

PRESS RELEASE - 28 April 2021 (Embargo mercredi 28 avril)

# MAISONS-LAFFITTE : A REVITALIZED TRAINING CENTRE READY TO WELCOME AN INCREASED NUMBER OF HORSES

### NEW - TAKE A VIDEO TOUR OF THE MAISONS-LAFFITTE TRAINING CENTRE!

In this video, France Galop, operator of the Maisons-Laffitte training centre, unveils the many assets of this exceptional site dedicated to the training of racehorses. The centre stretches over 55 hectares and offers a variety of sand and grass tracks entirely dedicated to the training of flat and jump horses. Geographically, the centre is ideally located close to the main Parisian racetracks such as Auteuil, ParisLongchamp, Saint-Cloud, Chantilly, Compiègne, Fontainebleau and even Deauville, which stage many race meetings throughout the year.



Discover the video of the Maisons-Laffitte training centre HERE

### LIST OF NUMBER OF BOXES AVAILABLE AT MAISONS-LAFFITTE

Edouard Boutolleau, the operations manager of the Maisons-Laffitte training centre and Auteuil racecourse explains: "The Maisons-Laffitte training centre is ready to welcome new trainers. The investment strategy pursued by France Galop in 2020 has resulted in a top-class infrastructure at Maisons-Laffitte, ideal for training flat and jump horses. The renovation and drainage of the sand tracks means that horses can be trained all year round, including during periods of heavy rainfall. Also, we have a clear indication of the exact number of boxes available at the training centre of Maisons-Laffitte."

Contact email for trainers wishing to obtain more information about moving to Maisons-Laffitte:

ceml@france-galop.com



## STRONG AMBITIONS FOR THE MAISONS-LAFFITTE TRAINING CENTER

France Galop aims to revitalize the Maisons-Laffitte training centre and increase the number of racehorses based at the centre. Currently, nearly 500 flat and jump horses use the Maisons-Laffitte training tracks on a daily basis. This unique site, which covers an area of 55 hectares, could accommodate 800 horses or more.



### 6 MONTHS OF REFURBISHMENT AND A € 1.5 MILLION INVESTMENT

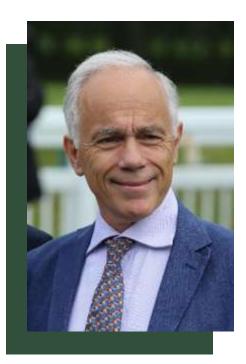
In order to revitalize the centre, between summer 2019 and the beginning of 2020, France Galop started a major modernisation project that focused on the training tracks and facilities used by flat and jump horse trainers.

France Galop allocated a budget of 1.5 million euros to this ambitious project. The developments were carried out in consultation with trainers based in Maisons-Laffitte to make the infrastructures as efficient as possible.

Five trainers, Pascal Adda, Gianluca Bietolini, Patricia Butel, Yann Lerner and Didier Prod'homme, formed a working group alongside the France Galop teams to revitalize this unique site dedicated to the training of racehorses.



### FIVE MAISONS-LAFFITTE TRAINERS TALK ABOUT THE TRAINING CENTER



# Pascal ADDA

FLAT AND JUMP HORSE TRAINER BASED AT MAISONS-LAFFITTE SINCE 1973

"There are a variety of tracks at the Maisons-Laffitte training centre that allow you to prepare your horses in absolute peace and quiet. In compliance with the most recent safety standards, the Fromainville jump course has been redesigned so that you can get your horses ready for racedays. As things stand now, the centre's training tracks could accommodate a much larger number of horses and there are boxes available."

## Gianluca BIETOLINI

FLAT AND JUMP HORSE TRAINER BASED AT MAISONS-LAFFITE SINCE 2014

"When I arrived from Italy, I received an exceptional welcome from my colleagues at Maisons-Laffitte. I was invited into the "Group of 5" trainers mobilized to work on the development of the centre. I know many training centres in Italy and France and I looked at other training facilities before falling in love with Maisons-Laffitte. It is a unique place thanks to its park. In addition to working the horses, especially on the new sand tracks, the park does wonders to the horse's mental health as it is very quiet and peaceful."







# Patricia BUTEL

JUMP HORSE TRAINER BASED AT MAISONS-LAFFITTE SINCE 2004

"At Maisons-Laffitte, the structures are perfectly suited to the long and meticulous work of training jump horses. The multitude of tracks makes it possible to test the jumping predispositions of young horses. At the Rond Adam, horses can be schooled over hurdles that increase in size, up until they reach the size of the hurdles at Auteuil, as well as over fences. Also, the grass track at Fromainville is perfect for getting horses ready to run in any of the races in the France Galop program."

