



MOUNTED GAMES

2008 Web Awards

Best Team (Club / County)



1

21.45% Speeds of Bruille (FRA) (-)



2

18.70% Sandefjord (NOR) (3)



3

16.71% We Hope (FRA) (-)

4	Sussex (ENG)	15.46%	(1)	Winner 2007, 04, 03, 02, 01
5	Ghost Riders (DEN)	7.73%	(-)	
6	Bedfordshire Gold (ENG)	5.99%	(5)	
7	Preetz 1 (GER)	4.74%	(9)	
8	Raptus MGA (NOR)	3.99%	(-)	
9	Barchelinos (GER)	3.24%	(-)	
10	Shropshire (ENG)	2.00%	(7)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Bit of a turn up for the book this one. For the first time since 2000, when it was won by Alleby from Sweden, this category does not go to a British county team. By quite a clear majority it was the Speeds of Bruille who get the nod this year as the best club or county team, ahead of the Norwegian champions, Sandefjord. In third place we have the interestingly named "We Hope", also from France who just about manage to knock five times winners Sussex off the podium positions.

Best Team (International)



1

34.07% France (2)



2

15.44% England (1)
Winner 2007, 06, 05, 04, 01, 00



3

14.46% New Zealand (-)

4	Australia	10.29%	(-)	
5	Norway	6.62%	(4)	
6	Sweden	5.39%	(-)	
7	USA	4.66%	(-)	
8	Germany	3.68%	(3)	
9	Wales	3.19%	(7)	Winner 2003, 02
10	Northern Ireland	2.21%	(-)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Given the success of French teams in the previous category, it is of little surprise to see the French national team proudly sit at the top of the international list as well. Again, this is a category that so far has only ever been won by either England or Wales so it is quite a shock to see England knocked into second place and Wales only positioned as low as ninth. Of course this is all a little bit rough on New Zealand, our new World Champions who tore up the form book at the Worlds in Australia just a few months ago but can only poll enough votes to come in third here.

Best Pair



1

15.41% Florian & Ludovic Pepin (FRA) (-)



2

14.32% Huw Whitney & Alex Franklin (WAL / ENG) (3)



3

13.51% Ghislain Deslandes & Camille Pinson (FRA) (-)

4	Lotte Hansen & Lene Graver (NOR)	12.97%	(2)	
5	Widukind & Sigurd Moorman (GER)	11.35%	(4)	
6	Quentin Voetzel & Anthony Henrotte (FRA/BEL)	9.19%	(1)	Winner 2007
7	Ditte Christensen & Lea Høybye (DEN)	8.65%	(-)	
8	Charlotte Potiphar & Jess Hindle (ENG)	5.14%	(-)	
9	Robert Leese & Dee Cherrington (ENG/NZL)	4.86%	(-)	
10	Lines Hilmersen & Maren Lande (NOR)	4.59%	(-)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Our French theme continues here with a win for the Pepin brothers of Ludovic and Florian taking the title just ahead of 2007 World Pairs Champions Huw Whitney and Alex Franklin. A further French pairing of Ghislain Deslandes and Camille Pinson take the third spot. The rather surprising result here being that current World Champions Dee Cherrington and Robert Leese only came in ninth? Surely not!!

Best Individual Rider



1

26.72% Quentin Voeltzel (FRA) (3)



2

16.40% Julien Brun-Cosme-Gazot (FRA) (6)



3

13.49% Widukind Moorman (GER) (5)

4	Elaine Trevor-Jones (ENG)	11.90%	(1)	Winner 2007, 06, 05
5	Benjamin Simon Baumeil (FRA)	8.99%	(-)	
6	Line Hilmersen (NOR)	7.14%	(-)	
7	Henriette Johansen (NOR)	6.35%	(7)	
8	Christian Jones (WAL)	3.97%	(-)	
9	Katie Hardy (ENG)	3.44%	(-)	
10	Inken Mertens (GER)	1.59%	(-)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Well, Elaine's run had to come to an end eventually, and by having won this title for the past three years in row, she did pretty well. Sadly for her, this year it was only enough to secure fourth place. The winner, and I dare say this will not come as much of a surprise given the results so far, is Quentin Voeltzel. He may have represented Luxembourg at the World Team Championships in 2008 but he is still very much a proud Frenchman at heart. In the end Quentin takes this section by a country mile ahead of compatriot Julien Brun-Cosme-Gazot who just managed to edge out the new World Individual Champion Widukind "Frodo" Moorman from Germany.

Best Trainer



1

27.41% Clive Jones (Norway / Sussex) (1)
Winner 2007, 06, 05, 1999



2

17.77% Joel Pepin (We Hope) (-)



3

11.17% Signe Sehested (Denmark) (-)

4	Jens Martin (Modum)	9.39%	(1)	Winner 2004, 03, 02, 01
5	Philippe Gargallo (Switz/EM2C Peillard)	7.36%	(-)	
6	Gry Nielsen (Ghostriders)	6.85%	(-)	
7	Chris Jones (Northern Ireland)	6.60%	(-)	
8	Alex Jones (USA)	5.58%	(-)	
9	Jacques Cave (Italy)	4.31%	(4)	
10	Katrin Peters (Barchel)	3.55%	(-)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

The results may have had a distinctly French feeling to them so far but there are some Web Awards trends that appear to always hold true. The most famous of these is that the best trainer category is always won by the trainer of the Norwegian national team. This has been the case each year since 2001 and with Clive now picking up this title for the fifth time, it continues to be so.

