



OFFICIAL RIDER BIOGRAPHY
www.britishshowjumping.co.uk

John Whitaker MBE

Fact file:

- D.O.B:** 05/08/1955
- Lives:** Huddersfield, West Yorkshire
- Ranking:** For Team GBR Rankings [click here](#)
For Rolex Rankings [click here](#)
- Family:** Wife: Clare, Children: Louise, Robert, Joanne
- Career Summary:** One of the world's most respected and renown riders, John first shot to fame partnering the dynamic and charismatic horse Ryans Son in his late teens. Their partnership spanned fourteen years during which time they won three Olympic Silver medals amongst many other titles. The infamous grey gelding Milton, who used to give a trademark leap into the air at the end of his round, joined John in 1985 where between them they won more than £1million in prize money. John has represented Great Britain at six Olympic Games (one alternative), four World Championships and eleven European Championships winning medals from Gold through to Bronze. He has also won the King George V Gold Cup three times and the Hickstead Derby four.
- Did you know:** John's passion for his cattle is immense and it isn't unknown for one of them to be seen poking their head over a stable door on the yard!

Major Achievements:

- Total Medals:** 25
- Total Nation Cups:** 183

Championships / Games

	Year	Medals / Placing	
		Team	Ind
Olympic Games	2008	5 th	-
	2000	8 th	-
	1996	-	-
	1992	7 th	14 th
	1984	Silver	-
	1980	Silver	Silver
Alternative Olympics	1980	Silver	Silver
World	1998	Bronze	-

Career highlights

Year	Championship / Title	Venue
2009	7yr Championship	Addington
2004	Hickstead Derby	Hickstead
2000	Hickstead Derby	Hickstead
1998	Hickstead Derby	Hickstead
1997	King George V Gold Cup	Hickstead
1991	Winner of the World Cup Final	Gothenburg
1990	Winner of the World Cup Final	Dortmund
1990	King George V Gold Cup	Hickstead

Equestrian Games	1990	Bronze	Silver	1986	King George V Gold Cup	Hickstead
	1986	Silver	-	1983	Hickstead Derby	Hickstead
	1982	Bronze	-			
European Championships	2011	Bronze	-			
	2007	Bronze	-			
	2005	6 th	-			
	1997	Bronze	-			
	1995	Silver	-			
	1993	Silver	-			
	1991	Silver	-			
	1989	Gold	Gold			
	1987	Gold	Silver			
	1985	Gold	Bronze			
1983	Silver	Silver				

Current Top International Horses:

Horse	Owner	Sire	Country of Origin	Year of Birth	Sex	Colour
Peppermill	Rebecca Stones	Burggraaf	Netherlands	1997	S	Bay
Maximillian IV	Clare Whitaker	Carnute	Denmark	2001	S	Chestnut
Argento	Clare / John Whitaker	Arko III	UK	2002	S	Dark Bay

Top placing during 2012

- CSIO5* TL Hickstead (GBR): 4th Nations Cup (*Argento*)
- CSI3* Wattenhall (GBR): 2nd Grand Prix (*Argento*)
- CSI3* Aalst (Bel): 2nd 1.45m, 2nd 1.45m (*Argento*)
- CSIO5* TL St Gallen (Sui): =2nd Nations Cup (*Maximillian*)
- CSI3* Madrid (Esp): 2nd 1.60m Grand Prix (*Maximillian*), 3rd 1.55m Grand Prix (*Argento*)
- CSIO4* Lummen (Bel): 3rd 1.60m Grand Prix, 8th Nations Cup (*Maximillian IV*)
- CSI4* Hagen (Ger): 2nd 1.45m (*Argento*), 3rd 1.40m (*Lord of Arabia*)
- CSI3* Lummen (Bel)
 - Week 2: 1st 1.30m (*Lord of Arabia*)
- CSI3* Vejer de la Frontera (Esp)
 - Week 2: 2nd 1.50m (*Cornetto King*)
 - Week 3: 3rd 1.35m (*Cornetto King*), 3rd 1.45m (*Lord of Arabia*)

