

Mohamed Mabrouk Hammad

IN TER VIEW

by Simone Leo ■ photos by TuttoArabi archive

In Abu Dhabi we had the chance to interview one of the most active ring master in our world: Mr. Mohamed Mabrouk Hammad

TuttoArabi: What do you like the most of being a ringmaster?

Mohamed: I love being in the middle of the action. Arabian horses are my passion and I always loved to attend the shows. This is the main reason for me to become a DC and a ringmaster.

TuttoArabi: It seems you seriously started the new specialization on Arabian horse show scene - being probably the most popular ringmaster not only across Europe but also in the Middle East. Do you treat this task as a profession?

Mohamed: Thanks for the complement. I always take every task in my life in a professional way and give it my best. I am very gratified to know that my efforts are well received both as a ring master and D.C.I do thank show organizers,officials,handlers and colleagues.

TuttoArabi: One may have an impression that usually ringmaster are more or less accidentally picked up within the organizing teams of shows and let's say - their role is much more discreet than the others appearing in the ring.





You have managed to bring the real “style and charisma” to being ringmaster – was it planned or it just happened by chance?

Mohamed: I believe it came natural .I didn't plan it. I just do my job in a spontaneous manner.Gaining the experience of being both ring master and D.C and having knowledge with all the rules helped me a lot when I am officiating at both capacities.I apply the rules in friendly but strict manner. That was and is my formula.I do enjoy the shows and use to have good time.

TuttoArabi: Do you have your own vision of performing as a ringmaster? Were there any special issue you brought to this profession to make yourself “lord of the ring”? Would you change anything in the rules that ringmasters should follow in their work?

Mohamed: I would like to think of my job as a ring master is to be a coordinator in the ring not the policeman of the show ring.

I try my best to give the handlers fair chance to show their horses , and to judges enough chance to evaluate the horses and Most important to make sure that the horses are shown in a friendly way and are not put under sever pressure or stress. Finally I also maintain the rhythm of the show and time it as needed.The huge number of participating horses necessitate quick judging.to maintain .

Tutto Arabi: The show attendants who know you from the middle of the showing may not know that you are also

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passionate breeder. Can you tell us how your story with breeding has started?

Mohamed: I am an equine veterinarian by profession. Recently, I was appointed as General Manager of the well-known AL Badeia Stud owned by Dr. Nasr Marie. I was already the veterinarian attending their horses for over a decade. I have been very lucky to work for Dr. Nasr Marie.. He is my role model and idol. He is a real gentleman, a genuine horseman. He has a great personality. Add to this, Dr. Nasr Marie is a top breeder and judge. Over the years, I learned a lot from him and keep learning. I am very happy and proud to be involved in the breeding program of one of the greatest and oldest straight Egyptian horses in the world.

TuttoArabi: Are there any particular bloodlines you especially admire at your farm and why?

Mohamed: I'm very devoted to the straight Egyptian bloodlines and I believe the Egyptian breeders carry a great burden on their shoulders to preserve and improve the breed of such magnificent horses not only for the sake of the future of the straight Egyptians horses but also for the other bloodlines. If you look today on all the world champions you will find straight Egyptian in there bloodlines. I truly



believe that they have an added value to all breeders.
TuttoArabi: What are your main plans for 2017 season – regarding breeding program, your job and ringmastering career and other that we had the opportunity to ask about...?

Mohamed: My real task now is to furnish Albadeia stud with all the help I can .It had be come my desire and to work in a closest way with Dr. Nasr Marei and under his supervision to keep maintain the breeding program and breed higher quality straight Egyptians horse. Hoping one day to produce another world champion .As for my ringmaster career ,I am very gratified with the recognitions and the positive feedback I received in the last couple of years.I hope that I will have a chance to officiate as ringmaster or DC in future important shows and to be a good representative to my country, Egypt .I wish my success will open the door to officials from the Middle Eastern countries to follow my steps. □