



Oliver Townend
GBR

The 2020 British Olympic team gold medallist Oliver Townend (39), who is based near Ellesmere in Shropshire, is a former winner of Badminton (2009) and Burghley (2009 & 2017). He won Lexington in May 2021 before riding to team gold in Tokyo (5th) with one of this year's entries – and Burghley winner 2017 – Ballaghmor Class. With Cooley Master Class he has twice won Lexington 5* (2018 & '19).

One of the busiest riders on the circuit, he is currently ranked #1 in the FEI world rider rankings.

Oliver began riding when he was seven years old, inheriting his love of horses from his parents. His father, Alan, competed in three-day eventing, while mother, Eve, showed side-saddle at county level. His first success came in show jumping at HOYS when he was 11, and at 13 he went on to represent Britain on the pony eventing team at the European Championships. Oliver quickly moved through the ranks and for three years was stable jockey to former British team trainer, the late Kenneth Clawson in Leicestershire before going solo.

Oliver's good result at his first Badminton in 2005 with Topping earned them an individual place on the 2005 British European Championship squad at Blenheim. With Flint Curtis, Oliver came third at Badminton in 2006 and rode as an individual at the Aachen WEG in the same year. In 2007 he won a European team gold in Pratoni del Vivaro.

In 2009 Oliver joined the elite group of riders who have won back-to-back Badminton and Burghley titles. That year he also won the HSBC FEI Classics title and at the end of the 2009 season was top of the BE rider rankings for the first time.

In 2014, with Black Tie, he was an individual member of the British Squad for the WEG in France but retired cross country. In 2015 he completed Burghley with three horses and with Fenyas Elegance represented GB at the European Championships at Blair Castle. In 2016 he became National Champion after winning the British Open at Gatcombe and in 2017 was a member of the British gold-medal winning British team at the European Championships at Strzegom (Cooley SRS). In 2019 with Cooley Master Class he was a member of the British team to win silver at the European championships.

Ballaghmor Class (aka Thomas) is a 15-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding. He is by Courage (also the sire of Ringwood Sky Boy, Cooley Rorkes Drift, Duke of Cavan) out of Kilderry Place. He has been ridden by Oliver since 2012 – the pair has won Burghley (2017), Lexington (2021) and team gold at the Tokyo Olympic Games. In 2019 the pair was 2nd at Badminton, placing 5th this year. He is owned by Karyn Shuter, Angela Hislop and Val Ryan.

Swallow Springs, owned by Paul & Diana Ridgeon, is a 14-year-old Irish Sport Horse grey gelding. Bred by Maria Keating his is by Chillout (sire of Bonza King of Rouge) out of Kilila by the thoroughbred Cult Hero (sire of several five-star horses including The Deputy and Bay My Hero). He was previously produced and ridden by Andrew Nicholson – Oliver received the ride last year after Andrew's retirement from international competition. He was originally acquired from Donal Barnwell as a five-year-old. With Andrew he was 3rd at Burghley in 2018 and in 2019 the pair was 5th at Badminton. In 2021 Oliver was 10th in the 4*L at Blenheim.

Lukas is an 11-year-old Irish Sport Horse, bred by Louise Parkhill. He is by Lux Z out of Say Wonderful by Roi Danzig. Previously competed by Camilla Speirs Oliver took on the ride half way through 2021 – this is another horse owned by John Peace. He finished eighth at Luhmuhlen CCI5* earlier in the year – this is his first Burghley.

As Is is an 11-year-old gelding, bred in Spain. He is by Meneusekal out of Paraca by Lacros, and owned by John Peace. Like Swallow Springs he was produced by Andrew Nicholson, Oliver taking over the reins this year. With Andrew he finished 5th at Blenheim and 7th at Bramham, 7th again at Bramham this year with Oliver.

Results

2022 – Alnwick CCI4*S 1st Swallow Springs 2nd Ballaghmor Class 6th Tregilder
2022 – Luhmuhlen CCI5*L 8th Lukas 12th
2022 – Bramham CCI4*S 2nd Cooley Rosalent
2022 – Bramham CCI4*L 7th As Is
2022 – Chatsworth CCI4*S 1st Dreamliner 19th Lukas
2022 – Badminton CCI5*L 3rd Swallow Springs 5th Ballaghmor Class
2002 – Burnham Market CCI4*S 1st Dreamliner 1st Swallow Springs 2nd Tregilder
2021 – Pau CCI5*L 6th Ridire Dorcha
2021 – Elkton CCI5*L 2nd Cooley Master Class
2021 – Blenheim CCI4*L 10th Swallow Springs 28th Lukas
2021 – Bicton CCI5*L 7th Tregilder
2021 - Blair Castle CCI4*S 14th Lukas
2021 - Blair Castle CCI4*L 11th Arklow Puissance
2021 – Hartpury CCI4*S 22nd Davinci
2021 – Tokyo Olympic Games-C 5th Ballaghmor Class
2021 – Bicton CCI4*S 5th Cooley Master Class
2021 – Houghton Hall CCIO4*-NC-S 5th Davinci 28th Arklow Puissance
2021 – Lexington CCI5*L 1st Ballaghmor Class
2021 – Burnham Market CCI4*S 4th MHS King Joules 33rd Dreamliner
2020 – Pau CCI5*L 6th MHS King Joules
2020 – Burnham Market CCI4*S 1st Cillnabraden Evo
2020 – Burnham Market CCI4*L 15th Tregilder
2020 – Alnwick CCI4*S 1st Ballaghmor Class 6th Tregilder 10th Dreamliner
2019 – Ballindenisk CCI4*L 2nd Dreamliner 4th Ulises
2019 – Blenheim CCI4* 8/9yoS 8th Dreamliner
2019 – Burghley CCI5*L 3rd Ballaghmor Class
2019 – Luhmuhlen CH-EU-CCI4*L 9th Cooley Master Class

2019 – Millstreet CCI4*L 7th Tregilder
 2019 – Millstreet CCI4*S 2nd Dreamliner
 2019 – Alnwick CCI4*S 2nd Ballaghmor Class 4th Tregilder
 2019 – Chatsworth CCI4*S 4th Tregilder
 2019 – Badminton CCI5*L 2nd Ballaghmor Class 6th Cillnabraden Evo
 2019 – Lexington CCI5*L 1st Cooley Master Class
 2019 – Burnham Market CCI4*S 1st Cillnabraden Evo 1st Ballaghmor Class
2018 – Burghley CCI4* 2nd Ballaghmor Class 12th Cooley SRS
 2018 – Badminton CCI4* 2nd Cooley SRS 5th Ballaghmor Class
 2018 – Lexington CCI4* 1st Cooley Master Class 7th MHS King Joules
2017 – Burghley CCI4* 1st Ballaghmor Class 21st Samuel Thomas II
 2017 – Aachen CICO3*-NC 16th Ballaghmor Class
 2017 – Luhmuhlen CCI4* 18th Black Tie
 2017 – Badminton CCI4* 16th ODT Ghareeb 25th Samuel Thomas
 2017 – Ballindenisk CCI3* 1st Lanfranco
 2016 – Adelaide CIC3* 1st Napoleon
 2016 – Boekelo CCIO3*-NC 3rd Cooley SRS 40th Ballaghmor Class
 2016 – Ballindenisk CCI3* 5th Ulises 6th Fernhill Ultimate
 2016 – Blenheim CCI3* 9th Dunbeau 30th Note Worthy
2016 – Burghley CCI4* 7th Samuel Thomas 23rd Dromgurryhy Blue
 2016 – Blair Castle CCI3* 2nd ODT Ghareeb 3rd Lanfranco
 2016 – Bramham CCI3* 3rd MHS King Joules 9th Samuel Thomas II
 2016 – Saumur CCI3* 5th Cillnabraden Evo 8th ODT Ghareeb
 2016 – Badminton CCI4* 25th Armada
 2015 – Ballindenisk CCI3* 1st Cooley SRS 8th MHS King Joules
 2015 – Blair Castle CH-EU-CCI3* 17th Fenyas Elegance
2015 – Burghley CCI4* 11th Dromgurryhy Blue 23rd Armada 32nd Samuel Thomas II
 2015 – Bramham CCI3* 15th ODT Ghareeb 30th Lanfranco
 2015 – Tattersalls CCI3* 9th Dromgurryhy Blue
 2015 – Saumur CCI3* 3rd Fenyas Elegance
 2015 – Badminton CCI4* 11th Armada
 2014 – Ballindenisk CCI3* 2nd Skyhills Cavalier 9th Bandit King 13th Samuel Thomas II
2014 – Burghley CCI4* 8th Armada
 2014 – Luhmuhlen CCI4* 4th Black Tie
 2014 – Bramham CCI3* 15th ODT Ghareeb
 2014 – Tattersalls CCI3* 11th Sandiman II
 2014 – Badminton CCI4* 2nd Armada
 2014 – Burnham Market CIC3* 1st Armada
 2014 – Ballindenisk CICO3*-NC 1st Cooley Master Class
 2013 – Saumur CCI3* 11th Black Tie 22nd Neo du Breuil
 2013 – Badminton CCI4* 34th Armada
 2012 – Blenheim CCI3* 8th Outside Chance
2012 – Burghley CCI4* 4th Armada
 2012 – Luhmuhlen CCI4* 7th ODT Sonas Rovatio 8th Armada
 2012 – Ballindenisk CCI3* 1st Arctic Mouse
 2011 – Luhmuhlen CCI4* 7th Master Boy
 2011 – Bramham CCI3* 2nd Imperial Master
 2011 – Tattersalls CCI3* 2nd Imperial Master 6th Brigadier
 2011 – Lexington CCI4* 6th ODT Sonas Rovatio
 2010 – Pau CCI4* 13th Master Boy
 2010 – Boekelo 8th ODT Sonas Rovatio
2010 – Burghley CCI4* 4th Carousel Quest
 2010 – Luhmuhlen CCI4* 5th Ashdale Cruise Master
 2009 – Pau CCI4* 8th Carousel Quest
 2009 – Boekelo CCI3* 5th Master Boy

2009 – Burghley CCI4* 1st Carousel Quest

- 2009 – Blair Castle CCI3* 5th Three Wishes
- 2009 – Luhmuhlen CCI4* 15th Sportsfield Sandyman 17th Golden Hue
- 2009 – Badminton CCI4* 1st Flint Curtis
- 2009 – Lexington CCI4* 8th Carousel Quest
- 2008 – Boekelo CCI3* 13th Golden Hue 15th Master Boy
- 2008 – Strzegom CCI3* 1st Clover Curtis
- 2008 – Bramham CCI3* 9th Flint Curtis 17th Divine Inspiration
- 2008 – Badminton CCI4* 12th Coup de Coeur
- 2007 – Boekelo CCI3* 5th Jackson d'Allez
- 2007 – Pratoni CH-EU-C3* 12th Flint Curtis
- 2007 – Bramham CCI3* 8th Iron Brew 10th Waterbeck Basil
- 2007 – Bramham CCIu253* 4th Eldmire Foxy Lady 9th Saxon Cross
- 2007 – Punchestown CCI3* 2nd Flint Curtis
- 2006 - Aachen WEG-C 11th Flint Curtis
- 2006 – Badminton 3rd Flint Curtis 31st Topping
- 2005 – Blenheim CH-EU-3* 43rd Topping
- 2005 – Badminton CCI4* 12th Topping
- 2003 – Boekelo CCI3* 17th Weston Justice