Top placings during 2011

- CSIO5*W Olympia: 1st 1:60m Stakes (*Dazzle II*)
- CSI3* Stockholm: 1st Grand Prix (*Casino*)
- CSI4* Munich: 1st Grand Prix (*Peppermill*)
- Senior European Championship, Madrid: Team Bronze (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Rotterdam (Ned): 2nd Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- Royal International Horse Show: 1st Bunn Leisure Salver (*Argento*)
- Great Yorkshire Show: 1st Cock of the North 1.60m (*Peppermill*)

Top placings during 2010

- CSI4* Dehesa Montenmedio: 2nd Grand Prix Big Tour (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Rome (Ita): 2nd Nations Cup, 2nd Grand Prix (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL St Gallen: 3rd Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)

- CSIO5* TL Rotterdam: 2nd Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Aachen (Ger): Nations Cup Team Member (*Peppermill*)

Top placings during 2009

- Global Champions Tour, Valencia: 1st Grand Prix (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL La Baule (Fra): Nations Cup Team Member (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Rome (Ita): =3rd Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- British Young Horse Show, Addington: 1st 7yr final (*Argento*)
- Bicester & Finmere: 1st Area Trial (*Sultano*)

Top placings during 2008

- Beijing Olympic Games: Team 5th (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Rome (Ita): 1st Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL St Gallen: 5th Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Rotterdam: 4th Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Aachen (Ger): =3rd Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- Bolesworth Castle: 1st Grand Prix (*Utah van Erpekom*)
- CSI-W Olympia: 2nd Rolex World Cup Qualifier (*Casino*)

Top placings during 2007

- CSIO5* TL Rome (Ita) 1st Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL St. Gallen: 8th Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Rotterdam: 1st Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Barcelona Final: Nations Cup Team Member (*Peppermill*)
- Bramham Horse Trials: 1st Grand Prix (*Cortaflex Utah Van Erperkom*)
- Senior European Championship, Mannheim: Team Bronze (*Peppermill*)

Top placings during 2006

- CSIO4* Sheffield, British Open: 1st Sheffield Masters (*Exploit De Roulard*)
- CSIO5* TL La Baule (Fra): 6th Nations Cup (*Exploit De Roulard*)
- CSIO5* TL Aachen (Ger): 3rd Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO Lucerne: 8th Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Rotterdam: =5th Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Hickstead: 1st Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO5* TL Dublin (Ire): 6th Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- CSIO Barcelona: 7th Nations Cup (*Peppermill*)
- World Equestrian Games, Aachen (Ger): Team Member (*Peppermill*)

Top placings during 2005

- CSIO Lisbon: 2nd Nations Cup, 1st Grand Prix (*Exploit de Roulard*)
- CSIO5* TL Rotterdam: 7th Nations Cup, 3rd Grand Prix (*Exploit de Roulard*)
- CSIO Lummen: 1st Nations Cup (*Hugo du Heup*)
- CSIO5* TL Hickstead: 5th Nations Cup (*Exploit de Roulard*)
- CSIO5* TL Dublin (Ire): 1st Nations Cup (*Exploit de Roulard*)
- Hampshire County: 1st International Trial (*Lactic Two*)
- Senior European Championship Team, San Patrignano: Team 6th (*Exploit de Roulard*)
- New Forest & Hampshire Show: 1st International Trial (*Lactic Two*)
- CSI-W Olympia: 1st Christmas Masters (*Exploit de Roulard*), Awarded Leading Rider of the Show

Top placings during 2004

- British Open, Sheffield: 1st Puissance (*Lactic Two*)

- Area 15 N. Yorks: 1st International Trial (Exploit de Roulard)
- CSIO Gijon: Nations Cup Team Member (*Gem of India*)
- Shrewsbury Flower Show: 1st International Trial (*Gem of India*)
- Hickstead Derby Meeting: 1st Hickstead Derby (*Buddy Bun*)
- CSI-W Olympia: =1st Puissance (*Exploit de Roulard*)

Top placings during 2003

- CSI-A Dubai: 1st Grand Prix (*Lactic Two*)
- CSI Sheffield, British Open: 1st Grandstand Classic, =1st Puissance (*Lactic Two*)
- CSI Cannes: 1st Grand Prix (*Lord Z*)
- CSIO Drammen: 5th Nations Cup, 2nd Grand Prix (*Lactic Two*)
- Bucks County: 1st International Trial (*Gem of India*)
- CSIW Olympia: Leading Rider of the Show

