

ADEQUAN GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL

AGDF TIMES

WEEK 1 • JANUARY 6, 2025

HERE'S TO AGDF 2025

A WORD FROM
WELLINGTON INTERNATIONAL CEO
MURRAY KESSLER



2025 ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL

A Warm Welcome from Wellington International CEO Murray Kessler



To Our Valued Equestrian Community,

We are thrilled to welcome our athletes and their teams, partners, sponsors and visitors back to Wellington International's Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF). For those of you who are new, we are excited to share this season with you. For those of you who are returning, thank you for your unwavering support! Your dedication fuels the passion that has made the AGDF a truly unique and world-class experience.

We have loved watching our athletes and their incredible support teams compete across the globe throughout the summer, especially witnessing their remarkable performances at the Paris 2024 Olympics. While you've been away, a lot of good things have happened. Most notably, we've gone through a transition of ownership, opening a new era in this great horse show's history which is only just beginning.

Before I share some of our very early progress, I want to share with you how deeply honored I am to have been given the opportunity to be WI's new CEO and how humbled I am by the outpouring of support so many of you have already expressed to me. For those of you who don't know me, I come to this position with over 50 years' experience in equine sports, highlighted by my role as President of the U.S. Equestrian Federation and over 40 years in the corporate world including the CEO position in three Fortune 500 companies. As I lead the incredible management team that was already in place, my priority going forward is clear:

To Keep Wellington International the Premier Horse Sports Destination in the World for Generations to Come!

To that end, we are embarking on a multi-year journey where we will be investing to upgrade the existing facilities, building out new state-of-the-art facilities on newly acquired adjacent land that will approximately double the size of our showgrounds, and we will be bringing you many new programs and services designed to deliver you an unparalleled experience. Let me assure you that while we go through this journey, horse and rider safety will always come first.

While we are only just beginning, significant progress has already been made on the new grounds in preparation for transition over the next few years. The process is fluid and will have input from various disciplines. For Dressage, Elizabeth Juliano and Ali Brock have joined my advisory council to represent your interests as we navigate the complexities of the transition. In the meantime, we are focused on making your experience at the current facility a superior one. This season, we've introduced several exciting improvements. The Van Kampen Indoor Arena now features upgraded footing, ensuring optimal performance conditions. We've also added an additional FEI World Cup qualifier and US Equestrian Open Dressage qualifiers to our lineup. Highlights include a Dressage Masterclass with 2024 Paris Olympics Gold Medalist Frederic Wandres, sponsored by Hof Kasselmann. Additionally, Friday Night Lights will deliver an enhanced experience with video replays and a variety of technical upgrades.

I'd like to thank the hard work of our Wellington International team, as well as the invaluable support of our sponsors. Their contributions are woven into every aspect of the festival, and we are proud to partner with them in bringing this season to life.

As we embark on this season of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival and expansion phase over the next few years, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to you for being part of the Wellington International family. Your passion and commitment are the driving forces behind everything we do.

Warm regards,

Murray Kessler
CEO, Wellington International

Adequan® Global Dressage Festival to Host Seven US Equestrian Open of Dressage Qualifiers

Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) will host seven qualifiers for the inaugural US Equestrian Open of Dressage during the 2025 season.

Highlights to the schedule not only include qualifiers for the US Equestrian Open of Dressage, but also feature a CDI5* during AGDF 10 and four FEI World Cup™ Final qualifiers slated for AGDF 1, 3, 5 and 8. Additionally, AGDF will host two CPEDI3* para-dressage events during AGDF 3 (January 22-26) and 9 (March 6-9).

"Adequan® Global Dressage Festival is proud to be a part of the US Equestrian Open of Dressage and contribute to the growth of the sport of dressage in the U.S.," said Thomas Baur, Director of Sport for AGDF. "Anticipation is building for the 2025 AGDF, and our team is excited to see dressage continue to shine in Wellington through elite competition, thrilling Friday Night Stars action and development opportunities for both horse and rider that further strengthen the future of dressage in North America."

2025 US Equestrian Open of Dressage Qualifiers at AGDF*

AGDF 1 CDI-W: Jan. 8-12

Palm Beach Dressage Derby (AGDF 8)

AGDF 3 CDI4*: Jan. 22-26

CDI-W Feb. 26 - March 2

AGDF 5 CDI-W: Feb. 5-9

AGDF 10 CDI5*: March 11-16

AGDF 7 CDIO3* & CDI3*: Feb. 19-23

AGDF 12 CDI4*: March 26-30

*All FEI registered athletes (U.S. and foreign) and horses are invited to participate in the Series and the Final.

The series will offer \$200,000 in prize money, which will be distributed at the US Equestrian Open of Dressage Final in 2025 held in Thermal, California, November 13-16. An additional \$50,000 series incentive will also be awarded for high-point athletes.

"This is a great opportunity to showcase top dressage sport from coast to coast of the United States," said Laura Roberts, Managing Director of Dressage at US Equestrian. "The US Equestrian Open of Dressage Series gives the athletes a platform to showcase their talents and compete with their peers across the country. With unprecedented prize money on the line, we look forward to witnessing exceptional performances and crowning the inaugural US Equestrian Open of Dressage champion."

