

Press Release

12 March 2022

Dutch Masters, 's-Hertogenbosch (NED)

The “IJOC Award” presented to Willem Luiten (NED)

Today in 's-Hertogenbosch CSI5*, there was a special ceremony. Alongside the top-level competitions, the event also included an important recognition for Willem Luiten (NED).

Presented by, Stephan Ellenbruch (GER), Chairman of the FEI Jumping Committee, Glenn Maes (BEL), President of the International Jumping Officials Club (IJOC) and Laura van de Graaf (NED) IJOC Board Treasurer, the “IJOC Award” was given to Willem Luiten for his outstanding contribution to the IJOC as well as the equestrian sport in jumping.

Willem Luiten, the former president of the IJOC, has been long-time involved in the sport with many aspects, including but not limited to his management role in the Dutch NF, national and international judging, and breeding. He is also the proud father of Marten Luiten, The European Young Riders Dressage Champion for the last two years.

Following his presidential election in the IJOC in 2018, Willem focused on key areas for the development of the Club. “President’s Blog” as he called it was his invention to develop communication with members. To this day, the tradition continues. He further strengthened the position of the Club via the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the FEI. Bringing the positive engagement, The Club propelled to a wider member network, developed active collaboration with the FEI and has become a stronger advocate of the FEI Jumping Officials.

Willem has continued his position in the IJOC until an unfortunate health status has halted these duties in 2021. His dedication will be long respected by all stakeholders in the world of equestrian sport.

In his statement, the current president of the IJOC, Glenn Maes, said: *“It is with great respect that I can honour Willem for his career on behalf of the IJOC Board and the member officials of our club around the world. Years ago, Willem and I started our international judging careers together and since then I have highly respected Willem for his commitment and engagement for our sport and for the IJOC”.*

The IJOC would like to thank the OC of “The Dutch Masters” Anky Van Grunsven, Marcel Hunze and Frank Kemperman for hosting the award ceremony.

Photo Caption: (from left to right) Glenn Maes, Willem Luiten, Laura van de Graaf and Stephan Ellenbruch, after handing over the IJOC Award towards Willem Luiten for his achievements and commitment to the equestrian sport and the IJOC. (picture taken during the ceremony at 's-Hertogenbosch – Dutch Masters)

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