

Our Proud Olympic History

Athens 2004

Eventing

Rebel Morrow

Phillip Dutton

Stuart Tinney

Andrew Hoy

Olivia Bunn

Jumping

Tim Amitrano

Dressage

Ricky MacMillan

Mary Hanna



Rebel Morrow and Oaklea Groover at Athens 2004 *Photograph: www.cyberhorse.net.au*

The end of the Eventers' golden 'rein'!

Australia's dreams of an historic fourth successive Eventing gold medal ended in disappointment. The Australian Team of Andrew Hoy (*Mr. Pracatan*), Stuart Tinney (*Jeepster*), Phillip Dutton (*Nova Top*), Rebel Morrow (*Oaklea Groover*) and Olivia Bunn (*GV Top of the Line*) finished sixth. Andrew Hoy had a fall on cross country, Olivia Bunn's horse was withdrawn and Stuart Tinney had a horror show jumping round. Rebel was the highest placed Australian finishing the Team event in 9th and the individual event in 11th. The next best places Aussie was Phillip who finished individually in 13th place. The Athens Olympic Games saw the introduction of the current Eventing format which sees the top three scores of the five member team count towards the team's competition and a second round of show jumping to decide the individual medals.

"My favourite memories from Athens are of hearing my name over the loud speaker.. 'Rebel Morrow and *Oaklea Groover* representing Australia' as I entered the main arena for the Dressage. For such a large stadium it was so silent! All I could hear was Groover and myself taking each breath and every foot print that Groover's hooves left in the sand. As I came across the diagonal to do the last two flying changes in the test I remember saying under my breath....COP THIS! Groover did two great changes and a big smile came across my face," recalls Rebel Morrow.

The event created much drama Germany winning team gold, losing it on appeal, being reinstated and presented with the medal before losing it again on appeal.

France eventually won the team gold medal and Britain move up from bronze to silver and the United States went to bronze after initially finishing fourth.

Australia's Ricky MacMillan (*Crisp*) finished in 37th position in the Dressage competition and Mary Hanna (*Limbo*) finished in 39th place. Tim Amitrano (*Mr. Innocent*) represented Australia in the Jumping competition, but did not make it to the final.

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