

Anna Marek Doubles Down on Pan-Am's Partner Fire Fly



By Alice Collins
for Wellington International

It was a unanimous win for Anna Marek (USA) and Janet Simile's 14-year-old Dutch Warmblood Fire Fly from all five judges in the Grand Prix Special CDI3*, presented by Olympia Footing, during opening week of AGDF.

Marek also topped Thursday's qualifying Grand Prix class on Fire Fly (by Briar Junior x OO Seven), with whom she won a Pan American Games team gold medal in the fall of 2023.

"He was a little more tense than I'm used to in the Freestyle," admitted Marek, who is based near Ocala, FL. "He had a giant spook in the same corner that my other horse Fyvvel did. I thought it was the fern, then I was thinking to myself, maybe they're not afraid of the fern; I'm afraid of the fern. Then we got our flow, and then he was great."

Marek's tactics for keeping the spooky

Continued on page 3

ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL



LINDSAY BROCK
Editor

AGDF Times



EQUESTRIAN VILLAGE

ISSUE 1 • JANUARY 24, 2024

Felicitas Hendricks Shines Bright

By Alice Collins
for Wellington International

The much anticipated first 'Friday Night Stars' evening of musical freestyle competition at the 2024 AGDF ushered in a new generation of talent with the FEI World Cup™ Grand Prix Freestyle, presented by Palm Beach Equine Clinic, being won in a spellbinding performance of power and grace from Germany's 23-year-old Felicitas Hendricks. She rode her own 13-year-old Drombusch OLD (Destano x Dimaggio) to 78.49%, the pair's second highest score to date.

Fresh from her team and individual gold medals at the under-25 European Championships, Hendricks put on a masterfully mature display with Drombusch, her partner of seven years.

"This is huge for me because I did my first senior classes here last year and I never thought that I would be here in this position today," beamed Hendricks, who has been a regular at AGDF since her debut season as a junior in 2015. "I was just happy if we got through the grand prix and now I've won this class — it's unreal."



Their test hit all the high notes, including double pirouettes, changes on a curve and down the centerline, piaffe fans and passage half-pass — carrying a challenging degree of difficulty score of 9.7.

"It felt awesome," enthused Hendricks, who trains with her uncle Christoph Koschel, from whom she bought the horse. "Drombusch was on fire but 100% with me and 100% focused. I think that's kind of rare. Sometimes when horses are so electric they start

looking at stuff and being not 100% concentrated, but he was really trying his heart out.

"I wanted the music to be fun because he's a fun horse, to be around and to ride," added Hendricks, whose groom Lauren McNabb won the Massa Horses-sponsored \$500 Grooms Award. "I bought him when he was six — Christoph told me this was going to be the right horse for me. That's why I know him so very well, and he knows me, so that helps a lot, for sure."

Continued on page 3




usprea.com


USPRE


The National Association of the PRE Horse

USPRE HIGH POINT AWARD
Palm Beach Dressage Derby 2023
Urbano FSR II ridden by David Marcus

NOTHING ELSE COMPARES

When you love the time on your horse, it's got to be **Adequan® i.m.**
(polysulfated glycosaminoglycan)

**Adequan i.m.®**
polysulfated glycosaminoglycan
All trademarks are the property of American Regent, Inc.
© 2023, American Regent, Inc. PP-AI-US-1009

**Scan to see why**

Felicitas Hendricks
continued from page 1

AGDF Director of Sport Thomas Baur said, "Felicitas is a perfect example of what Global can do: she came here in 2015 as a junior, and left as number-one junior in the world after the season. Now she's back here winning grand prix. You cannot compare that to anywhere else in the world, which is what makes it really special here."

Hendricks, whose AGDF career has cued many "firsts" since, including her senior Nations Cup debut – and gold medal for Germany, noted "I'm always happy to be back here."

Of Drombusch's reaction to being in Florida for another season, Hendricks noted, "He got off the trailer yesterday and he knew exactly where he was. He was like 'okay, I don't need to be nervous; I'm home.'"



Anna Marek
continued from page 1


gelding happy include him living out 24/7 at her home farm.