### Yann LERNER

#### MAINLY A FLAT HORSE TRAINER

"To train our team of horses, mainly flat and a few jump horses, we are very lucky to have all these types of tracks that suit all types of horses at our disposal at Maisons-Laffitte. The setting is outstanding and is located very close to Paris and its major racetracks. We now work our young flat horses on the new tracks, round or straight, sand or grass, deep or fast ground. The variety on offer here means horses can be worked according to their aptitude."







# Didier PROD'HOMME and his daughter, Pauline PROD'HOMME

#### TRAINERS OF FLAT HORSES

"It is at Maisons-Laffitte that we get our horses ready for the big meetings like Cagnes, Vichy or Deauville and for the racing program at the nearby major racecourses. We have quality training tracks here. The diversity of the structures means that work is always different and never monotonous, neither for the horses, nor for us! A native of Maisons-Laffitte, son of a great jockey and trainer at Maisons-Laffitte, I do not know of another place that offers such a great quality of life! "

### THE MAIN STRUCTURES AT THE MAISONS-LAFFITTE TRAINING CENTRE

In its new configuration, over 55 hectares of forest, the perimeter of the Maisons-Laffitte training centre incorporates a variety of facilities and tracks that offer many different options for training horses, young or experienced, dedicated to flat or jump racing. The different sites complement each other thanks to a redesign of the structures:

### FROMAINVILLE



This site has round grass gallops that are used to prepare horses for flat and jump racing.

To work flat horses, there are three round grass tracks over 1m2 ½ m, 1m3f and 1m3 ½ m that can be used right-handed or left-handed.

To work jump horses, Fromainville has a mile right-handed grass track and a 1m ½ f left-handed grass track with Auteuil sized hurdles (1.10m height). There is a third grass track in U shape with fences and the option to finish on a straight line.

Finally, there is also a completely refurbished 7 ½ Furlong fibre sand track. Thanks to an efficient drainage system, horses can train here on a daily basis even in periods of extreme cold.



## THE ROND ADAM

This area is dedicated to schooling jump horses on the sand over hurdles and fences.



### THE ROND PONIATOWSKI

These sand tracks are used by both, flat and jump horses. They can be used right-handed or left-handed in view of the many different profiles of flat and jump racecourses. There is a 6 furlong gallop, a 5 furlong canter and a 3 furlong trotting track.





## THE JACQUES LAFFITTE TRACKS

These 9 furlong sand tracks over the straight have proved invaluable in getting racehorses ready to run. Their unique feature of slightly bending to the left allows horses to learn how to breathe and to find their balance before they enter the final 2 furlongs where they are asked to stretch.



### THE LAMBALLE TRACKS

These are 9 furlong sand tracks over the straight that slightly rise (or descend, depending which way they are used). They are used by both, flat and jump horses.





### THE 140 YEAR HISTORY OF THE MAISONS-LAFFITTE TRAINING CENTRE

In 1881, at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Maisons-Laffitte training centre started to take shape thanks to the installation of the first training track, along the wall of the Chateau's park, on the Jacques Laffitte avenue. The training centre was then progressively expanded into the forest avenues with structures for flat and jump horses. From 1970 onwards, the centre grew as new structures and new training tracks were added.

More information on the history of the Maisons-Laffitte training centre: <u>http://maisons.laffitte.cefg.fr/histoire/?lang=en</u>

#### MORE INFORMATION ON FRANCE GALOP

The aim of the France Galop association is to promote the breeding and training of racehorses by paying out prizemoney in Flat and Jump races and awarding premiums to owners and breeders of racehorses. In this context, it organises and controls the horse racing industry in France.

The association also oversees the integrity of Flat and Jump racing in France, whether it is ensuring that the rules of racing are applied or testing racehorses (France Galop adopts a zero-tolerance policy to when prohibited substances are administered to any horse entered in a race and 100% of winners are tested.)

France Galop is the operator of the five most important French racecourses (Auteuil, Chantilly, Deauville, ParisLongchamp and Saint-Cloud) and the organiser of major international meetings. It also manages three training centres dedicated exclusively to racehorses: Chantilly, Deauville and Maisons-Laffitte.

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