Top placings during 2002

- CSIO5* TL La Baule (Fra): 7th Nations Cup (*Lactic Two*)
- College EC: 2nd International Trial (*Lactic Two*)
- Hickstead Derby: 2nd Refco Derby Tankard (*Bit More Candy*)
- BSJA Festival: 1st National Gents Championship (*Lactic Two*)
- Horse of the Year Show: 1st Daewoo Championship (*Lord Z*), =1st Puissance (*Steps Helsinki*)
- CSI-W Dusseldorf: 1st Grand Prix (*Lord Z*)

Top placings during 2001

- CSIO5* TL La Baule (Fra) 4th Nations Cup (*V V Calvaro FCS*)
- CSIO5* TL St Gallen 8th Nations Cup (*V V Calvaro FCS*)
- CSIO Modena: 8th Nations Cup (*V V Calvaro FCS*)
- CSIO5* TL Aachen (Ger): 6th Nations Cup (*V V Calvaro FCS*)
- CSIO Drammen: 7th Nations Cup (*Diamond Cliff*)
- Shrewsbury Flower: 1st Grand Prix (*V.V. Calvaro FCS*), 1st International Trial (*V.V. Randi*)
- Three Counties: 1st Grand Prix (*V.V. Calvaro FCS*)

BSJA Awards – Leading International Horse Welham

Awarded Animal Health Trust Personality of the Year (voted by Horse & Hound readers)

Horse update: Virtual Village Welham retires at Hickstead Derby

Top placings during 2000

- Olympic Games, Sydney (Aus), Team 8th (*Calvaro F.C*)
- CSI-W Bordeaux: 1st World Cup Qualifier (*V.V. Welham*)
- CSI-W Bologna: 1st World Cup Qualifier (*Virtual Village Welham*)
- CSIO Modena: 5th Nations Cup (*V.V. Calvaro FC*)
- CSIO Lummen: Nations Cup Team Member (*Abbervail Dream*)
- CSIO5* TL Aachen (Ger): 1st Nations Cup (*V V Calvaro FC*)
- CSIO5* TL Hickstead: 2nd Nations Cup, 1st Grand Prix (*V V Calvaro FC*)
- Hickstead Derby: 1st Derby (*Virtual Village Welham*)

Awarded BSJA International Rider Trophy

Top placings during 1999

- CSIO5* TL St Gallen: Nations Cup Team Member (*V.V. Amber du Montois*)
- CSIO Modena: 5th Nations Cup, 2nd Grand Prix (*Virtual Village Flower*)
- CSIO Lummen: Nations Cup Team Member, 2nd Grand Prix (*Steps Helsinki*)

- CSIO5* TL Aachen (Ger): 3rd Nations Cup (*V.V. Flower*)
- CSIO5* TL Hickstead: 2nd Nations Cup (*V.V. Flower III*), 1st British Grand Prix (*V.V. Welham*)
- CSIO5* Dublin (Ire): 2nd Nations Cup (*V.V. Flower III*), 1st Grand Prix (*V.V. Welham*)
- Horse of the Year Show: Leading Show Jumper of the Year (*V.V. Welham*)
- CSI-W Olympia: 1st World Cup Qualifier (*V.V. Welham*)

*Awarded the BSJA Leading International Rider
Horse update: Milton died July 4th 1999*

Top placings during 1998

- Leicester County. 1st Grand Prix (*Diamond Cliff*)
- Royal Windsor. 1st Grand Prix (*Diamond Cliff*)
- Royal Show. 1st Grand Prix (*Virtual Village Randi*)
- Hickstead Derby. 1st Derby (Gammon)
- CSIO Hickstead: 5th Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Heyman*), 1st Speed Grand Prix (*Virtual Village Hunters Level*)
- CSIO Dublin (Ire): =3rd Nations Cup (*Diamond Cliff*)
- CSIO Aachen (Ger): 2nd Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Heyman*)
- World Equestrian Games, Rome (Ita): Team Bronze (*Virtual Village Heyman*)
- CSIO- Spruce Meadows (Can): 6th Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Heyman*)
- CSI-A Bremen: 1st Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Grannusch*)
- CSI-W Olympia: 1st World Cup Qualifier (*Virtual Village Grannusch*)

