

Stefan Wolff

Stefan Wolff, born in 1979 in Lübeck, Germany, was introduced to horses by his parents who have always been passionate riders and horse owners. It was them who supported and trained him working the way up into the regional Junior and Young Rider dressage squad.

At 18 years of age Stefan went to the National Service which was at the time mandatory. Stefan was one of the few athletes who were accepted to serve at the Sport School of the Federal Armed Forces in Warendorf which supports high performance athletes. During that time he was trained by Holger Schmezer, at the time German National Young Rider Coach, and later German National Head Coach.

Stefan stayed in Warendorf for his apprenticeship as Bereiter at the German Equestrian Olympic Committee (DOKR), and later at Klaus Balkenhol's in Rosendahl, at that time German National Dressage Coach, passing the examination for Bereiter with distinction. Stefan decided to go to University. This is when he took Rubins Royal in training as a



five year old horse who he then trained through Grand Prix in the following years. Rubins Royal is still competing and has been a listed horse of the German National Squad under Anabel Balkenhol for several years. In 2004 Stefan earned his law degree and went back to work for Klaus Balkenhol as a Bereiter. In the following years Stefan benefited tremendously from Klaus Balkenhol's exceptional training and experience and competed at the Bundeschampionate,

at the F.E.I. World Breeding Championships of Young Dressage Horses, won at the Danish National Stallion Show, and performed at the Global Dressage Forum. In 2006 Stefan passed the examination for Pferdewirtschaftsmeister (former term: Reitlehrer FN) at the Westfalian Riding School in Münster with distinction of the German Equestrian Federation and the German Professional Riders Association. He also was awarded by the state of Nordrhein-Westfalen for the best Master-Examination in 2006.



In 2008 Stefan moved to Los Angeles, USA working for Keith and Linda Walton at Brookside Equestrian. In the following years he continued his training with Guenter Seidel, multiple times team member of the US Dressage Team and Olympic Bronze medalist. Stefan was successful as competitor and trainer: He and his students competed and won from Young Horse classes up to Grand Prix on both national and international horse shows in

Southern California. Some of his achievements are the 2010 California Dressage Society Futurity Champion of 5 year old dressage horses and a Second Place at the Grand Prix All Breeds Award. In 2012 his own French Prince ranked 4th at USDF Horse of the Year in Prix St. Georges.

In 2012 Stefan moved back to Germany to the position of deputy director of the Westfalian Riding School, the oldest one of its kind and one of the only two in Germany hosting master examinations. During this period Stefan took the opportunity to work closely with the director Martin Plewa, Reitmeister and formerly long time Germany's Eventing National Coach and Grand Prix dressage judge. The focus was to improve the training and performance of his dressage horses by deepening the knowledge of the

nature of the horse, its biomechanics and its use of the body at and over fences and in hilly terrain. Stefan trained and lectured multiple national and international trainer



courses and master classes, lectured and performed at several public seminars about the German Training System, the training scale and work in hand. Also he was appointed one of the Young Rider squad trainers of the Westfalian Riding

Association with great success up to the German Championships.

Since 2014 Stefan runs his own training operation in Münster continuing the squad training and serving clients from Germany, the USA, Australia, and Brazil.