type of Arabian horse: strong, healthy, suitable for riding performance, but

still undeniably recognisable as an Arabian horse. His Majesty had great respect for the Polish and Russian traditions of using racing as part of the breeding selection process. In addition, his aim was to preserve the broadest possible gene pool of Arabian horses, which means caring for old, traditional populations that are disappearing these days. The definition of a 'HARC horse' was constructed on the basis of an analysis of race times. It was noted that for about 150 years, average race times over given distances remained constant. However, in the last 25 years or so, these times have regularly decreased (by up to 10 seconds) in races won by the offspring of specific stallions.





*The unprecedented speed, especially without the basic breed traits going hand in hand, was contrary to the HARC philosophy and therefore these horses were excluded. Because the HARC philosophy comes out of the implementation of the Polish breeding programme and at the same time is recognised worldwide, on 10 January 2023, during a meeting initiated by the President of the Polish Jockey Club - Krzysztof Kierzek, representatives of Arabian horse breeding associations and State Studs representatives, made the decision that from the 2023 season the existing "exterior" races will be replaced by a programme based on this very idea. For the 2023 season, 71 horses meeting the*

*criteria for these races have been entered. As the programme is intended to select horses that are not only brave but also beautiful, it has been decided that the final score will also consist of a phenotype evaluation at an in-hand show dedicated to the horses participating in this programme, and additional points will be added for any achievements in shows organised by international breed organisations - ECAHO and AHO.*

*The All-Polish Show of 3-year-old Purebred Arabian Horses in Racing Training was held in groups for mares and stallions separately, judged by a judging panel consisting of:*

**Encarino - third place in the Presentation Race**





**Andryjanka - during  
Presentation Race  
(placed 4th)**

*Alicja Poszepczyńska (ECAHO judge), Małgorzata Łojek (racing trainer), Tomasz Tarczyński (ECAHO judge).*

*In the group of mares the decisive triumph was won by Andryjanka (Pogrom - Atanda/Eden C (US)), bred and owned by Andryjanka Stud Edward Siecinski, while in the group of stallions, where the scores of the first three were very even, the eventual winner was Wizard KL (FA El Rasheem (AE) - Wieza Czarów/Vitorio TO (US)), bred by Klikowa Sp. z o.o. s.k., owned by Klikowa Rzepka Sp.j.*

*An event accompanying the show was the selection of the*

*"Best Horse of the Show" (separately in the stallions and mares category), which aims to popularise Arabian horses among the public. The winners of this title, selected by a committee consisting of: Krzysztof Kierzek (President of Polish Jockey Club), Joanna Krawczyk (Stud Book Registrar) and Jakub Kasprzak (Head of the Breeding and Racing Department of Polish Jockey Club), decorated by the General Director of National Agricultural Support Centre - Waldemar Humięcki were: the aforementioned, highest scoring mare - Andryjanka and the stallion Encarino (Shiraz De Lafon (FR) - Eneria/QR Marc (US)) bred and owned by Janów Podlaski Stud.*



**Andryjanka - class winner of the mares section  
and Best in Show Mare**

**Cuks - winner of the Presentation Race**

*An additional attraction held that day was the Presentation Race, in which we could see the horses participating in the ranking - this time under saddle, over a distance of 1600m. The winner of the race was Cuks (Equator - Cejhyra / Avangard (RU)), bred and owned by Robert Talarek.*

*We hope that the attractive prize pool obtained thanks to the organiser will be a significant support for the breeders who honour the Polish breeding tradition of pure-bred Arabian horses, and that the final result of the ranking will be an opportunity to present Polish horses from their best side - as versatile animals. This undoubtedly refers to the Polish breeding tradition started by passionate visionaries such as Dzieduszycki, Sanguszko, Potocki or Branicki and their*

*successors, whose foresight, knowledge of the matter and determination led to the creation and consolidation of a horse population valued worldwide. The ranking can therefore become the first significant step towards activating a new market for horses combining sporting bravery with the preservation of the Arabian type that has been valued by breed enthusiasts for many years.*

*The next big shows of the 2023 season and the beginning of the 2024 season are ahead of us and, having great hope for the next successes of Polish-bred horses, we invite everyone to Poland, where you can get to know, watch and finally - buy beautiful and brave Polish Arabian horses.*

**Porto Rico - second in stallions class**