"I call it pampered outdoor living," said the 34-year-old. "But Fire Fly's such a tense horse that as soon as he started living outside with another horse, it completely changed his riding. And he adapts no problem to being in a stall at horse shows. It's been so great for him."

Marek took over the ride in 2021, despite being pregnant, and Fire Fly turned out to be one of the horses she continued to ride until late on. She then picked him up again in December 2021, a month after her daughter was born, and the pair have been on the rise ever since.

"When he first came to me, he would over sit and get scared in the piaffe. I spent a long time never putting the piaffe on the spot and I make sure I never let him feel trapped again. Sometimes he'll still over-sit, but he doesn't panic like he used to. It's taken him time to realize he's never going to get in trouble."

Her goal this year is to be selected to be among the U.S. squad of riders to go to Europe for the summer, somewhere she has never competed before.



Schedule your appointment today!
707.331.5915


OLYMPIA FOOTING LLC

The leader in custom arenas and footing.

DRESSAGE • JUMPING • WESTERN

- Site consulting
- Custom textile and sand blends
- Revamping existing arenas
- Laser grading
- Arion Ebb and Flow System
- OTTO Sport Base Mats

EQUESTRIAN SERVICES | 707.331.5915 | OLYMPIAFOOTING.COM




PALM BEACH EQUINE CLINIC

UNPARALLELED EXCELLENCE IN EQUINE SPORTS MEDICINE



- STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY
- RENOWNED EXPERTISE
- ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY
- COMPASSIONATE CARE



PALM BEACH EQUINE CLINIC

13125 SOUTHFIELDS ROAD
AT PIERSON ROAD, WELLINGTON, FL
561-793-1599 | WWW.EQUINECLINIC.COM

AD DESIGN BY JUMP MEDIA | WWW.JUMPMEDIA.LLC.COM



The Next Move **Is Yours**

Wellington | 14310 Calypso Lane
\$8,000,000 | 5 BR, 6.5 BA | Web# RX-10874281
Maria Mendelsohn: M 561.758.1605

elliman.com

13501 S SOUTH SHORE BOULEVARD, SUITE 102, WELLINGTON, FL 33414, 561.653.6195 © 2024 DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL ESTATE. ALL MATERIAL PRESENTED HEREIN IS INTENDED FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. WHILE THIS INFORMATION IS BELIEVED TO BE CORRECT, IT IS REPRESENTED SUBJECT TO ERRORS, OMISSIONS, CHANGES OR WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT NOTICE. ALL PROPERTY INFORMATION, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO SQUARE FOOTAGE, ROOM COUNT, NUMBER OF BEDROOMS AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN PROPERTY LISTINGS SHOULD BE VERIFIED BY YOUR OWN ATTORNEY, ARCHITECT OR ZONING EXPERT. EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

@adequanglobaldressagefest

@globaldressagefestival

Follow Us & Share Your Experience

2024
AGDF 3
SPONSOR
AWARD

Kevin Kohmann aboard Dünensee was chosen by his peers to receive The People's Choice Award for exemplary horsemanship, sportsmanship and performance.

The Award is sponsored by Illustrated Properties and was presented by Giovana Florentino.

Equestrian Village Vendors

Aviar Saddles
CU at X
Odette Boutique
Richard Taylor Videographer
Ringside MDs
Romitelli Riding Boots
Saddle Fit by Diane

Show Chic Dressage
Sport Innovations
Susan J. Stickle Photography
The Horse of Course
Unicorn Exceptionnel
Vanner House
Westhill & Son Saddlery

4

AGDF 3

JANUARY 23–28, 2024

JANUARY 23–28, 2024

AGDF 3

5

Dressage Riders To Watch



FREDERIC WANDRES

Frederic Wandres made a splash on the North American dressage scene in 2023 during his first winter season in Wellington. He walked away with six consecutive CDI victories and went on to bring home a team silver medal for Germany at the 2023 European Dressage Championships in Riesenbeck, Germany. Frederic and Bluetooth OLD ended their debut year at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival with a tour-high score and victory in the CDI5* Grand Prix Freestyle during the

