



WEEKLY WIRE

EDITOR: JENNIFER WOOD

WEEK 9 MARCH 10-14, 2021

U.S. Team Crowned Hometown Heroes in the \$150,000 Nations Cup CSIO4*, presented by Premier Equestrian



The winning Nations Cup U.S. team of Bliss Heers, Brian Moggre, Jessica Springsteen, and Lillie Keenan were joined by Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland, Sandy Quinlan, Heidi Zorn, President of Premier Equestrian, and Mark Neihart, CEO of Premier Equestrian. ©Sportfot.

The hometown squad stepped up to shine under the lights during the week eight CSIO4* as the team from the United States of America claimed victory in the \$150,000 Nations Cup CSIO4*, presented by Premier Equestrian in the International Arena on Friday, March 5, at the Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF).

In an adjusted format, the opening round was held at 4:30 pm EST while the second round was held under the lights in the International Arena getting underway at 7:30 pm EST, with both phases over a course designed by Steve Stephens (USA) and Nick Granat (USA). After the first round, each team dropped their highest score, with all eight teams from the opening phase qualifying to return for the second round under the lights.

Ireland held the lead after the first round of competition as all four team members, Shane Sweetnam, Bertram Allen, Michael Duffy, and Cian O'Connor, jumped fault-free rounds. The home team United States came in just behind the Irish, carrying one fault total while Israel returned in third position, on a four-fault score.

In the second round, the NetJets U.S. Jumping Team consisting of Lillie Keenan aboard Fasther, Brian Moggre with Balou De Reventon, Bliss Heers on Antidote De Mars, and Jessica Springsteen riding Don Juan Van Donkhoeve, coached by Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland, jumped into the lead carrying a score of zero down the home stretch.

First to return for the U.S. squad in the second round was 24-year-old Lillie Keenan who jumped clear in the opening round. Keenan and Fasther, an 11-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding by Vigo D'Arsouilles x Blister owned by Chansonette Farm LLC, finished on just four faults in the second round, a score that would eventually be dropped for the team.

"Every time that I get to jump for Team USA, it's my favorite competition," said Keenan "It's something we all look forward to every year. It's the aim, right? We plan out the year, and the high point is the chance that we get to jump for Team USA. To be able to bring home a win on home soil is thrilling. It's what we set out to do; we had a plan. I had fantastic teammates, our Chef d'Equipe, our manager Lizzie Chesson; they do an unparalleled job, and we are ridiculously lucky. We're grateful to rise to the occasion. We're a very young team and each of us have something that's a first. For my horse, it's the first time he's ever jumped a Nations Cup. I have jumped them with other horses, but never with him. It's really telling for the future of Team USA. We have a really young team, but we are a force to be reckoned with."

In his second career Nations Cup, Brian Moggre piloted Balou De Reventon, a 15-year-old Oldenburg stallion by Cornet Obolensky x Georgia, owned by Ann C.

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Deusser Is Dynamite with Scuderia 1918 Tobago Z In \$214,000 Grand Prix CSIO4*, presented by JTWG, Inc.



Daniel Deusser (GER) scored another major win in the \$214,000 CSIO4* Grand Prix, presented by JTWG, Inc. with Scuderia 1918 Tobago Z. © Sportfot

Success at the 2021 Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) continued for Daniel Deusser (GER) as he and Scuderia 1918 Tobago Z, owned by Stephex and Scuderia 1918, put forth a brilliant double-clear effort to be crowned champion of the \$214,000 Grand Prix CSIO4*, presented by JTWG, Inc. on Sunday, March 7, in the International Arena at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC).

A total of 50 entries including six of the top 12 riders in the world, challenged the opening round track set by Steve Stephens (USA) and Nick Granat (USA), with eight pairs qualifying to return for the jump-off. Sixth to contest the subsequent round, Deusser and the 13-year-old Zangersheide stallion by Tangelo Vd Zuuthoeve x Mr Blue executed the track flawlessly, shaving nearly a second off the leading time to finish in 36.45 seconds.

"To be honest, I only saw Andre [Thieme] on the way to the last jump," said Deusser of the combination holding the lead before he entered the ring. "I didn't really get to see what kind of strides he did everywhere. I had already put together my plan. I know he is very good in short turns to the vertical like [jump] number three. I think maybe there I left one out and had a good turn to the double too, and he was pretty smooth down the straight lines, so I think I had quite a good jump-off."

The aforementioned Andre Thieme (GER) and Chakaria, owned by Pferdemanagement and Marketing, held on to second position with their double-clear effort. Thieme and the 11-year-old German Sport Horse mare stopped the timers in 37.49 seconds.

"This is my number one horse, and I took my time with her the last few years because I realized pretty early on what I had with her," said Thieme. "She's pretty special in every way and now slowly we've been working on going faster. My problem with her was that she was always a bit too cranky in the turns but now I've had very good results over the last year, and she's getting quicker and quicker. Today I thought maybe it would be enough, then realized to the last jump I had to do one more [stride] and of course someone like Daniel uses that chance right away. I'm a little bit disappointed with myself, but I'm very happy with my horse."

A fairly new partnership continued to develop successfully as 23-year-old Teddy Vlock (ISR) and Amsterdam 27, owned by Vlock Show Stables, LLC, completed the jump-off track leaving all the jumps in their cups in 37.91 seconds. Vlock, who only acquired the 11-year-old Holsteiner gelding by Catoki x Acord II in January, was thrilled with their third-place finish.

