

Joseph Murphy, 48
IRL

Joseph Murphy (48) is a qualified surveyor based in County Down where, with his wife, he runs his own competition and training yard on the shoreline of Strangford Lough. One of Ireland's leading riders, Joseph has been a stalwart of the Irish team representing his country in eight major championships as well as many Nations Cup teams. He was a member of the fifth-placed Irish team at the London 2012 Olympic Games where he finished 14th individually riding Electric Cruise.

Joseph was born in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath and is one of six boys – he has an identical twin brother, Ciaran. They all played football and all of his five brothers played for county teams. In their mid-teens the twins swapped football boots for riding boots and took lessons from the local Master of Foxhounds, Clarissa Croll. Much against their parents' wishes, they saved up to buy a horse and began hunting, one on the horse and one on foot, swapping over later in the day. The twins then met Danish rider Dot Love who lived locally and introduced them to eventing. They were based with her for 12 years, gaining experience in hunting and racing – Joseph held a jockey licence and raced in point-to-points.

Joseph is an HS1 level 2 Coach and is currently on the Irish High Performance squad. He sits on the Riders' Panel for the northern region of Northern Ireland and advises event organisers, designers and stewards regarding cross-country courses leading up to an event.

Joseph is married to Jill (née Andrews) and the couple have a seven-year-old daughter. Outside of eventing Joseph enjoys golf, restoration and project management and is an avid racing fan.

Calmaro (Carpalano-Elster W (Carpaccio)) is a German-bred 13-year-old gelding with 22 starts under his belt. He is owned by Richard Ames, Tanya Ames, Claire Mayne, Charlie Mayne and Annette O'Callaghan and bred by Hartmut Schack. The pair's best result together was at Kilguilkey in 2021 where they won the CCI4*-S.