penultimate week of the season. He's hoping to pick up where he left off in 2024 and is back in top form once again. The 36-year-old starts the season ranked within the top 10 in the world on the FEI Dressage Rankings. Born into a family with no connection to horses, Frederic got his start on the lunge line just like every other pony crazy kid. His fate was easily sealed on the back of a horse, and he began his training at the Kasselmarm farm in Hagen. As he rose to the top level, he collected accolades that include a 6-year-old World Championship, a victory in the Hamburg Dressage Derby on Westminster and a team bronze medal at the FEI World Championships in Herning 2022 riding Duke of Britain. Most recently, Frederic and Bluetooth OLD claimed the second leg of the FEI Dressage World Cup Western European League in the World Cup™ Grand Prix in Lyon, France, this fall on a personal best of 83.415%. Frederic and his string of horses led by Bluetooth OLD will return to the AGDF stadium and is a solid bet during Friday Night Stars.

CHRISTIAN SIMONSON

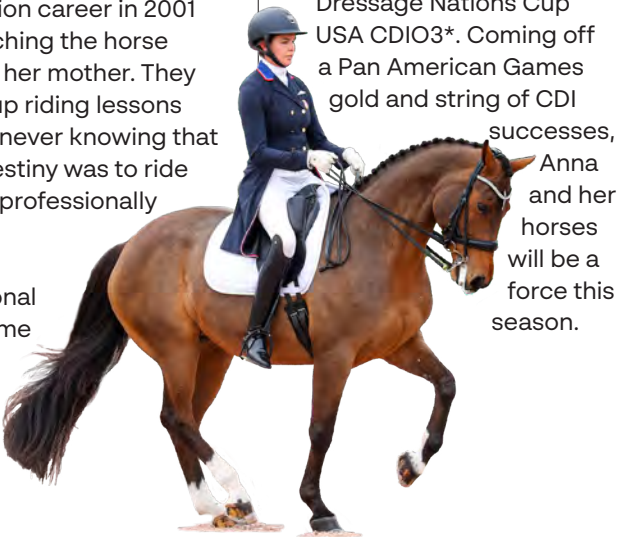
Christian Simonson began competing at the FEI level in



2016 and launched a successful youth career. Hailing from California, Christian has climbed the ranks from within the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival stadium with no sign of slowing in 2024. Christian started riding at the age of six and competing at national dressage shows at 13. He is an avid mountain biker, scuba diver and has his student's pilot license, but horses have become his main passion. Highlighting his FEI North American Youth Championships appearances, Christian earned junior team gold and individual

ANNA MAREK

U.S. dressage rider Anna Marek is coming off a high of a season after she helped Team USA bring home gold at the 2023 Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile, this fall riding Fire Fly. The 34-year-old Florida native has pocketed many firsts at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival. Arguably the most notable was her Nations Cup debut with Dee Clair in 2020 that helped The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team secure gold at the Stillpoint Farm FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ USA. Anna is a 5 star USDF gold medalist and started her competition career in 2001 after catching the horse bug from her mother. They took group riding lessons together never knowing that Anna's destiny was to ride and train professionally one day. Anna's international debut came as she made



her way through the North American Young Rider program. During that time, she was a working student for two-time Olympian Belinda Nairn and attracted generous sponsor Renee Isler. Together with a string of impressive horsepower, Anna has won multiple championships in USDF Region 3 every year since 2013. In 2016, she eclipsed the top 20 in the U.S. national rankings. In 2023, Anna and her developing partner Duvel were selected as members of The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team that earned silver in FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ USA CDIO3*. Coming off a Pan American Games gold and string of CDI successes, Anna and her horses will be a force this season.

FIONA HOWARD Para-Dressage

Fiona Howard is a member of the U.S. Para-Dressage Team and an all-around horsewoman. Her riding career began in Great Britain where she was born and raised with her American mother and British father. She started her love affair with horse sport when she got her first pony at three years of age. Her Pony Club career led to stints in the worlds of show jumping, eventing and polo, but her initial interest was drawn to reining thanks to a family friend's stable of reining horses. Fiona was 14 when she



earned a bronze medal at the 2013 FEI European Reining Championships for Juniors and Young Riders. She rode in the 2014 and 2015 National Reining

