Jefferson's sights

RUTH JEFFERSON, daughter and assistant of Malton trainer Malcolm, goes into today's penultimate race of the Fegentri series for amateur riders in pole position.

The competition comprises 22 races at courses across the globe, and solid efforts in Holland today and Mauritius in December should be enough to see Jefferson home.

"As things stand, any of the top four could technically win it, so it's all to play for – the situation should be much clearer after this weekend," she says.

Jefferson's lead was cut to seven points in Turkey last weekend, and she is being pursued by Pauline Boisgontier (France), Tina Henriksson (Sweden) and Nina Wagner (Germany).

Jefferson says: "I was unlucky to find myself blocked in during a fast-run race in which I was fifth last weekend, and I was seventh in the other race.

"It's been good fun, with a great bunch of people. I couldn't honestly pick out a favourite course but Germany was a real highlight; we had a great day in Mannheim.

"Unfortunately, though, it's time-consuming and I've found it hard to balance it with other work commitments."

She is, however, grateful there has been no repeat of the beauty contest in Romania in which she participated the previous year.

"It was a very strange experience being judged by four 90-year-old Romanian women for the distinguished prize of Miss Amateur Jockey," adds Jefferson.