

Namef AGM, 1st August 2009 – Report Eventing – Detlev Voigts

After several years of total silence in the eventing scene the unsuspected materialized, a light in the long dark tunnel: Reiterverein Swakopmund started with a first cross country event after a long long pause! Driven by very enthusiastic Holger and Silvia and with the extremely generous input of work and material on the side of Klemi and Doris the RVS managed to stage a very successful Cross Country Event at Sphinxblick. Well done, Holger and Silvia – those of us who have staged cross country events know what it means to start a new venue!

Poor Paulette, who had only been filling a gap as eventing committee member never had any chance to gather some solid experience and mileage in the eventing setup – so when eventing materialized again she drew back to her field where she is really brilliant in: The grading secretary and maintaining exemplary communication in the riding scene. And I had the honor to be co-opted for eventing.

The enthusiasm of Holger and Silvia is soaring with a momentum which is unbelievable and nobody dares to brake the flight because such juvenile enthusiasm is as rare and precious as gold and diamonds! They succeeded to sign on none less than Peter Thomas, well-known eventing course builder and FEI Technical Delegate to Sphinxblick on 15th August 2009 for a clinic and technical advice for cross country course building! Once again: well done Holger and Silvia!

But Holgers Email that he has a definite consent for an event at Okaparakaha is overdoing it a bit. I showed him my cross country course – last time used for the championships 1989 (exactly 20 years ago) – nothing is standing any more – and if I want to stage an event, I would have to start right from scratch. And for me to find that time seems a bit utopian at this stage!

Holger's and Silvia's enthusiasm does not stop there – I gather, they want all possible championships in Swakopmund and Sphinxblick. Well, I have to caution a bit there, to get judges and course builders who are prepared to drive to Swakopmund time and again during the year might prove a bit difficult.

But we are glad to have Holger and Silvia, we are thrilled about the comeback of eventing in Namibia and we wish the RVS the best of luck!

Detlev Voigts