

EQVALAN GOLD

Rider of the Month

Photo: Julie Wilson

As he rode Animate to victory in the World Cup class at Sydney Royal – and in doing so made a serious bid for a place in the Australian Showjumping Team for the Beijing Olympic Games – it was a ‘family’ affair for the rider, Adam Mellers:

“We’ve had him since he was six months old. We bought him out of England. Heidi my wife started riding him for the first five years, and as he hit the highest level, I took him over. He won the Toowoomba Futurity – like his full brother, Alimo. In his first season of World Cups he was never worse than fifth place in all of them. He was second at Shepparton – he really should have won it, it was just a rider error that he had a foot in the water. Last year he had a few problems with a foot abscess, but that is all out of the way now and he’s back jumping unbelievable...”

“He jumped great in Sydney. He’s coming into his second World Cup

season now, and with the time off with El as well, coming back in he has grown a leg. He cruised around all the jumps in Sydney, metre fifty five, metre sixty, and did it with ease. He really galloped in the World Cup, fast – and he took it all in his stride.”

He didn’t mind the water?

“No, he’s always been a pretty brave horse, nothing has really worried him. He’s the type of horse that will have a little look at things, but he will always give you 100%.”

It must be an emotional moment now – you’ve got the funding to go overseas to try for the team on a horse that you’ve made right from the start?

“If we can go over there and have success, it’s a reward for us as well as the horse. It’s been a real family project, to take him all the way through, and now to have a chance to go to the Games, it’s fantastic, it’s a dream...”

Each Eqvalan Gold Rider of the month receives 6 syringes of Eqvalan Gold in recognition of their achievement.



Adam Mellers



Sydney Royal

EQVALAN GOLD