Top placings during 1997

- Senior European Championships, Mannheim (Ger): Team Bronze, Individual 18th (*Virtual Village Welham*)
- Volvo World Cup Final, Gothenburg: 2nd World Cup Final
- CSIW Bologna: 1st World Cup Qualifier (*Virtual Village Grannusch*)
- CSIW Paris-Bercy: 1st World Cup Qualifier
- CSIO Aachen (Ger): 10th Nations Cup, 1st Grand Prix (*Virtual Village Welham*)
- Royal International Horse Show: 1st King George V Cup (*Virtual Village Welham*)
- Horse of the Year Show: 1st Leading Show Jumper of the Year (*Virtual Village Heyman*)
- CSIA Stuttgart: 1st Grand Prix (*Virtual Village Welham*)
- CSIO St Gallen: 3rd Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Grannusch*)
- CSIO Modena: 1st Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Grannusch*)
- CSIO Rotterdam: =2nd Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Grannusch*)
- CSIO Spruce Meadows: 7th Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Grannusch*)
- CSIO Dublin: 5th Nations Cup (*Virtual Village Grannusch*)

Top placings during 1996

- Olympic Games, Atlanta: Team =11th (*Welham*)
- CSIO Hickstead: 1st Grand Prix, 1st Nations Cup (*Welham*)
- CSIO Falsterbo: 6th Nations Cup, 1st Grand Prix (*Grannusch*)
- CSIW Berlin: 1st World Cup Qualifier (*Welham*)
- CSIA Maastricht: 1st Grand Prix (*Grannusch*)
- CSIW Geneva: =1st Grand Prix (*Welham*)
- CSIO Calgary: 1st Nations Cup (*Welham*)
- CSIO Dublin (Ire): 1st Nations Cup
- CSIO St Gallen: =2nd Nations Cup
- CSIO Luxembourg: =3rd Nations Cup
- CSIO Aachen (Ger): 6th Nations Cup

Top placings during 1995

- Senior European Championships, St Gallen (Sui): Team Silver (*Welham*)
- CSI-W Brussels: 1st World Cup Qualifier (*Everest Grannusch*), 1st Grand Prix (*Jolly Boy*)
- Taplow Horse Show: 1st International Trial (*Everest Randi*)
- New Forest & Hampshire: 1st International Trial (*Everest Randi*)
- Hickstead Derby: 1st Derby Trial (*Welham*)
- CSI Bremen: Leading Rider of the show (*Welham*)
- CSIO Hickstead: 1st Nations Cup (*Everest Welham*)

Top placings during 1994

- World Equestrian Games, The Hague: Team 6th (*Everest Gammon*)
- CSI Zurich: 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Milton*)
- CSI Ascona: 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Grannusch*)
- CSIO Calgary: 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Grannusch*)
- Horse of the Year Show: 1st Everest Championship (*Everest Grannusch*)
- CSI Vienna: 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Grannusch*)
- CSI Maastricht: 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Grannusch*)
- CSIO Aachen (Ger): 1st Nations Cup (*Everest Gammon*)
- CSIO Dublin (Ire): 1st Nations Cup (*Everest Grannusch*)

Horse update: Milton retired

Top placings during 1993

- Senior European Championships, Gijon (Esp): Team Silver (*Everest Gammon*)
- CSI-W Dortmund (Ger): 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Grannusch*)
- CSI Zurich (Swi): 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Milton*), 1st Masters (*Everest Grannusch*)
- Royal Bath & West: 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Grannusch*)
- CSI Arnhem, Holland: 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Gammon*)
- Hickstead Derby: 1st Derby Trial (*Everest Gammon*)
- Horse of the Year Show: 1st Leading Jumper of the Year, 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Grannusch*)
- CSI Vienna (Aus): 1st Grand Prix (*Everest Grannusch*)
- CSIO Hickstead: 1st Nations Cup (*Everest Milton*)