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WHAT'S TO COME WEEK 9 AT PBIEC

PBIEC EDUCATIONAL SERIES, PRESENTED BY ADEQUAN®

The PBIEC Educational Series, presented by Adequan®, is hosted weekly during the annual Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF). The series provides an educational platform for horse enthusiasts to expand their knowledge on a variety of equine- and rider-related topics. Admission is free, and pre-registration is required. Participants will automatically be entered to win a luxury item from Karina Brez Jewelry as the grand prize giveaway. The ninth session, hosted on Zoom, will be Thursday, March 11, from 6-7 p.m. EST. The topic of "Horse-Set Research Findings - Benefits of General Anesthesia," is sponsored by BEMER.

WEF 9 HIGHLIGHTS

WEF 9 brings CSI5* competition, along with a concurrent CSI2*, back to the International Arena at PBIEC on March 10-14 sponsored by Fidelity Investments® with weekly highlights including: the \$37,000 Douglas Elliman Real Estate 1.45m CSI5* on Wednesday, Thursday's \$73,000 Adequan® WEF Challenge Cup Round 9, the \$37,000 Bainbridge Companies 1.45m Classic CSI5* and \$50,000 Wellington Equestrian Realty Grand Prix CSI2* on Saturday, the \$401,000 Fidelity Investments® Grand Prix CSI5* as part of "Saturday Night Lights," and the \$73,000 CaptiveOne Advisors 1.50m Classic CSI5* on Sunday.

SHOW JUMPING HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

On Saturday, March 13, at 6:45 p.m. in the opening ceremonies for "Saturday Night Lights" and the grand prix, watch the induction ceremony for Olympic gold and silver medalist Leslie Howard and Olympic judge and longtime FEI Steward General David Distler into the Show Jumping Hall of Fame.

ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL 9

AGDF 9 will host national competition at Equestrian Village on March 12-14, as well as the Perrigo CPEDI3*, presented by Adequan® and Nutrena for Para Dressage riders.

LOOKING AHEAD - WEEK 10

International competition returns to the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival with the Stillpoint Farm FEI Nations Cup CDI03* on March 17-21. In the CSI3* WEF 10, featured events include the \$137,000 Horseware Ireland Grand Prix CSI3* and \$50,000 Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix Series Final on Sunday, March 21, the Spy Coast Farm Developing Jumper Classics, as well as the Hygain Feeds Groom's Class on Friday, March 19.



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“ Fidelity Investments is committed to making a difference in the communities where we work and live and we were proud to be the presenting sponsor of the Winter Equestrian Festival and the 12th edition of the Great Charity Challenge. This important event distributed over \$1 Million to more than 40 charities in the Palm Beach community, which will help assist populations most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. ”

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Thompson, to a four-fault effort in the first phase of competition. The 19-year-old rider returned in the second round to improve on that score with a clear effort.

“This week is actually my fourth week showing the horse,” said Moggre. “Every week we’re just getting to know each other better. He’s amazing. He has more experience in this atmosphere than I do, so it’s nice to rely on him for that. I just really wanted to use this as an opportunity to get to know this horse in this format. Hopefully we will continue to be put on teams like this. I’m just really grateful for the horse. Ann Thompson who owns him is incredible. It’s been a really great time getting to know him.”

Making her debut for the American team, Bliss Heers and her mount Antidote De Mars, an 11-year-old Selle Francais stallion by Diamant De Semilly x Tilda De Mars owned by Bridgeside Farms LLC, were stellar. The 33-year-old rider from Las Vegas, NV, and her talented partner put forth a double clear effort, the only U.S. pair to jump totally fault free.

“I feel incredibly blessed,” said Heers. “My teammates are incredible, and I’m happy for the opportunity. My horse is incredible. I know going in, whatever I ask, he does, and he tries his heart out. After the first round, it was exciting to say the least. Then to go into the second round under the lights and have to repeat the same thing, it doesn’t seem like much but then again, scores start coming in and I relied on him. He feels the pressure and always rises to the occasion. I can count on him every time.”

Second last to go in the second-round order was USA’s Jessica Springsteen and Don Juan van de Donkhoeve, a 15-year-old Belgian Warmblood stallion by Bamako De Muze x Diva Vd Donkhoeve owned by Stone Hill Farm. The 29-year-old rider and her partner finished with just one time fault in the opening round and brought the hometown crowd to their feet, sealing the deal for the American contingent jumping clear in the final round.

“I think you always feel more pressure when you’re representing your country,” said Springsteen. “It was the first Nations Cup in a long time, and we all were so excited this whole week. It was a really fun team.”

The win marked the ninth in the 20 years of the Nations Cup at WEF for the United States show jumping team, including their third consecutive victory.

“We knew coming in that we had a very young team,” said Chef d’Équipe Robert Ridland. “When your second and third riders in the order combined have one Nations Cup, it’s not much experience in the heart of the order. It was really nice and exciting. We were up against some real teams. When we saw the Irish starters, on paper that’s a really solid, veteran team. I couldn’t be more excited.”

The Irish Team of Shane Sweetnam (0,0), Bertram Allen (0,4), Michael Duffy (0,4), and Cian O’Connor (0,0) held on for a second place finish on a total of four faults.

