

Ros Canter, 38
GBR

British rider Rosalind Canter (38), the 2018 World Champion, reigning European Champion and Olympic team gold medallist, is currently ranked second in the FEI World rider rankings. She brings two CCI5* winners – Lordships Graffalo and Izilot DHI – to Burghley this year; her previous highest placing was 11th in 2022 on Pencos Crown Jewel.

Ros won MARS Badminton in 2023 on Lordships Graffalo and took the individual and team gold medals at the European Championships that summer. She followed up with a second CCI5* victory of the year at Pau, France in October with Izilot DHI.

Ros, who is based near Louth in Lincolnshire, grew up on the family farm at Hallington, where she is now based. She spent her childhood riding round the farm and was an active member of the South Wold Hunt North branch of the Pony Club. She studied Sport Science at Sheffield Hallam University, playing first team hockey as well as juggling horses and eventing. After graduating she went travelling before taking a summer job with renowned young horse producer Judy Bradwell that turned into a four-year stay. She enjoyed huge success in Young Event Horse championships and also represented Great Britain in the World University Equestrian Championships.

Ros set up her own yard in 2011, and was selected for her first British Nations Cup team in 2013. She made her five-star debut at Burghley in 2015, winning the “best British first-timer” award. She made her senior team debut a gold medal-winning one at the 2017 European Championships, finishing fifth individually, before taking team and individual gold at Tryon World Championships. Ros was the “alternate” rider for the British team that won team gold at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021, and that hardened her resolve to make the team for Paris this year. She and Lordships Graffalo took team gold alongside Laura Collett and Tom McEwen in Paris, and the pair finished 21st individually after being awarded 15 penalties for missing a flag on the cross-country course.

In 2019 she gave birth to her daughter Ziggy, and in July 2022 married her long-term partner Chris McAleese. She trains with Caroline Moore, Ian Woodhead and Chris Bartle.

Lordships Graffalo (Grafenstoltz-Cornish Queen (Rock King) is a 12-year-old bay gelding owned by Michele and Archie Saul and bred in Britain by Lordships Stud. Although Tom McEwen competed him for a season while Ros was pregnant, he has otherwise been produced entirely by Ros throughout his career. He has won one CCI5* (MARS Badminton 2023), two CCI4*-Ss (Blair Castle and Aston-le-Walls, 2022) and the 2023 European Championships. He was also fourth individually at the 2022 World Championships and was part of Britain’s gold medal-winning team at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Izilot DHI (Zavall VDL-Zilottie W (Cavalier) is an 11-year-old bay KWPN gelding owned by his rider and Alex Moody. Izilot has been a prolific winner through the grade with Ros, taking the British Eventing Six-Year-Old Championship at Osberton in 2019 and the CCI2*-L at Burgham the following year. In 2021 he won the CCI3*-L classes at Houghton and Blair Castle and the CCI4*-S at both Burgham and Bramham in 2022. He won the CCI4*-S at Blair Castle in 2023 before scoring his first CCI4*-L success at Blenheim and then his first CCI5* crown at Pau, France the same season. However, he retired across country at MARS Badminton this spring before finishing fourth in the German CCI5*, Luhmühlen, in June.