To learn more about the US Equestrian Open of Dressage, visit usequestrianopen.org.

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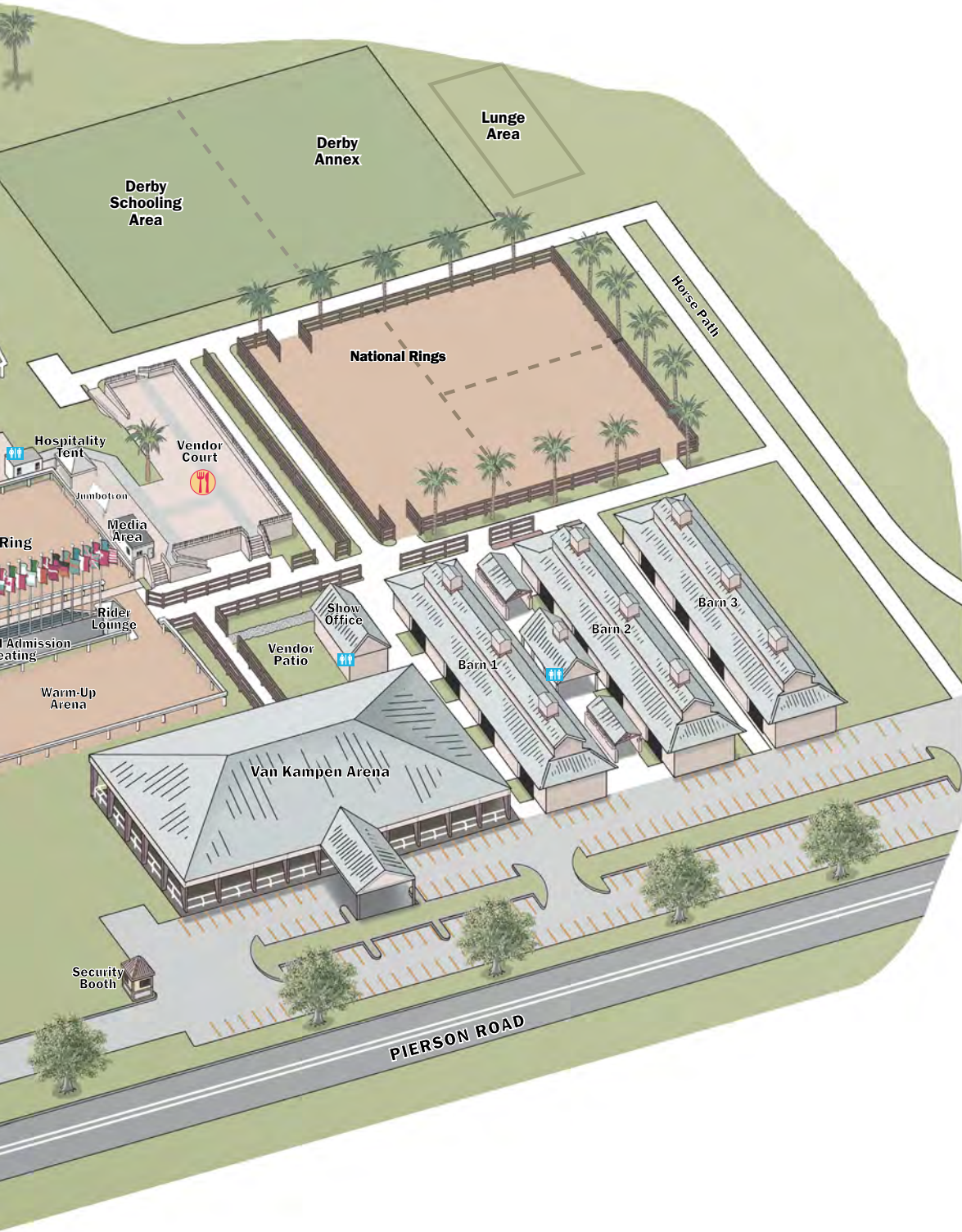


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HOF KASSELMANN TO PRESENT Frederic Wandres Masterclass at Adequan® Global Dressage Festival

NOW ACCEPTING RIDER APPLICATIONS



The Adequan® Global Dressage Festival is proud to host a Masterclass with German Olympic team gold medalist Frederic Wandres on March 12, generously presented by Hof Kasselmann. Applications for participating horse and rider combinations are now being accepted.

The Frederic Wandres Masterclass will take place in the International Stadium at Equestrian Village—home of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival—on the evening of Wednesday, March 12.

Five horse and rider combinations will be accepted to participate in the Masterclass.

Applications and video submissions are available at GlobalDressageFestival.com and must be completed by January 31.

Frederic Wandres—born in Kehl, Germany—broke onto the international

dressage scene in 2016 and competed at several World Championships for Young Dressage Horses in which he won a gold medal in 2019. He was tapped by the German team for the 2022 FEI World Championships in Herning, where he won a bronze team medal. His Olympic roster began with a longlist selection for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. At the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, he won team gold for Germany and finished 13th individually.

