

# Flor de Lis Horse Trials opens its competition season



by Luis Mericaechevarría  
(*Director de la Yeguada Flor de Lis.*)

photos by Yeguada Flor archive

After the long break forced by the pandemic during 2020 and the Rinoneumonitis in 2021, the Stud Flor de Lis takes a step forward to position itself at the frontline, by opening its competition season with two national competitions in the same weekend: the National Eventing 2\* Competition (CCN 2\*) and the National Eventing Pony Competition (CCNP) Stud Flor de Lis. Her Royal Highness Teresa de Borbón y Borbón, Princess of the Two Sicilies and owner of the complex, opens the doors of her house to offer a



FLOR DE LIS  
HORSE TRIALS









unique event in which to exhibit her Purebred Arabian Horses (P.A.H), and where attendees and riders can enjoy the discipline of eventing in a pleasant and safe environment.

The Stud Flor de Lis has been breeding P.A.H horses for more than eight decades, developing one of the best-known lines in the world both for its morphology and its sporting abilities. This breeding tradition, inaugurated by H.R.H. Alfonso de Borbón-Dos Sicilias Infant of Spain and Duke of Calabria, and continued, since 1965, by his daughter Teresa, is based on a breeding method based on constancy, security, mutual trust and respect for the horse's nature. This method has given and continues to give impressive results and many of her horses have been national and international champions. Currently, the Stud Flor de Lis has its own competition team in the eventing discipline, which includes three of the equestrian disciplines: dressage, show jumping and cross country.

The event will be held next April 23-25 at the Stud's facilities, located on the El Canto de la Cruz estate in the Madrid, municipality of Colmenar Viejo. During these three days, the 120 riders attending will compete in the different disciplines (one each day) to obtain the necessary classification for

the Spanish Championship and to contest for the prizes offered by the different sponsors. Although the main competition is the 2 Star Level Horse Trials, the younger riders and their ponies will also compete in the CCNP, organized specifically for them.

The organizing committee of the competition, has wanted to offer a professional and well cared event with sponsors such as the gourmet brands Valles del Esla or Cvne, El Corte Inglés, AECCA, Roeckl, Pinol and I.E.B. among others, and national media collaborators such as ¡HOLA!, CCEventing and Revista Ecuestre, and international ones such as Tutto Arabi among others. In addition, the Stud has renovated its competition arena, new obstacles from the supplier of the Longines Global Champions Tour as well as new obstacles for cross country, acquired in France from the builder of the famous les Cinq Étoiles de Pau, adding a total of 90 new obstacles.

Despite the improvement of the pandemic data, the Stud Flor de Lis will continue to maintain strict health safety measures for the event, always in accordance with current regulations, in order to offer a safe competition for all. The capacity will be limited to 120 riders and a total of 400 attendees, the use of the mask will be mandatory throughout the event by all participants and attendees and the safety distance of 2 meters must be maintained at all times. In addition to these measures, the Stud has a health protocol, both for attendees and horses containing the rules and behaviour guidelines, which will be made available to all riders and staff attending the event and must be accepted and signed before entering the compound.

With all this, the Stud Flor de Lis guarantees a unique event in its category where both riders of all ages and companions will be able to enjoy a weekend outdoors among family and partners. Undoubtedly, one of the most important events in the equestrian calendar of 2021. □