Rounding out the podium in third place was Team Brazil with Rodrigo Lambre (16,8), Luiz Francisco De Azevedo (0,0), Yuri Mansour (8,5), and Rodrigo Pessoa (0,1) with a score of 14 faults total.

In addition to Heers, Sweetnam, O’Connor, and De Azevedo, an additional two riders had double clear rounds including Ashlee Bond (ISR), and Amy Millar (CAN).

The format was new to all riders with the first round held in the daylight while the second, in the traditional Nations Cup setting at WEF, under the lights.

“It can give you time to overthink everything,” said Springsteen of the adjusted format. “I had a time fault in the first round, so I saw where I could make up a little bit of time. It was nice. I’ve never done this Nations Cup here before, so I was super excited. It was a great night.”

For Moggre, the extra experience of jumping on a Nations Cup team is one the young rider relishes. He spoke highly of the handiwork of Steve Stephens, course designer, and enjoyed the new format.

“I think the course really asked a lot of the right questions for this type of class, and I think that’s important,” said Moggre. “It was really interesting how the first round went during the day and the second round went at night because that’s a change of atmosphere. Some horses struggle with that and some horses thrive with it. I think that it was a really interesting way to do the Nations Cup this year, but as the first one we had, I think it was a great experience. I myself had a great time, and I think I can speak on behalf of my teammates.”

Following the class, the Denis Quinlan Perpetual Memorial Trophy was presented to the winning Nations Cup team. In the inaugural year of the award, it is given in his memory and recognizing his support in bringing the Nations Cup event to Wellington in 2002 and for his extraordinary support of equestrian sport.

 Kate Pettersen

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NATIONS CUP PHOTOS

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Mimi Gochman and Celina BH Dominate the Hermès Under 25 Semi-Final Grand Prix



Mimi Gochman and Celina BH won the \$37,000 Hermès Under 25 Semi-Final Grand Prix. © Sportfot

The \$37,000 Hermès Under 25 Semi-Final Grand Prix took place in the International Arena on Sunday morning after being postponed from Saturday night due to weather. Forty-six competitors entered the class and eight made it to the jump-off, but Mimi Gochman and Gochman Sport Horses LLC’s Celina BH proved unbeatable.

Riders were tested over a technical first course of 13 fences, including an open water jump, designed by Nick Granat (USA) and Steve Stephens (USA). Gochman, of New York, NY, and Celina BH were twenty-seventh in the order of go and produced the eighth and final jump-off qualifying round. The pair put in a second clear round in the jump-off with a winning time of 31.86 seconds.

“I thought my first round was very smooth, which was the goal,” explained Gochman. “Smooth, stay in the time, no big moves or changes, and I think the plan was to jump clear, obviously. I had a light rub at the second jump, and I think

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it made Celina and I both pick up a little bit on the rest of the round. She’s so confident at the water, which is really nice that I didn’t have to think about that. She’s so adjustable, so all lengthening and shortening stuff she can do so well.”

Gochman and Celina BH have developed a strong partnership over the past couple years after the rider took over the reins from trainer Amanda Derbyshire. The pair has earned many top placings, including a fourth place finish in the \$25,000 Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix during week six of WEF.

“We imported Celina very young, and she actually started with my trainer Amanda,” said Gochman of the 2010 Holsteiner mare by Canstakko. “Amanda built her up and then the day came when she said, ‘Mimi I think you can do the junior jumpers on her and hopefully grand prix.’ We’ve been getting along ever since and she is the most adjustable, trying, scopey horse that I’ve ever sat on. It’s like a whole team effort with her. She loves everyone at our farm, and she gets ridden by everyone. She’s the happiest girl ever!”

This year marks Gochman’s second year competing in the Under 25 series and the rider was thrilled to win against such a competitive field of riders.

“I’m so honored,” she expressed. “There are so many great, amazing riders. Ashley [Vogel] has been on the top of this game for the entire time, and Zoe [Conter] I’ve watched my whole junior career and she’s insane on all of her horses. There are so many competitive people in this class, and I think winning was really the cherry on top for me this week. I just wanted to try my best and see what happens, and it came out in my favor. It was an honor to win this class today.”

Only fractions of a second behind Gochman were previous Under 25 Grand Prix winners Ashley Vogel (USA) and her own Bellissimo Z. Vogel and her mount produced a time of 31.97 seconds. Zoe Conter (BEL) and StepheX Stables’ Dawa De Greenbay Z stopped the timers at 32.67 seconds to take home third place.

The U25 riders fired up their competition on Thursday with the Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix Series in WEF 8. In the \$10,000 Hermès U25 Welcome, Delaney Flynn (USA) and Grace Jacobsen’s Milan IV rode to victory, while Dominic Gibbs and Delia B won the \$1,000 Hermès U25 1.40m.

