

2010 Americana European Championship Cutting :

Michael Baker and Denis Pini dominate second go round

“Today a hero, tomorrow a zero.” – This old saying came very true in the second go round of European Championship Cutting when one of the top favourites Dominican Diamond slipped and fell with his rider Uwe Roeschmann. The two had scored a 145 in the first go round winning the go, together with Co-Champion Michael Baker riding Little Foxy Boon. Fortunately neither horse nor rider were injured, but the dream of being in the final was over. At least Uwe Roeschmann who has been living and training in Texas for several years now, was able to ride his other horse into the final Smooth Cool Cat.

But the other winner of the first go round lived up to the expectations: Little Foxy Boon (owned by Britta Oberrauch ITA) and Michael Baker scored a 146 tying for first place in the second go round with TRR Royal Sun O Lena ridden by Denis Pini. Little Blue Pinafore ridden by Andrea Santini and Acres of Time ridden by Jason Surles tied for third place scoring a 145. Badger Sandocs Bodee and Scott Ferguson placed fourth scoring a 144, followed by Lenas Starfish and Justin Nicholas di Santo (6th, 143). Uwe Roeschmann riding Smooth Cool Cat and Markus Schöpfer riding Needy Times tied for 7th place – both 142. Uwe Niedostatek and Powder Puff Bob placed ninth (141). Five riders tied for 10th place scoring a 140: Denis Pini / Stylish By Choice, Malte Döring / Kiss My Cat, Marco Saccetti / Coupe Dualville, Gerold Dautzenberg / Roosters Dream and Torsten Grätz / Smart Scooter Cat.

The top 12 made it to the final – top 5 horses from Italy

So the second go round decided upon the finalists: Out of 48 competitors, the top 12 made it to the final, for which at least a score of 277 was necessary. The top 5 horses are all coming from Italy. After winning both go rounds, Michael Baker and Little Foxy Boon are leading the EC ranking with a total score of 291, with TRR Royal Sun O Lena ridden by Denis Pini and Acres of Time ridden by Jason Surles placing second – their score 286. Pini also brought his second horse Stylish By Choice (6th, 281) into the final.

Lenas Starfish (Americana EC 2008 fifth) and Justin Nicholas Di Santo placed fourth scoring a 284, followed by Little Blue Pinafore with Andrea Santini in the saddle (5th, 282). Three riders tie for 6th place in total ranking: These are (beside the already mentioned Denis Pini) Uwe Roeschmann / Smooth Cool Cat and Markus Schöpfer / Needy Times. Malte Döring astride Kiss my Cat places ninth (280) with Austrian Gerold Dautzenberg and Roosters Dream following (279) as well as Uwe Niedostatek with two horses: Powder Puff Bob (278) and Peponitas Litt Girl (279).

The finalists will meet on Saturday night as the EC final is one of the highlights of Americana's evening show. The last tickets are available at www.americana.eu