

Padraig McCarthy IRL

It will be a first Burghley for Irish Olympic rider Padraig McCarthy (45) who is based near Beaworthy in Devon. With his Burghley entry HHS Noble Call he completed Badminton this spring. In 2021 Padraig was a member of the Irish team to contest the European Championships with Mark Todd's former ride Leonidas. In 2018 he rode Mr Chunky to individual silver at the WEG in Tryon, and led the Irish to team silver.

Padraig hails from Tipperary in the south of Ireland. Now based in Devon with his wife, former British international rider Lucy (nee Wiegersma), together they run MGH Sport Horses – an equine breeding, training and trading business. He has been involbed in horses from a young age. He learnt his trade under the guidance of Rolf Goran Bengtsson, Max Hauri and Hans Horn, and then spent almost 10 years showjumping and training horses around Europe and in the USA. In 2008 Padraig gained a first class honours degree in Economics and Finance with German, and was offered a scholarship to undertake a research project which turned into a PhD study of business insolvency laws in Ireland. He turned down the opportunity of an academic career to focus on horses, turning his attention to eventing when moving to Warren Farm in 2013.

He rode in his first BE event in 2013 and by the end of 2015 had ridden for Ireland on Nations Cup teams. He was a member of the 2015 Irish European Championship team at Blair Castle and in 2016 posted his first wins at thee-star (now four-star) level, resulting in selection for the Rio Olympic Games.

Padraig and Lucy set up MGH Sport Horses in 2014. They have two sons Moss (7), Gus (3) and a two-year-old daughter Mimi. Padraig enjoys cooking, mending and fixing stuff round the farm, DIY and breeding horses. He trains with Tracie Robinson and Grant Wilson.

HHS Noble Call, owned by Pearl Chaffe and the rider, is an 11-year-old Irish-bred registered Irish Sport Horse. Bred by Anne Hughes he is by Marion Hughes' 2004 Irish Olympic jumping stallion (Heritage) Fortunas out of Noblina by Cavalier Royale. He was acquired as a six-year-old from Marion Hughes having done some showjumpiing and is described by Padraig as 'large and white'. Pearl Chaffe was a former competitor in the '70s and '80s.

Results

2022 – Alnwick CCI4*S 8th Fallulah 2022 – Badminton CCI5*L 33rd HHS Noble Call 41st Fallulah

- 2022 Montelibretti CCI4*L 3rd Fallulah
- 2021 Pau CCI5*L 17th Fallulah
- 2021 Boekelo CCIO4* NC L 9th MGH Tokyo Phil
- 2021 Avenches CH-EU-CCI4*L 33rd Leonidas II
- 2021 Bicton CCI5*L 8th HHS Noble Call
- 2021 Millstreet CCI4*S 6th MGH Tokyo Phil
- 2021 Alnwick CCI4*S 20th MGH Tokyo Phil 31st Fallulah 65th HHS Noble Call
- 2021 Barbury Castle CCI4*S 31st MGH Tokyo Phil EL Fallulah
- 2021 Bicton CCI4*S 28th Fallulah 52nd MGH Tokyo Phil 57th HHS Noble Call
- 2021 Aston-le-Walls CCI4*S 31st Leonidas II
- 2021 Ballindenisk CCI4*L 7th HHS Noble Call
- 2021 Ballindenisk CCI4*S 3rd Leonidas II 10th MGH Tokyo Phil
- 2020 Alnwick CCI4*S 44th HHS Noble Call EL Leonidas II
- 2020 Barroca d'Alva CCI4*L 1st Leonidas II
- 2019 Boekelo CCIO4* NC L 32nd Fallulah EL Leonidas II
- 2019 Ballindenisk CCI4*S 15th Fallulah 27th HHS Noble Call
- 2019 Cappoquin CCIO4* NC S 34th HHS Noble Call
- 2019 Barbury Castle CCI4*S 37th HHS Noble Call
- 2019 Burnham Market CCI4*S 22nd Rosemabe Lancuest
- 2018 Tryon WEG-C 2nd Mr Chunky
- 2018 Badminton CCI4* 8th Mr Chunky
- 2016 Rio de Janero Olympic Games EL Simon Porloe