 Sabrina Brashares

Standings and Awards

WEF WEEK 8



LEADING LADY JUMPER RIDER, sponsored by Martha Jolicoeur of Douglas Elliman Real Estate, in memory of Dale Lawler (after 18 qualifying events)

1. Adrienne Sternlicht (USA): 861
2. Margie Engle (USA): 838
3. Tiffany Foster (CAN): 762
4. Beezie Madden (USA): 722.5
5. Lillie Keenan (USA): 710.5



CHAMPION EQUINE INSURANCE HUNTER STYLE AWARD: Consent, ridden and owned by Kat Fuqua

CHAMPION EQUINE INSURANCE JUMPER STYLE AWARD: Elina, ridden by Ansgar Holtgers Jr. and owned by Gut Einhaus



HERMÈS UNDER 25 GRAND PRIX SERIES

(after 7 qualifying events)

1. Ashley Vogel (USA): 275.5
2. Flo Norris (GBR): 237
3. Tanner Korotkin (USA): 211
4. Natalie Dean (USA): 201.5
5. Jessica Mendoza (GBR): 200.5

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CAPTIVEONE ADVISORS 1.50M CHAMPIONSHIP JUMPER CLASSIC SERIES

(after 9 qualifying events)

1. McLain Ward (USA): 321
2. Darragh Kenny (IRL): 295
3. Daniel Deusser (GER): 274
4. Jessica Springsteen (USA): 243
5. Shane Sweetnam (IRL): 241

WEF 8 JUMPER WRAP-UP



Adrienne Sternlicht and Lafayette van de Overis won the opening FEI class of the week in the \$5,000 Premier Equestrian Welcome Stake CSIO4*. ©Sportfot

As the week eight CSIO4* got underway at WEF, it was Adrienne Sternlicht (USA) and Lafayette Van Overis, owned by Starlight Farms 1, LLC, who scored a victory in the \$5,000 Premier Equestrian Welcome Stake CSIO4* daytime class on Wednesday.

It was an all-female podium as Jessica Mendoza (GBR) and Windsor Farms' Dublin, a 14-year-old German Sport Horse gelding by Cobra x Calido, stopped the clock just behind the American rider in 58.75 seconds. Megan McDermott (USA) and Entano, a 12-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding by Namelus R x Numero Uno, owned by Over The Top Stables, LLC, took home third place in a time of 58.78 seconds.

In the \$5,000 FEI Premier Equestrian CSIO Welcome stake held at night, Great Britain's Jessica Mendoza held the leading time of 57.89 seconds for a long period of the class until Canada's Amy Millar and Christiano, owned by Future Adventures, took over the lead.

Millar, the daughter of veteran show jumper Ian Millar, expertly guided the 11-year-old German Sport Horse gelding (Canoso x Compliment) to the top of the podium with an efficient time of 56.78 seconds.

Mendoza and the 10-year-old Holsteiner mare (Clarimo x Contender)

Casanova 499, owned by Carly Day, held their ground with the second place position while Martin Fuchs (SUI) and Adolfo Juri's nine-year-old KWPN gelding Leone Jei (Baltic VDL x Corland) slid into third place after crossing the timers in 58.95 seconds.

Scoring a morning win on Thursday, March 4, in the \$37,000 Adequan® WEF Challenge Cup Round 8 were Emily Moffitt (GBR) and Poden Farms' Topsy du Terral. Over a course designed by Steve Stephens (USA) and Nick Granat (USA), 56 entries went for speed in a one-round format. There were 26 clear rounds, but the fastest of them all was Moffitt and Topsy du Terral, who were able to conquer the 13 numbered obstacles on the track in 63.82 seconds.

Moffitt went 37th in the original order and beat the then-winning time of 64.34 seconds set by Darragh Kenny (IRL) and Devon MacNeil's Vinci de Beaufour a 12-year-old Selle Français gelding by Diamant de Semilly x Heartbreaker, who would finish in second place. Third place went to Adam Prudent (USA) and Baloutinue, an 11-year-old Hanoverian gelding by Balou du Rouet x Landor S owned by Plain Bay Farm. They were two seconds behind in 66.31 seconds.

Held in the DeNemethy Ring, Shane Sweetnam (IRL) took the first place ribbon in the \$25,000 ProElite Jumper Classic on Madiba AG Z, owned by Sweetnam, Spy Coast Farm, and Paul Tracy, with a clear round in 36.280 seconds. They were the fastest of six in the jump-off, narrowly edging out Daniel Deusser (GER) and Stephex Stables' Bingo Ste. Hermelle, who had a time of 36.348 seconds. The third double clear round for third place came from Lauren Hough (USA) and Harley D, owned by Hillside Farm LLC, in 36.824 seconds.

McLain Ward and Blossom Z, owned by Wyndmont, Susan Heller, and McLain Ward, flew to the top of the podium for a victory in the \$50,000 CaptiveOne Advisors 1.50m National Grand Prix on Saturday.

First to go of the nine returning combinations, Ben Maher (GBR) and Kalinka De Kalvarie, owned by Poden Farms, set the pace for the remainder of the competition with a clear effort in 36.200 seconds.

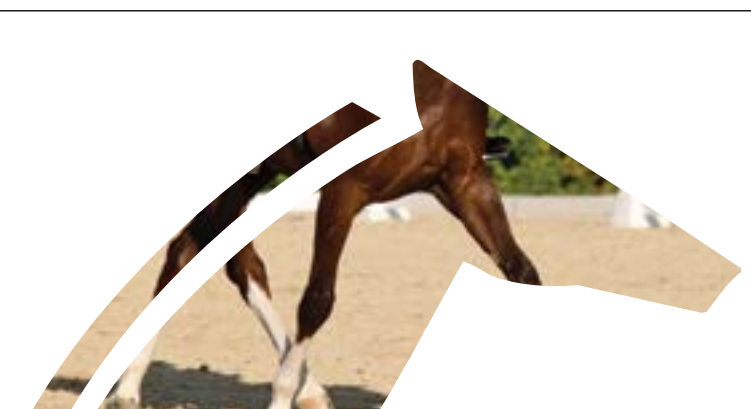
Fifth in the returning order, McLain Ward rose to the occasion, topping the time set by Maher, with Blossom Z, an 11-year-old Zangersheide mare by Balou Du Rouet x Cleopatra Z, with a clear effort in 33.022 seconds.