In second place we have the trainer of the "We Hope" team from France, Joel Pepin who makes his first appearance on this list with a very credible second place. Third place goes to Denmark's Signe Sehested.

Loudest Trainer or Supporter



1

27.20% Joel Pepin (FRA) (-)



2

14.45% Clive Jones (WAL) (-)



3

12.46% Karen Houge (NOR) (-)

4	Signe Sehested (DEN)	9.92%	(4)	Winner 2003
=5	Tord Thyberg (SWE)	7.93%	(-)	
=5	Judith Moormann (GER)	7.93%	(1)	Winner 2007, 06
7	Ida Sofie Aagesen Røed (NOR)	6.23%	(-)	
8	Tina Johansen (NOR)	5.38%	(-)	
9	Jens Martin (NOR)	5.10%	(-)	
10	Martine Olsen (NOR)	3.40%	(-)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

A reversal here of the best trainer category with Joel Pepin turning the tables on Clive Jones by claiming first place with a huge majority. Clive's second place also marks his first appearance at the sharp end of this category. In fact this entire section has been turned on its head with only two of last year's top ten finishers managing to emulate the feat this year.

In third place we find Karen Houge from Norway who can frequently be found screaming her lungs out in support of her Sandefjord team mates.

Best Competition 2008



1

34.45% World Team Championships (Sydney / AUS)



2

26.48% Nocturne Logis du Poney (? / FRA)



3

7.97% Bluegrass Open (Kentucky / USA)

4	European Team Championships (Verden / GER)	7.71%
5	Roger Sykes Cup (Alleby / SWE)	6.68%
6	Royal Welsh International Friendly (Builth Wells / WAL)	6.17%
7	Norwegian Pairs Championships (Fevik / NOR)	3.86%
8	World Individual Championships (Newark / ENG)	2.57%
9	Peter Dale Challenge Cup (Various)	2.31%
10	Scandinavian International Friendly (Gothenburg / SWE)	1.80%

I referred earlier to certain web awards trends that always hold true and another one of them is that the best competition of year category is generally won by the World Team Championships, as it should be really, and this year is no exception. Australia hosted a truly memorable World Team Championships in Sydney last year and deservingly sit on top of the pile. In second we have France's offering, the "Nocturne Logis du Poney", a competition which is run under floodlights. Trailing somewhat in the wake of these two shows we have the Bluegrass Open in Kentucky which takes a very respectable third place.

Best Competition Ever



1

40.26% 2008 World Team Championships (Sydney / AUS) (-)



2

26.84% 2008 Nocturne (Poitou-Charente / FRA) (-)



3

**7.11% 2004 World Team Championships (Saumur / FRA) (2)
Winner 2005, 04**

4	2007 World Team Championships (Brugglette / BEL)	6.84%	(1)	Winner 2007
5	2007 Spektrum International Friendly (Oslo / NOR)	5.00%	(6)	
=6	2005 Inter-county Championships (Stonleigh / ENG)	3.16%	(-)	
=6	2008 European Team Championships (Verden / GER)	3.16%	(-)	
8	2005 World Team Championships (Bridgend / WAL)	2.89%	(8)	
9	2000 World Team Championships (Bremen / GER)	2.63%	(3)	
10	2008 Cock o' the North (Newark / ENG)	2.11%	(-)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

The most notable aspect of the best ever competition category is generally the fact that voters seem to have a very short memory with the best show of the year and best ever show often being one and the same. This year again follows this trend with the top two positions being the same.

The one show that does seem to stick in people's memories is the 2004 World Team Championships in France which generally features on this list and continues to do so by securing third place this year. Only time will tell to see if the Australian World Championships leaves a similarly lasting impression.

Best Looking Rider (Male)



1

17.57% Gaetan Sejalon (FRA) (-)



2

13.78% Dee Cherrington (NZL) (-)



3

**12.97% Jens Martin (LUX) (2)
Winner 2006, 05, 02, 01**

4	Peter Walters (ENG)	11.62%	(1)	Winner 2007
5	Ludovic Pepin (FRA)	11.35%	(-)	
6	Christian Jones (WAL)	10.00%	(-)	
7	Johan Ramtung (DEN)	9.46%	(-)	
8	Ryan Davis (AUS)	7.84%	(-)	
9	Nicolas Kiss (FRA)	3.24%	(-)	
10	Andreas Johansen (NOR)	2.16%	(-)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

The two best looking rider categories are always hotly contested and as before the French contingent put on a very good show once again. The win this time goes to Gaetan Sejalon who makes his first appearance in this category. Second place goes to last year's double World Champion Dee Cherrington ahead of me in third position. Last years winner Pete Walters, just slips out of the podium positions into fourth.

