

Show-jumping event hailed a great success

Ueli Straub, the chairman of the organising committee of the show-jumping event which took place over the past four days, was delighted with how everything went, with no fewer than 1,488 rounds completed by show-jumpers over this time.

Furthermore, Straub (second photograph) was very pleased with the number of spectators the event attracted to the Stierenmarkt in the Herti district of the city where the event took place.

Lovers of equine sports will be interested to know that Straub plans to organise another such event next year if the companies which sponsored it are willing to lend their support again and if the show-jumping authority again gives its permission for it to stage the qualifying round for entry to the Swiss National Show-jumping Championships.

Despite the overcast skies, rain stayed a way for the most part and what fell towards the end of the event did not really interrupt it in any way.

There were compliments, too, from the spectators. "My children were delighted to be able to ride on the ponies, though to me they were not so much ponies as horses," said one happy mother from Baar. "We hardly had to queue up at all, unlike at the Chilbi fair, and, what is more, the rides were free."

Paul Estermann, 51, of Hildisrieden in the canton of Lucerne, won entry to the Swiss National Show-jumping Championships at the event on his 9-year-old Oldenburg gelding Lord Pepsi (photograph), who, despite being easily distracted, managed to jump all the 1.55-metre-high hurdles effortlessly.

The next major event in the show-jumping calendar, the Concours de Saut International Officiel, takes place between Thursday 4 and Sunday 7 June in St Gallen.