The jump-off became a battle of the world's best as the second ranked rider in the world, Martin Fuchs, rounded out the podium aboard Conner 70, a 10-year-old Holsteiner gelding by Connor 48 x Cosimo owned by Thomas Fuchs. The pair came close to the runner-up position, sliding into third with a time of 36.205, just five-thousandths of a second behind Maher, who sits fifth in the world rankings.

Victory in the \$37,000 Douglas Elliman Real Estate 1.45m Classic CSIO4* went to Abdel Said (EGY) and his own Arpege du Ru.

There were 29 entries and 12 clear rounds in the morning class, and they were all going for speed over a course designed by Steve Stephens (USA) and Nick Granat (USA). The early leader was Daniel Deusser (GER) and Stephex Stables' Calisto Blue, who set a time of 60.66 seconds that would hold up for third place. Near the end of the class, Andrew Bourns (IRL) and Darquito broke the 60-second barrier to finish in second place on 59.69 seconds.

However, it was Said and Arpege du Ru who couldn't be beat, finishing the course in a speedy 57.98 seconds for the win.



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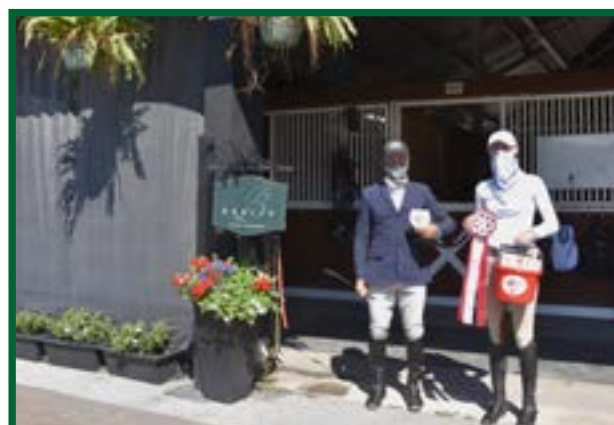
WEF 8 WEEKLY SPONSOR AWARDS



Margie Engle (center) accepts the Martha Jolicoeur Leading Lady Rider Award, in memory of Dale Lawler, from Dr. Stephen Norton (left) and Martha Jolicoeur. © Sportfot



The winner of the Vita Flex Tack Room Award at WEF 7 was Laurel Crown Farms with Laura Beth Secari accepting. Courtesy of JRPR News Room.



The WEF 8 Vita Flex Tack Room Award Co-Winner Bellis Show Jumping, with Steve Schaefer and Caelinn Leahy pictured. A second award was given to Sea-Aire represented by Terrance Prunty, Alejandro Morales, Laura Bowery, Anne Byers, and Larry Garcia. Courtesy of JRPR News Room.



Kat Fuqua and Consent were presented with the Champion Equine Insurance Hunter Style Award by Laura Fetterman. © Sportfot

HUNTER AND EQUITATION RIDERS JUMP IN STYLE WEEK 8



Alexander Alston, riding Missy Clark and North Run's Campreoll, won the Platinum Performance/USEF Show jumping Talent Search 3*. © Sportfot

The Take2 Thoroughbred Hunter division wrapped up on Thursday in Ring 12 after two days of competition. Samantha Thren, of West Chester, PA, and her own Always Sunny were crowned champions. The duo earned two firsts and three second place ribbons.

"I didn't want a Thoroughbred at first," explained Thren. "I was looking for my first horse for myself to buy after college, and I came across him and didn't realize he was a Thoroughbred. I'm really glad I got him because doing the Thoroughbred Hunters has been a ton of fun! He is such a good boy and has such a good brain. We are supposed to go home this weekend so this was our last hurrah."

Not far behind in points were Julie Curtin, of Woodstock, GA, and Daniel Robertshaw's Rapporteur, who took home the reserve championship. The pair received two firsts, a second, and two third place ribbons.

Competition in the DeNemethy Ring began on Saturday morning with the Platinum Performance/USEF Show jumping Talent Search 3*. Twenty-seven riders entered the class hoping to earn the blue ribbon and in the end, it was Alexander Alston, of Gahanna, OH, aboard Missy Clark and North Run's Campreoll who were named the winners.

"My first round was nice and smooth, and the time allowed was good," explained Alston. "I really liked the course for us. There were a lot of right turns which is good for him. I enjoyed the test because he is really nice to flat. He is round and very comfortable."

Catalina Peralta, of Geneva, FL, rode Redfield Farm's H Zambaccio to a second place finish. Cary, NC, resident Alexandra Ryden and her own Dicaprio 3 received third place in the class.

Margot Peroni piloted her own 12-year-old Dutch gelding Orlon to the champion title in the competitive Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'3" 36 and Over division on the penultimate day of Week 8 at the Winter Equestrian Festival. Peroni, of Califon, NJ, bested a field of 14 horse-and-rider combinations with a total of 34 points for the victory. She and her long-time partner picked up three firsts and one third place ribbon to secure their spot.

