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Longines CCI5*-L: Caroline Harris (GBR) and D. Day Take the Lead Ahead of Final Day at Luhmühlen

Great Britain's Caroline Harris will head into Sunday's decisive show jumping phase as the leader of the Longines CCI5*-L at the Longines Luhmühlen Horse Trials after a superb cross-country performance aboard D. Day.



The British combination delivered one of the standout rounds of the day, making Mike Etherington-Smith's influential five-star track appear remarkably straightforward. They completed the course without adding to their dressage score and now lead the competition on 31.1 penalties.

Reflecting on her round, Harris admitted she had felt some nerves before setting out across country: "I was actually pretty nervous because Mike eased us into it until fence ten and then it was intense the whole way home. But I just had my trainer's voice in my head and really tied to ride each fence as they'd told me." Harris praised her experienced

partner, highlighting the trust they have developed over years of competing together. "We know each other inside out," Harris said. "He always gives me everything."





Fellow Briton Emily King produced another impressive performance with Valmy Biats to move into second place on 33.8 penalties. King was full of praise for her horse after negotiating the demanding track.

“Ultimately, he gave me a super ride. He was so straight,

he was so quick with his legs, He really listened to me and fought to the end. He's an amazingly brave horse which can sometimes make him quite hard to ride. Today, his crazy lion that I normally have to navigate round the course was suddenly not so 'liony'. Basically, I had to adapt a little bit. But he was super, so good on the fences, straight, super fit and his heart rate was excellent after the cross country. So I couldn't be happier.”

American rider Boyd Martin and Shanroe Cooley occupy third place on 38.1 penalties after another remarkable five-star performance. Martin described the gelding as an exceptionally talented and experienced horse, whose cross-country ability continues to impress. While acknowledging that the dressage phase remains an area for improvement, Martin spoke of his confidence in Shanroe Cooley and his admiration for the horse's consistency, determination and professionalism. He also paid tribute to Liz Halliday, who originally produced the gelding, describing Shanroe Cooley as a horse that reflects her outstanding horsemanship and championship qualities.

With just the final horse inspection and show jumping phase remaining, the battle for the 2026 Longines Luhmühlen Horse Trials title remains wide open. Harris will enter the final day holding a narrow advantage, but with several world-class combinations in close pursuit, an exciting finale is guaranteed.



News: www.luhmuehlen.de



Press Officer

Dr. Friederike Stüvel

Tel.: +49 171 5382900

Mail: media@luhmuehlen.de

TGL Turniergesellschaft Luhmühlen mbH

Bruchweg 3 - 21376 Salzhausen - OT Luhmühlen / Germany

