

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Hunter Champions Crowned at 2024 Hampton Classic Horse Show**

Bridgehampton, NY – August 28, 2024 – As gorgeous hunters continued to shine in their beautifully manicured rings at the 49<sup>th</sup> annual Hampton Classic Horse Show, more champions were crowned on Wednesday following the conclusion of multiple divisions. Among them were Grand Macrae Skye Short Stirrup Champion Game Plan and Grand Children's Hunter Champion Bellefour's Steel Fox.

The Hampton Classic, August 25-September 1, is one of the world's most prestigious horse shows, featuring competitors from young children in leadline to Olympic, World, and World Cup Champions. Rated USEF Premier-6 with designated FEI 5\* and 2\* show jumping classes, the Classic also has competitions for riders with disabilities.

Piloted by Penelope Zaccone of Katonah, NY, Carrie Hutton's 19-year-old gelding *Game Plan* brought home several awards including the Macrae Skye Short Stirrup 10 & Under Section C Championship, Grand Macrae Skye Short Stirrup Championship and the Conway Cabbage Award sponsored by Denise Maynard.



Penelope Zaccone and Game Plan won the Grand Macrae Skye Short Stirrup Championship © KindMedia

Securing the Children's Hunter Small/Medium Pony Hunter Championship, Grand Children's Hunter Championship and the Virginia Hunt Trophy sponsored by the Hampton Classic was Sally Wiley's 9-year-old Welsh Pony Cross gelding *Bellefour's Steel Fox*, with Isabella Halem of New York, NY, in the irons.



Isabella Halem and Bellefour's Steel Fox won the Grand Children's Hunter Championship © KindMedia

Some familiar faces to the winner's circle at the Hampton Classic were Nick Haness of Temecula, CA, and Scott Stewart of Wellington, FL. Haness earned the **High Performance Conformation 3'9" Hunter Championship presented by Betsy L. Battle** riding *Jenkins*, John & Stephanie Ingram LLC's 8-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding, and the **Combined Green 3'6"/3'9" Hunter Championship presented by the Muriel Siebert Foundation** riding another John & Stephanie Ingram LLC entry, the 8-year-old Selle Français gelding *Golden Road*.



Nick Haness and Jenkins won the High Performance Conformation 3'9" Hunter Championship presented by Betsy L. Battle © KindMedia

Stewart piloted Dr. Betsee Parker's 12-year-old Holsteiner gelding *Styles* to the **Green Conformation** 3'6" Hunter Championship presented by the Sobel and Sudler families and Sophie Gochman's 10-year-old Hanoverian gelding *Colter* to the **Performance 3'6" Hunter Championship presented by Blue Star Equestrian**.

"The horses were great today," Stewart said. "The courses in the rings today rode well, especially the Performance 3'6" Hunter, and the footing has been great this year. This was also the first year I've had the chance to ride in Hunter Ring 3 and it was beautifully decorated."



Scott Stewart and Colter won the Performance 3'6" Hunter Championship presented by Blue Star Equestrian © KindMedia

Other champions included two leading horses in the **Ollywear Performance 3'3" Hunter** division, which saw a California split. Geoffrey Hesslink of Wellington, FL, and Andesite Equestrian's 12-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding *Paisley Park* walked away with the tri-color for Section A, while Haness and Glenda Monkarsh of Las Vegas, NY, shared her 7-year-old Hungarian Sport Horse gelding *Hush Money* for the championship for Section B.





Geoffrey Hesslink and Paisley Park (left) and Nick Haness, Glenda Monkarsh and Hush Money (right) won the Ollywear Performance 3'3" Hunter championships for their respective sections © KindMedia

For live show results, visit <u>HamptonClassic.com</u>. Photos from the event are <u>available via Dropbox</u> with credits to KindMedia (unless otherwise noted in the folder name).

Each year approximately 50,000 people – including many A-list celebrities – come to watch the nation's best equestrian athletes compete at the Hampton Classic. Rated **USEF 'Premier-6'** for hunters and jumpers with designated **FEI 2\* and 5\*** classes, the Hampton Classic features more than 200 competitions in six spectacular show rings, the Agneta Currey Boutique Garden with more than 70 vendors, and a wide selection of dining options, all on its world-class 60-acre showgrounds.

FEI competition begins Thursday, August 29, with the \$10,000 Citarella Open Jumper CSI2\* and \$32,000 CSI5\* Speed Stake and continues throughout the weekend with eight 2\*/5\* classes featuring courses designed by Nick Granat. FEI competition also includes Friday's \$32,000 Wölffer Estate 2\* Jumper Classic and \$70,000 Douglas Elliman 5\* Grand Prix Qualifier, Saturday's \$32,000 Open Speed Class CSI2\* and \$70,000 CSI5\* Winning Round. The Classic culminates with the \$75,000 Hampton Classic 2\* Grand Prix and the \$400,000 Longines Hampton Classic 5\* Grand Prix on Sunday, September 1.

Other competition highlights include the \$30,000 Open Jumper Challenge, \$10,000 Stomp Capital 1.40m Open Jumper, \$10,000 Lugano Diamonds Junior/Amateur Welcome Stake, \$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship, \$10,000 Junior/Amateur-Owner Hunter Classic, \$25,000 Agneta & Brownlee Currey High Junior/Amateur Jumper Classic, and the new \$50,000 Kristen Baran Hunt Team Stake.

Outside the show rings, families can enjoy unique shopping; hands-on activities, pony rides and petting zoo animals at the Kids Exhibition Tent; and many more fun activities during News 12 Long Island Kids Day (Saturday, August 31).

Daily admission to the Classic is \$20 per carload. Admission is free on Monday. Seniors and military are admitted free on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, as are those who bring three or more non-perishable food items for the Sag Harbor Food Pantry. Grandstand tickets for the Longines Hampton Classic Grand Prix on Sunday, September 1, are \$60 per person (including fees) for reserved bucket seating. Grandstand tickets are electronic only.

For those who can't make it to the show grounds, <u>complimentary live webcasts</u> of all Grand Prix and Aspinall Ring competitions air on the Hampton Classic website. Produced by ClipMyHorse.TV, the Grand Prix Ring livestreams are sponsored by Longines and the Aspinall Ring livestreams are sponsored by <u>ClipMyHorse.TV</u>. In addition, WVVH-TV, Hamptons Television, broadcasts up to five hours of competition and highlights each day during the Classic. These broadcasts can also be seen online at www.wvvh.tv.

For more information on the Hampton Classic Horse Show, please visit the Hampton Classic website at <a href="https://www.hamptonclassic.com">www.hamptonclassic.com</a> or call 631-537-3177. Hampton Classic Horse Show, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation.