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## FEI JUMPING CHALLENGE RESULTS

(Message from the President of the Bda. Equestrian Federation, Mr. Michael Cherry)

There was a good turn out of spectators for the two days **of the FEI World Jumping Challenge** despite the fact that we only had five competitors entered for the Category A competition, and they were treated to a good and interesting competition. The winning combination was Claire Howard on Just a Rose with a total of eleven faults over the four rounds of the competition closely followed by Melinda DeCosta on Touch The Sky with 12 faults. Melinda's faults were all incurred in the first round which was unfortunate as she then had three clears, whereas Claire had two clears on the first day, four faults in the first round of the second day and then a stop at the last fence in the final round which gave her four jumping faults plus three time faults for the eleven total. Michael Rodriques on Scooby Doo improved on every round and had a total of 36 faults for third place. Nick DeCosta on Bajan Blue withdrew after gaining four faults on the first day and Alison Dyer Fagundo had two refusals and therefore could not continue, this being an FEI competition.

The other interesting factor is that our three riders who completed made up a team score of 59 faults and this compares with the team score of Jamaica who beat us by one fault having gained a total of 58 faults. We await official confirmation of this from the FEI, but it also appears that Claire gained second place in our Zone which consists of Barbados, Dominican Republic, Jamaica and ourselves as the rider from Dominican Republic gained four faults. Melinda should finish third overall as her twelve faults equaled those of Kelsey Bayley from Barbados, but her time to count was better.

Due to the results from 2009 when Claire and Melinda finished first and second in our Zone they are both travelling to Guatemala in December to represent Bermuda in the final of the 2009 World Jumping Challenge against eighteen other riders from around the world. Nick will be going as their coach and we wish them good luck.