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CCI4-S Meßmer Trophy: Julia Krajewski and Uelzener's Nickel on Course for Gold After Cross-Country

Following an influential cross-country day, Olympic champion Julia Krajewski has stayed in the lead and is yet again on course for the German Championship title. Riding her experienced Holsteiner gelding Uelzener's Nickel, Krajewski heads into the show-jumping phase at the top of the leaderboard on 26.9 penalties.



Belgium's Lara de Liedekerke-Meyer and Kiarado d'Arville currently occupy second place on 31.3 penalties, while Germany's Malin Hansen-Hotopp and Carlitos Quidditch K sit third on 33.8.

Krajewski also remains well in contention with her second ride, Tullabeg Platinum, who is fourth on

34.4 penalties and currently holds the bronze medal position in the German National Championship. She was particularly pleased with her long-time partner Uelzener's Nickel, who delivered a fast and confident round over the challenging cross-country track. "It was an intense day, but both horses made me very, very proud today and produced great rounds. Nickel was like he was on rails. He is not the fastest galloping horse, so I really have to keep my rhythm. Nowadays he is a real professional – super honest, always on his line, and when he knows the task, he just does it."

Tullabeg Platinum also impressed with his first appearance at Luhmühlen. Despite his relative lack of experience at this level, the gelding coped admirably with the



atmosphere, making his rider proud: "He's a very, very cool horse, still quite inexperienced and competing in Luhmühlen for the first time. I wasn't quite sure how he would handle the atmosphere, but he did it brilliantly."

The high temperatures added another layer of difficulty throughout the day, but Krajewski felt the horses had been well prepared for the conditions. "The horses coped really well with the heat. There is a great cool-down area in the shade here. The footing was excellent as well."

Lara de Liedekerke-Meyer also enjoyed an excellent day across country. Riding Kiarado d'Arville, the Belgian produced a controlled and fault-free round to move into



second place ahead of the final phase. "I'm really, really happy. He has done a lot already but never been to a show like Luhmühlen, so yesterday he was a little joyful when he saw the crowd. The dressage was really nice, and today he was a little more quiet in the warm-up so I didn't warm him up too much. I didn't take a risk, but he gave me a super round and to me that feels like a victory."

Malin Hansen-Hotopp was equally delighted with Carlitos Quidditch K, who tackled the demanding course with focus and confidence. The experienced gelding used his powerful stride to good effect while remaining adjustable throughout the track, leaving the pair in a strong third

place. "I'm very happy. Both horses were absolutely fantastic. Quidditch has a very big gallop and thanks to his experience he is now very adjustable. It was really fun."



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