"My husband and I picked Orlon out in Germany when he was two. We saw him, and were just like, 'Oh my, we want that one,'" recalled Peroni. "It worked out that we were able to vet him and bring him back with us and we broke him and have put almost all of the work into him ourselves."

Reserve champion in the division went to John Ingram and the John and Stephanie Ingram-owned 12-year-old Oldenburg gelding, Aristocrat. The pair earned first, second, fourth, and fifth for the reserve with 19 total points.

The second day of competition for the Children's Hunter Older division took place on Sunday in FarmVet Ring 7. Hollin Sutherland, of Grosse Pointe Farms, MI, took home the tricolor ribbon to end her week on a high note. The rider earned the championship with her own Kingpin after receiving two firsts, a second, and a sixth place ribbon.

"Yesterday those were probably the two best rounds I've ever had with him, and I was just so excited," said Sutherland. "I've had him for almost a year now, and he just really wants to do well and he never wants to disappoint me. He is great at moving up or holding back from the jump, and I think that's where our strong suit is because he just listens so well."

Grace Rahaim and Renaud Farm, LLC's Cayento Z earned the reserve champion title. The pair, trained by Greg Crolick, received a first, second, and fifth place ribbon in the division.

▸ Sabrina Brashares



WEF 8 Parade of Champions

© Sportfot



Another Lady and Madison Naivar won the reserve championship in the ProElite Low Children's/Adult Training Jumper .90m at WEF 8 and were champions at WEF 7.



Kaitlyn McCann rode August to the ProElite Low Children's/Adult Training Jumper .90m championship at WEF 8.



The Walk/Trot championship went to FC Hi Fashion, ridden by Maggie Kaminski for AKA Showstoppers LLC.



Jennifer Papiernik and Colleen Dolan's Maleficent were the USHJA Hunter 2'6" (First Year Shown) champions.



Danash's Northern Tempest and Ashley Glica, riding for Palm Beach Sport Horses LLC, were the USHJA Hunter 2' champions.

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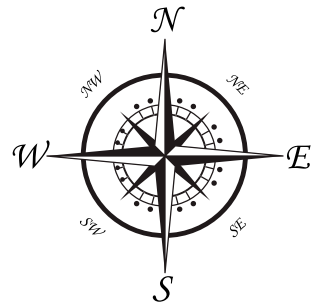
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**PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTER
(Main Grounds)**

Meet the Riders of WEF: Dominic Gibbs

Q: How many years have you been showing at WEF, and what do you enjoy most about showing here?

A: This is my third year showing here at WEF, and I think it is so hard to pick a favorite memory. One of the reasons that it is my favorite place to show is because you're here for such a long time and you're just going, going, going so you get into the groove. I really like it because you are able to move up into divisions if that becomes an opportunity for you. I just think that it's a really great thing to have you constantly in the ring and making it easier for you to be able to move up, which is harder to do the rest of the year.

Q: Are there any classes that you are looking forward to showing in this season?

A: I'm looking forward to two classes in particular: the Hermès Under 25 Final during Week 10 and then WEF Equitation Championship during Week 11.

Q: Who do you train with, and what horses are you showing this season?

A: I train with Beacon Hill Show Stables as well as Katie and Henri Prudent. I'm showing my own Cent 15 in the equitation and Delia B in the jumpers and Under 25 classes. I have a catch ride for McLain Ward and Sagamore Farms named Demonica GS Z, and I'm also riding Ferry Van Den Hoogeweg for Plain Bay Sales.

Q: If you could ride any famous horse who would it be and why?

A: I think that I would have to pick Gazelle! I really, really like those hot, compact horses that can jump the moon, and I think that is perfectly my type. Kent obviously does a phenomenal job with her, and I would just love to be able to sit on her.

Q: Do you prefer the equitation or the jumpers?

A: I don't think that I really prefer either. I think that they both compliment each other in really great ways. One makes me better in the other and vice versa.

Q: What professionals do you look up to in the industry?

A: I really look up to both of my coaches, Katie and Henri Prudent, and then Stacia Madden and her team. I think that they are both very professional, and they both have really good businesses, which is very important in this industry.

Q: What is one of your favorite things to do on a day off?

A: Well, I don't really get a day off! On Monday, which is the day we don't ride and give the horses the day off, I have school all day. If I do have a day off I really just like to relax, kick back, and enjoy the time I have.

Q: How do you manage school and riding?

A: I am in an online school, Score At the Top, and they actually have their base in Wellington. So while I'm here I am actually able to go to their building, which is really nice. While I'm traveling and on the road, I Skype with my teachers. It's one-on-one classes, so I'm able to go virtual when I'm not here in Wellington. I like that when I am here, I actually have a place to go into, and it's much more of a traditional school feeling. They have a great hybrid system.

 Sabrina Brashares



Dominic Gibbs and Cent 15
© Jennifer Wood Media/Sabrina Brashares

GRAND PRIX Continued from Page 1

"I couldn't possibly be more excited," said Vlock with a big smile. "He is an amazing horse, and I've only ridden him in about four shows now. Every time I get him in [the ring], I learn something new about him and it's a very good partnership so I'm ecstatic."