Wandres started as a student rider at Hof Kasselmann in 2007 before later becoming their stable rider and launching his decorated career at the top level of the sport. He has spent the last two seasons competing at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival where he collected several CDI victories, including back-to-back CDI5* Grand Prix wins with his Olympic mount Bluetooth OLD.

Auditor information and spectator experience opportunities will be released in early February.

LÖVSTA FUTURE CHALLENGE

Continuing to Support Up-and-Coming 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.

“What began as a national tour in dressage for U25 riders and young Grand Prix horses has grown into one of the world’s leading initiatives to nurture the next generation of equestrian talent,” says Antonia Ax:son Johnson, owner of Lövsta Stuteri and founder of Lövsta Future Challenge.

“We’re delighted to support the sport here in Wellington and to expand our commitment to the most essential part of our sport—the grooms. These dedicated caretakers are the ones who look after the most valuable part of our sport, our wonderful horses.”

This season, Lövsta Future Challenge is introducing a \$3,000 Groom’s Award for each discipline, given to the grooms of the top three placed combinations in each final.

From Sweden to the rest of the world, the journey of Lövsta Future Challenge

Founded in 2011 by Swedish dressage icons Tinne Vilhelmson Silfvén and Louise Nathhorst, with the support of Antonia Ax:son Johnson, Lövsta Future Challenge was created to advance Sweden’s standing in the equestrian world while serving as a model of sustainable competition. Over a decade later, this vision has grown internationally. Lövsta Future Challenge now includes national tours in Sweden for U25 riders and young horses in dressage and jumping, along with international events around Europe.

In show jumping, the U25 competition during the Global Champions Tour in Stockholm is an annual highlight, while in dressage, Lövsta Future Challenge hosts



an international U25 series in partnership with World Cup Herning, Jumping Amsterdam, and Gothenburg Horse Show. By providing these young athletes with a stage at iconic venues, the program aims to prepare future stars for the world’s elite competitions.

Lövsta Future Challenge Dressage in Wellington

The Lövsta Future Challenge Dressage – USA is about to enter its sixth season, offering a tour for young Grand Prix horses (from 8-11yo) with five qualifiers in Wellington. The top two riders from each qualifier will secure one of the highly sought after spots in the finale during week 12. The qualifiers will be held in Intermediate II and the final in Grand Prix for Young Horses. With \$15,000 in total prize money and no entry fees, Lövsta continues to support the riders and teams around them.

Jumping into 2025: Lövsta Future Challenge vision for future show jumping stars

The Lövsta Future Challenge Jumping tour provides seven-year-old horses the chance to gain invaluable experience in a competitive environment. This upcoming season, the tour will host seven qualifiers throughout the Winter Equestrian Festival circuit, culminating in a grand finale at Wellington International with \$25,000 in prize money.

Reflecting on last year’s season, Sophie Mörner, founder of Lövsta Future Challenge Jumping US, says, “We were thrilled about the outcome of last year’s season. With over 200 entries from more than 15 nationalities, we saw how crucial it is to put future stars into the spotlight. By giving them the opportunity to compete at Wellington International, we hope to equip them with the experience they need for a successful future.”

Honoring Horsemanship and Giving Back to the Community

Beyond competitive success, Lövsta Future Challenge remains deeply committed to sustainability, horsemanship, and community. One example of this commitment is the ongoing collaboration with Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center, a facility that among other things provides equine-assisted therapy for people with disabilities. For the 2025 season, Lövsta Future Challenge will donate \$100 for each participant in its U.S. events to Vinceremos, helping to support its life-changing programs for people of all ages.

“It’s equally important for us to look beyond the arena to places where these incredible animals bring joy, healing, and hope in ways that far surpass medals or trophies,” Johnson concludes.



Celebrating Global Music



16TH ANNUAL GREAT CHARITY CHALLENGE

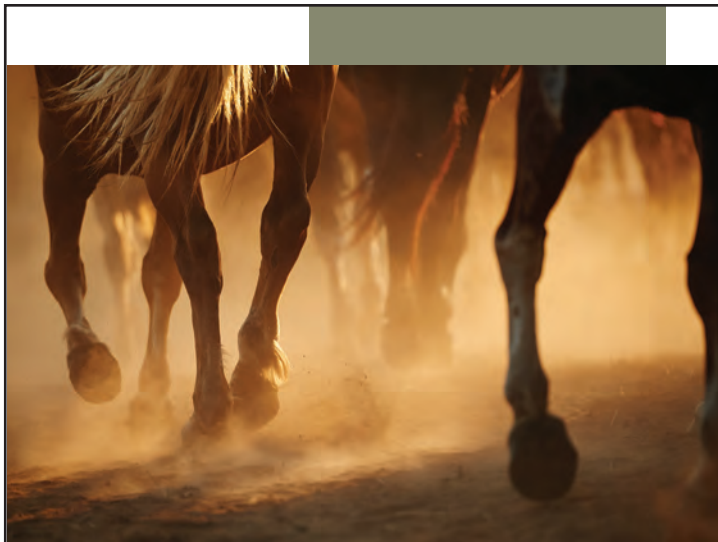
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