Top placings during 1992

- Olympic Games, Barcelona: Team 7th, Individual 14th (*Milton*)
- CSI-W Antwerp (Bel): 1st Grand Prix (*Henderson Milton*)
- CSI Wolfsburg (Ger): 1st Grand Prix (*Henderson Gammon*)
- CSIO Calgary (Can): 1st Grand Prix (*Henderson Gammon*)
- Horse of The Year Show: 1st Puissance (*Henderson Gammon*), 1st Everest Championship (*Henderson hopscotch*), 1st Leading Jumper of the Year (*Henderson Gammon*)
- CSI Bremen (Ger): 1st Grand Prix (*Henderson Milton*)
- CSI Stuttgart (Ger): 1st Masters (*Henderson Milton*)
- CSI Paris Porte De Versailles (Fra): 1st Grand Prix (*Henderson Milton*)
- CSIO Calgary (Can): 1st Nations Cup (*Henderson Gammon*)

Top placings during 1991

- Senior European Championships, La Baule (Fra): Team Silver
- World Cup Final, Gothenburg: 1st World Cup Final (*Henderson Milton*)
- CSIO Hickstead: 1st Grand Prix (*Henderson Milton*)
- CSIO Luxembourg: 1st Nations Cup
- CSIO Dublin (Ire): 1st Nations Cup

- CSIO Calgary (Can): 1st Nations Cup

Top placings during 1990

- World Equestrian Games, Stockholm: Team Bronze, Individual Silver (*Henderson Milton*)
- World Cup Final, Dortmund: 1st World Cup Final (*Henderson Milton*)
- Royal International Horse Show: 1st King George V Gold Cup (*Henderson Milton*)
- CSIO5* Hickstead: 1st Nations Cup (*Henderson Milton*)
- CSIO5* Calgary (Can): 1st Nations Cup (*Henderson Milton*)

Presented with World Cup Silver Medal for 100 World Cup Competitions.

Top placings during 1989

- Senior European Championships, Rotterdam: Team & Individual Gold (*Next Milton*)
- Winner of the Volvo World Cup Final (*Next Milton*)
- CSIO Aachen (Ger): 1st Nations Cup (*Next Gammon*)
- CSIO Dublin (Ire): 1st Nations Cup (*Next Gammon*)
- CSIO St Gallen: 1st Nations Cup (*Next Gammon*)

Top placings pre 1989

- 1988 Horse of the Year Show: 1st Leading Show Jumper of the Year (*Milton*)
- 1987 Senior European Championships, St Gallen: Team Gold, Individual Silver (*Next Milton*)
- 1987 CSIO Gijon: 1st Nations Cup (*Next Hopscotch*)
- 1986 World Equestrian Games, Aachen (Ger): Team Silver (*Hopscotch*)
- 1986 CSIO Calgary (Can): 1st Grand Prix (*Next Milton*)
- 1986 Royal International Horse Show: 1st King George V Cup (*Next Ryan's Son*)
- 1986 CSIO Dublin: 1st Nations Cup (*Next Ryan's Son*)
- 1986 CSIO Rotterdam: 1st Nations Cup (*Next Milton*)
- 1986 CSIO Jerez: 1st Nations Cup (*Hopscotch*)
- 1985 Senior European Championships, Dinard: Team Gold, Individual Bronze (*Hopscotch*)
- 1985 CSIO Madrid: 1st Nations Cup (*Hopscotch*)
- 1985 CSIO Hickstead: 1st Nations Cup (*Hopscotch*)
- 1985 CSIO Dinard: 1st Nations Cup (*Hopscotch*)
- 1985 CSIO Calgary: 1st Nations Cup (*Hopscotch*)
- 1984 Olympic Games, Los Angeles: Team Silver (*Ryans Son*)
- 1983 Senior European Championships, Hickstead: Team & Individual Silver (*Ryan's Son*)
- 1983 Hickstead Derby: 1st Derby (*Ryan's Son*)
- 1982 World Championships, Dublin (Ire): Team Bronze (*Ryan's Son*)
- 1982 CSIO Dublin (Ire): 1st Nations Cup (*Ryan's Son*)
- 1982 CSIO Calgary (Can): 1st Nations Cup (*Ryan's Son*)
- 1981 CSIO Geneva: 1st Nations Cup (*Ryan's Son*)
- 1980 Alternative Olympic Games, Rotterdam: Team & Individual Silver (*Ryan's Son*)
- 1980 CSIO Hickstead: 1st Nations Cup (*Ryan's Son*)
- 1980 CSIO Calgary (Can): 1st Nations Cup (*Ryan's Son*)