Horse Association European Affiliate Championships and competed again as a junior in the FEI European Reining Championships in 2016. Fiona immigrated to the U.S. in 2016 and rode in her first Para Dressage tests in 2021. She lives and rides with a condition called dystonia, which is a neuromuscular disease that causes Fiona's muscles to involuntarily contract and twist. Fiona began showing symptoms at 11 years old and as she grew older, she lost more ability to walk and move independently. Now coached by Paralympian and 2022 FEI Para Dressage World Championship

medalist Kate Shoemaker, Fiona was inspired by the Adequan® U.S. Para Dressage Team while coping with her illness. She likes to say that horses allow her to borrow the legs she doesn't have. Together with her partner Jagger, Fiona earned second-place finishes in the Grade II test at the 2023 Adequan® Global Dressage Festival CPED13* and has her sights set on representing her country once again, first in Wellington and ultimately at Paris 2024. When not riding, Fiona works remotely as a research assistant at Boston Children's Hospital where she was treated as a child.

KEVIN KOHMANN

A German-born American, Kevin Kohmann grew up as a pony kid in Germany and won a pony regional championship in 2002. Kevin, 35, came to the U.S. to work under several trainers and develop horses, and ultimately joined Diamante Farms in 2014 to call Wellington home. Kevin made his CDI Grand Prix debut on Dinamico and then briefly competed Mr. Bumblebee and Inshallah on the large tour at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival. The 2023 season at AGDF

was a breakout one for Kevin as he took over the ride on Terri Kane's Duenensee. They finished fourth in the CDI3* Grand Prix and third in the CDI3* Grand Prix Special during Week 11 of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival. Kohmann and Duenensee were then second in the CDI3* Grand Prix and CDI3* Freestyle in Ocala. While Kevin balances his time training students and developing horses at Diamante Farms, he is one to watch yet again in the AGDF Stadium.



PABLO GÓMEZ MOLINA

Spain's Pablo Gómez Molina, 29, claimed his first Grand Prix win during Week 7 of the 2023 Adequan® Global Dressage Festival. The victory came aboard Ulises De Ymas, a gelding Pablo has brought along for the past eight years. Pablo started riding at a summer camp in Valencia, and he chased that dream to Wellington a decade ago. With his parents' support, he started in the pony club ranks before landing a working student position with his sponsors Cristina Danguillecourt and Javier Bacariza, owners of Yeguada De Ymas, a dressage breeding operation with bases in both Spain and Wellington. Pablo has collected two top-ten finishes at the FEI Dressage European Championships for Young Riders before breaking into



the big ring. In only his second year competing in CDIs last year, Pablo swept the CDI3* Grand Prix Special and the Freestyle the same week under the lights of the Week 10 Friday Night Stars. The 2024 season marks Pablo's third year in the CDI ranks and he's hungry for more wins.

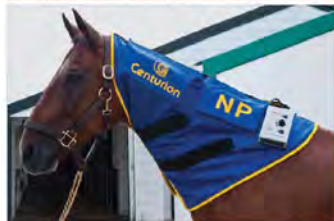
CENTURION PEMF THERAPY

We have you covered for anything that might happen to your horse.



THERAPULSE

- BACKS
- STIFLES
- SHOULDERS



NECK PIECE

- STIFFNESS
- INFLAMATION



MINIPULSE

- KNEES
- FETLOCKS
- HOCKS

Best of all...why not try something on a short term **3 month rental**. The pulsating magnetic field will really help to speed up the healing process.

RENT ME-1(800) 387-8326



www.centurionsystems.com

Best Turned Out



*Congratulations to
Heather Boo & Bretton's Love
winners of the AGDF 1 Best Turned Out Award
and*



Lehua Custer & Brasco
winners during AGDF 3



*Additionally, congratulations to
Sydney Collier
on a Best Turned Out Award in the CPEDI ranks.*

GRACIOUSLY SPONSORED BY



AND CAROL COHEN HODESS

*If you're a CDI riding jogging at AGDF, don't forget
to dress to impress each week for a chance
to win during each week's horse inspection.*

Where Fashion Meets Fun!