Best Looking Rider (Female)



1

35.94% Mathilde Hevin (FRA) (-)



2

15.63% Lotte Hansen (NOR) (-)



3

10.68% Chloe Golding (ENG) (2)

4	Karen Houge (NOR)	9.64%	(3)
5	Katrine Petersen (DEN)	8.59%	(5)
6	Daloni Lucas (WAL)	6.77%	(-)
=7	Lillann Akselsen (NOR)	4.43%	(-)
=7	Pola Preugel (GER)	4.43%	(6)
9	Kristine Nystuen (NOR)	2.60%	(-)
10	Alison Fraikin (BEL)	1.30%	(-)

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Well, one winning streak has now finally been broken. For seven years this category was won by Scandinavian riders but despite having five riders in the top 10, that run now comes to an end. Mathilde Hevin wins by a huge margin ahead of Lotte Hansen from Norway. England's Chloe Golding, slips from second down to third. Not a single previous winner featured in the top ten this year!

Best Referee



1

22.66% Pierre-Luc Portron (FRA) (-)



2

17.97% Peter Dale (WAL) (2)



3

**11.72% Jens Martin (LUX) (3)
Winner 2004**

4	Huw Whitney (WAL)	9.38%	(1)	Winner 2007, 06
5	Roger Sykes (ENG)	9.11%	(-)	Winner 2001, 00
6	Hans Kallenberger (USA)	8.85%	(-)	
7	Per Espen Magnussen (NOR)	8.07%	(5)	
8	Phillipe Permingeat (FRA)	6.25%	(-)	
9	Philipp Preugel (GER)	3.91%	(4)	
10	Steeven Nee (FRA)	2.08%	(-)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Last year, following his debut as a World Team Championship referee, Peter Dale narrowly missed out on the top spot to Huw Whitney. This year Peter repeated his excellent performance as the worlds referee but it still was not enough for the win. That goes to France's Pierre-Luc Portron who wins the title for the first time. I remain in third place ahead of Huw who, after two wins in a row slips down to fourth place.

Best Commentator



1

20.71% Steeven Nee (FRA) (2)



2

**20.44% Huw Whitney (WAL) (1)
Winner 2007**



3

18.80% Shane Voigt (AUS) (-)

4	Mary Worth (ENG)	10.08%	(6)	Winner 2005
5	Jean-Herve Ameller (FRA)	7.90%	(-)	
6	Tord Tryberg (SWE)	6.27%	(-)	
7	Tim Pinney (ENG)	4.90%	(7)	
8	Ida Sofie Aagesen Røed (NOR)	4.36%	(-)	
9	Tina Johansen (NOR)	3.54%	(9)	
10	Per Iver Lande (NOR)	3.00%	(3)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Whilst Huw Whitney may have lost his best referee title, it looked for a long time as though he would still hold on to his best commentator gong. In a final flurry of voting however, Steeven Nee, who was runner up to Huw last year, just managed to pull ahead and turn the tables on him.

In third place we have Shane Voigt who famously destroyed his own voice whilst enthusiastically commentating on the World Team Championships in Sydney.

Most Improved Team



1

24.05% We Hope (FRA) (3)



2

15.19% New Zealand (-)



3

14.94% Sandefjord (NOR) (4)

4	Luxembourg	11.14%	(-)	Winner 2000, 1999
5	West Sussex (ENG)	10.13%	(-)	
6	Ghostriders (DEN)	8.86%	(-)	
7	Norway	5.82%	(2)	Winner 2006, 04, 02, 01
8	Ariosa (BEL)	4.05%	(-)	
9	German Minis	3.80%	(-)	
10	Lindau Gettorf 1 (GER)	2.03%	(9)	

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Personally, I would have said that New Zealand's improvement from 14th at their last appearance in a World Team Championships in 2006 to becoming World Champions in 2008 might have qualified for a win in this category, but sadly for them it was not to be, with the "We Hope" team taking the title instead.

Norwegian champions Sandefjord, who put in a stunning show at their national championships last year, move up from fourth last year to third this time around.

Best Pony



1

31.38% Spy (Quentin Voeltzel / FRA) (2)



2

14.36% Dreamwork DK (Amanda Nielsen / DEN) (5)



3

13.30% Navajo du Pous (Florian Pepin / FRA) (-)

4	Megan (Lotte Hansen / NOR)	10.11%	(-)
5	Rory DK (Kristine Nystuen / NOR)	8.24%	(-)
6	Puzzle (Sara Greiling / USA)	7.71%	(-)
7	Pikatchou Delamotte (Nicolas Kiss / FRA)	4.26%	(-)
=8	Embla (Henriette Johansen / NOR)	3.72%	(-)
=8	Karinka (Lene Graver / NOR)	3.72%	(7)
10	Raskia (Pola Preugel / GER)	3.19%	(-)

The (number in brackets) is last year's placing

Quentin Voeltzel's exceptional pony "Spy" could only finish second last year but has now put the record straight by winning this category by a very clear majority. In second place we have "Dreamwork DK", the wonderful Danish game pony belonging to Amanda Nielsen who sadly is no longer with us. In third we have another French offering in the form of "Navajo du Pous" belonging to Florian Pepin.