Speaking of what he has learned of his new mount, Vlock said, "Today I think I understood more. I'm fortunate to have other horses I've had longer partnerships with that are the same caliber as him, but they go a little bit different. I have learned what place to put him in and how to ride the horse to give him the best chance of jumping clear. As a less experienced rider than these guys [Deusser and Thieme], it takes me a little bit longer to figure it out. I'm so happy with everything today."

Deusser continues to rack up wins at WEF and is happy to have his top partner with him in Wellington, Florida. He and the talented stallion "Tobi" won the Adequan® WEF Challenge Cup during WEF 7, less than a week after the horse arrived on American soil.

"I've been spoiled already," said Deusser. "He had a bit of time off last year and came back end of season last year which was already not a perfect time because of COVID, but to be honest every competition he went to he came back with good results. He did his last competition in December and has had basically two months off. I think he even enjoyed the time without me at home."

"He's been my number one horse for a long time," continued Deusser, "and he knows exactly when he has to show up. In the warmup ring he's pretty quiet, but he comes in the ring and he knows what to do."

Prior to the jump-off, the Kate Nash Boone Style Award was presented by Michael Meller to Jessica Springsteen to honor the memory of Kate's support and love of "all things equestrian." The 2021 winner was selected by a judges panel, stewards, and ringmaster as the international equestrian who exemplified the best style of riding along with maintaining a sportsmanlike composure while competing in the CSIO at WEF.

The "Cheers" Perpetual Trophy in Memory of Niall Grimes was presented to Bertram Allen as the leading rider representing Ireland in total money won in CSIO classes this past week. Niall Grimes was an accomplished equestrian whose lifelong dream was to represent Ireland in a Nation's Cup Class. It was at the Winter Equestrian Festival in Palm Beach that Niall realized his dream.

 Kate Pettersen

FINAL RESULTS

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1 SCUDERIA 1918 TOBAGO Z: 2008 Zangersheide stallion by Tangelo Vd Zuuthoeve x Mr Blue
DANIEL DEUSSER (GER), StepheX and Scuderia 1918: 0/0/36.45

2 CHAKARIA: 2010 DSP mare by Chap 47 x Askari 173
ANDRE THIEME (GER), Pferdemanagement & Marketing: 0/0/37.49

3 AMSTERDAM 27: 2010 Holsteiner gelding by Catoki x Acord II
TEDDY VLOCK (ISR), Vlock Show Stables, LLC: 0/0/37.91

4 DICAS: 2009 Rheinlander gelding by Diarado x Cassini I
MARGIE ENGLE (USA), Storm Ridge Capital LLC, Show Horses, Garber & Gladewinds Partners LLC: 0/0/38.84

5 DEZ OOKTOFF: 2008 KWPN stallion by Colandro x Lys Rouge
ROBERTO TERAN TAFUR (COL), Roberto Teran Tafur: 0/0/39.87

6 LEVIS DE MUZE: 2011 BWP stallion by Elvis Ter Putte x Heroine De Muze
IOLI MYTILINEOU (GRE), Elia Construction SA: 0/0/40.80

7 PRESENCE: 2008 Holsteiner stallion by Contendro II x Ulibra
MARIA COSTA (USA), Ravello Farms, LLC: 0/4/36.72

8 CASTLEFIELD VEGAS: 2010 ISH gelding by Cassino x Lux Z
BERTRAM ALLEN (IRL), Martin Egan: 0/4/35.57

9 VINCI DE BEAUFOR: 2009 Selle Français gelding by Diamant de Semilly x Heartbreaker
DARRAGH KENNY (IRL), Devon MacNeil: 4/71.82

10 LEONE JEI: 2012 KWPN gelding by Baltic Vdl x Corland
MARTIN FUCHS (SUI), Adolfo Jui: 4/72.34

11 ARPEGE DU RU: 2010 Selle Français mare by Apache D'Adriers x Qu-
at'sous
ABDEL SAID (EGY), Abdel Said: 4/73.06

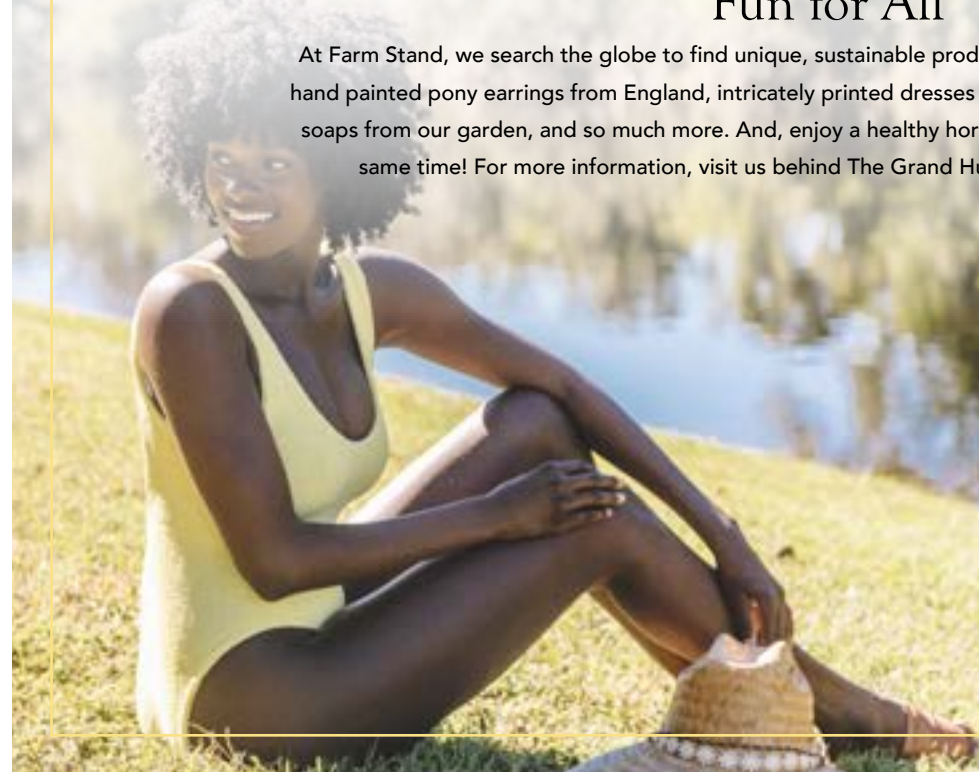
12 VILLAMOURA: 2009 Selle Français mare by Diamant de Semilly X
KASINA
SYDNEY SHULMAN (ISR), Jill Shulman: 4/73.36