DILLARD'S | MACY'S | TOMMY BAHAMA | APPLE | PANDORA
CMX CINEMAS | LEMONGRASS | EYES OF WELLINGTON

THE MALL AT
WELLINGTON GREEN
SHOPWELLINGTONGREEN.COM



FOLLOW US
f i t

ILLUSTRATED PROPERTIES EQUESTRIAN



SALLY HAAS COLBERT
203.984.2441



ANN COOK
561.301.4626



ROBERTA FEINBERG
561.723.9976



RODOLFO MAYA
954.588.8882



CATHEEN ROGALNY
561.719.3585



TRAE MEDER
434.489.1149



SUZIE REED
561.762.7877



MARLEY OVERMAN
772.216.5940



GIOVANA FIORENTINO
561.635.5737



JIM CORBIN
561.315.6503



LINDSAY STRAFUSS
901.568.3495

EQUESTRIAN.IPRE.COM

11924 Forest Hill Blvd, Ste. 18 | Wellington, FL 33414



**WONDERING IF YOUR CHILD
IS ALLERGIC TO PETS?**
Ask one of our Pediatric Allergists.

SERVICES & TREATMENTS

Asthma Management • Drug Allergy Testing • Ear Lavage
Food Allergy Testing • Immunotherapy (Allergy Shots)
Insect Allergy Testing • Oral Immunotherapy (SLIT)
Patch Allergy Testing for Contact Dermatitis • Penicillin Testing
Pulmonary Function Test (PFT) • Skin Allergy Testing • Xolair

BOCA RATON
PH.561.392.8832

PALM BEACH GARDENS
PH.561-227-1456

WELLINGTON
PH.561-227-0630

www.florida-allergy.com f t i



RODOLFO MAYA
954.588.8882



2488 Appaloosa Trail | Saddle Trail | Wellington - \$7,800,000

8 BR | 8.5 BA | 10,515 SqFt | 12 Stalls | Nestled on 3.2 acres in the Saddle Trail community, this property seamlessly combines luxury living with top-tier equestrian facilities. Boasting a fully updated 6-bedroom primary residence, a 12-stall center aisle barn, and a 200' x 120' all-weather riding arena. Located just 0.5 miles from Wellington International, this property is a haven for horse enthusiasts.

LUXURY
PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL

Forbes
GLOBAL PROPERTIES

LÖVSTA FUTURE CHALLENGE

Supports Young Talented Horses in Dressage and Jumping

Lövsta Future Challenge is proud to continue their series in the United States, supporting young horses to reach their full potential, in both dressage and jumping.



Bianca Berkold with her Imperial, winner of Lövsta Future Challenge US Dressage 2023.

“What started off as a national tour in dressage for U25 riders and young Grand Prix horses has now become one of the world’s leading efforts in supporting young talents. Our tours are spreading all over the world and this is now our fifth year in the USA. We brought Lövsta Future Challenge to Wellington, because Wellington has offered us, for over 10 years now, the most wonderful place to come and train and compete and is generous and hospitable. So, we said we wanted to give something back,” says Antonia Ax:son Johnson, owner Lövsta Stuteri and founder of Lövsta Future Challenge.

Lövsta Future Challenge was established in 2011 by

Tinne Vilhelmson Silfven and Louise Nathhorst with the support of Antonia Ax:son Johnson through Lövsta Stuteri. The project’s stated mission: to help bring Sweden to the forefront of equestrian sport and become a role model for other aspiring equestrian nations.

A decade has passed since then and Lövsta Future Challenge now includes national tours in Sweden for U25 riders and young horses in jumping and dressage, young horse tours at WEF and GDF, as well as international pop-up shows in both dressage and jumping.

On the jumping side, we host an international U25 competition during Global Champions Tour in Stockholm. For the dressage, we have

created an international U25 tour together with World Cup Herning, Jumping Amsterdam and Gothenburg Horse Show. The goal is to create opportunities for the stars of tomorrow to compete in the most prestigious international arenas in Europe.

