

Ben Maher's London Knights win in Madrid

A fraction of a second split the fortunes of the top two teams in the Global Champions League (GCL) of Madrid, with the London Knights triumphing ahead of New York Empire in a nail-biting finish.

The win by the Knights' dynamic duo of Ben Maher and Martin Fuchs propelled the team up the overall ranking after the fifth leg of the 2019 season, but Shanghai Swans remain on top as a ferocious battle develops in the top end of the GCL grid.

The large grass arena is happy hunting ground for the London Knights, who were also victorious here last year. It was supersonic clear rounds from both Martin Fuchs riding Chaplin and Ben Maher on Explosion W that secured pole position ahead of the overnight leaders. With teams tied on points, time was critical, so riders had to be bold and take tight lines to remain in contention.

It was a welcome turnaround for the Knights, who were eliminated from two of the first four GCL events of 2019. Martin said: "I was very pleased to be here with Ben, who is always a great teammate, and he made a double-clear like he usually does." Ben said: "Martin's round yesterday on his second horse was great, and we played it right today; we both went quick for the class and we needed to – we were just quick enough. Both of our horses jumped good and we had a difficult decision today because our other team member Emily [Moffitt] was also clear, but we're very happy to be coming from behind this year so far."

For full results visit
gclglobalchampions.com



Laura Renwick finishes third in St Gallen FEI 5* Grand Prix



The crowds at the Longines FEI CSIO 5* Nations Cup show in St Gallen, Switzerland, watched a thrilling Grand Prix competition unfold at the end of May with an 11-strong jump-off against some of the world's best for the title.

Only two combinations managed to achieve a first round clear and neither finished within the top three in a jump-off that saw six of the fastest riders on four faults come forward as well. It was Steve Guerdat (SUI) that delivered a home nation clear on Venard de Cerisy, having jumped clear in the second round in a time of 47.62 seconds to take the title. Hot on his heels was fellow home rider Arthur Gustavo da Silva on Inonstop Van't Voorhof, who also posted a clear to finish in a slightly slower 48.03 seconds.

Laura Renwick from Maldon, Essex, with Dublin V, an 11-year-old chestnut gelding owned by Arabella Prior, had also picked up an unlucky four penalties in the first round to carry forward. Her second round, however, saw them post a superb foot-perfect clear in a time of 49.47 seconds to claim third place as the only other combination to break the 50-second barrier. Relegated behind Laura was Penlope Leprevost (FRA) with Vancouver de Lanlore, who was one of the two riders that had managed a clear in the first round.