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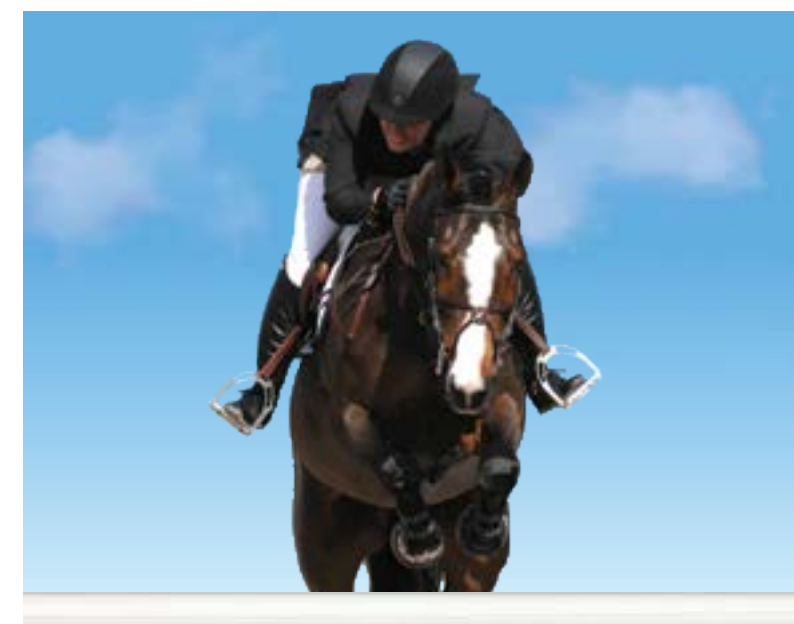
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That's why ESP did its diligence in selecting the best footing products available on the market when reconstructing the DeNemethy Ring, which hosts top show jumping competition week in and week out during the 12-week WEF.

The innovative OT40 concussion/drainage mat system created by ProEquus was one of the products selected for testing and the results were nothing less than impressive.

"We had been evaluating all of the different footing products out there and the ProEquus product tested fabulously," said Michael Stone, President of ESP. "We decided to use it in the DeNemethy ring and it's getting rave reviews. People love it and the riders are really happy."

The product was originally recommended to ESP by Lisa Lourie of Spy Coast Farms. Lourie is a member of Wellington Equestrian Partners as well as title sponsor of WEF's Developing Young Jumper divisions and circuit finals. Having installed the ProEquus system at her Spy Coast Farm locations in Lexington, KY, and Wellington, FL, Lourie's belief in the product convinced ESP to take a closer look. Both riders and horses at this year's WEF are glad that they did!

"The horses jump fantastic off it," confirmed Stone. "The ProEquus matting system underneath the footing itself gives a real spring. When you have a system that allows for a great take-off and a cushioned landing, it's the perfect combination.

"Also, we've had some heavy rains this season and the drainage was excellent; we were ready for competition almost immediately," continued Stone. "We're very happy to be working with such a high-quality product."

Stone also noted that Bill Hawe of iEquiTek and Travis Gould of JTWG who oversaw the engineering and rebuilding of the DeNemethy ring were extremely positive about the matting system. Based on the results and feedback, ESP will once again utilize the ProEquus system when it reconstructs the Mogavero ring for the 2022 show season.

For ProEquus owner Joachim Längle, this high praise is music to his ears.

"We believe strongly in the quality of our product," said Längle, whose Austrian-based company provides matting systems, geotextile footing solutions, and arena-related products for several high-profile European competition arenas and stables. "To know that the management team at WEF shares our belief based on its own positive experience is confirmation that our product is a true leader in the worldwide footing market. We have heard time and time again from our customers that they love the product, and that they also enjoyed significant cost savings by starting with a quality base."

For more information, visit ProEquus.com or contact its exclusive North American dealer, TruTex Footing, at (812) 558-2669, info@trutextfooting.com, or www.trutextfooting.com.



The DeNemethy ring at Palm Beach International Equestrian Center. © Sportfot

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DeNemethy mats installed for 2021 WEF - Mogavero mat installation planned for 2022 WEF

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