Lövsta Future Challenge Dressage — this year without entry fees

Lövsta Future Challenge Dressage – USA, the tour for young Grand Prix-horses is about to enter its fifth year. The tour hosts five qualifiers in Wellington, with first placed riders receiving a spot in the Finale during week 12. The qualifiers are ridden in Intermediate II, and the final is ridden in the Grand Prix for young horses. The total

amount of prize money for the dressage tour is \$15,000. New for this year is that Lövsta Future Challenge, together with the Global Dressage Festival, has removed the entry fees from the qualifiers, making yet another effort to support the team around the participants.

WEF 2024 continues Lövsta Future Challenge Jumping Series

Lövsta Future Challenge Jumping is a development tour for seven-year-old horses with a vision to provide the best possible conditions for future stars in jumping. The tour will host seven qualifiers throughout the Winter Equestrian Festival circuit. At the end of the circuit, the qualified horses will compete in a prestigious final in the Wellington International Arena, with the total prize money of \$25,000 being offered.

“We were thrilled about the outcome of last year’s season. With over 200 entries, from



Charlotte Jacobs and Pablo P, winners of the 2023 Lövsta Future Challenge US Jumping season, flanked by Antonia Ax:son Johnson (far left), owner Lövsta Stuteri and founder Lövsta Future Challenge, and Tinne Vilhelmson Silfvén, founder Lövsta Future Challenge Dressage.

more than 15 nationalities, one could see how important it is to put our future stars into the spotlight. By giving them the opportunity to compete in an arena like Wellington International, we hope to give them valuable experience for the future,” says Sophie Mörner, founder of Lövsta Future Challenge Jumping

US and fifth generation of the owner family.

From the beginning, Lövsta Future Challenge has focused on other aspects of competition development, including sustainability and more profound respect for horses through our philosophy of horsemanship. We share our beliefs and

commitment in various forums in which we invite riders and their trainers from both dressage and jumping to participate in and learn.

Lövsta Future Challenge is about seeking knowledge and striving for perfection, embracing the joy of the partnership between the horse and rider, and leaving a sustainable footprint within equestrian sport.

Since the inception of Lövsta Future Challenge US, a donation of \$100 per entry has been made to a charitable organization.

For the 2024 season, Lövsta Future Challenge continues their support to Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center.

Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center has been serving people with physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities of all ages in Palm Beach County since 1982. Today, six programs are offered providing the benefits of equine-assisted activities and therapies.

MASSA
HORSES

Photo : © Elise Gerest

DRESSAGE HORSES
Breeding, Training & Sales

One of the best breeders in the world*

massahorses.com

* For Dressage Horses.

Looking Forward
TO A FANTASTIC SEASON

DONATO FARMS

Home of Tubman Dressage

Wellington, Florida
donatofarmsllc.com

Join us FOR THE 15TH ANNUAL
GREAT CHARITY CHALLENGE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2024 at **WELLINGTON INTERNATIONAL**

1 NIGHT

1 COMMUNITY

\$2 MILLION TO NON-PROFITS

WWW.GREATCHARITYCHALLENGE.COM



Loxahatchee | 3280 Hanover Circle | \$6,640,000 | 6 BR, 4 BA, 2 HALF BA | Web# **RX-10948467** | Maria Mendelsohn: M 561.758.1605

elliman.com

13501 S SOUTH SHORE BOULEVARD, SUITE 102, WELLINGTON, FL 33414. 561.653.6195 © 2024 DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL ESTATE. ALL MATERIAL PRESENTED HEREIN IS INTENDED FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY WHILE, THIS INFORMATION IS BELIEVED TO BE CORRECT, IT IS REPRESENTED SUBJECT TO ERRORS, OMISSIONS, CHANGES OR WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT NOTICE. ALL PROPERTY INFORMATION, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO SQUARE FOOTAGE, ROOM COUNT, NUMBER OF BEDROOMS AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN PROPERTY LISTINGS SHOULD BE VERIFIED BY YOUR OWN ATTORNEY, ARCHITECT OR ZONING EXPERT. EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY.



HUNGRY?

Places to eat at Equestrian Village

Tony's Fast Food



Spectator Judging®

Adequan® Global Dressage Festival



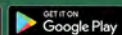
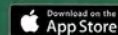
Judge along with the Spectator Judging® App

Join in during Friday Night Stars - Grand Prix Freestyle

presented by



Download for free now!



Printed on recycled paper

