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Rowan Tops the Leaderboard in \$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship at 50th Annual Hampton Classic Horse Show

Hunters Begin to Wrap Up with Junior and Amateur-Owner Divisions

Bridgehampton, NY – August 30, 2025 – The Hampton Classic Grand Prix Arena opened its gates to 22 talented equitation riders for Saturday morning's \$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship, which featured two Nick Granat-designed courses set at 1.10-1.20m. After both rounds and additional testing between the top two riders, Baylee Rowan of Little Compton, RI, emerged victorious with 181 total points aboard Watermelon.

Celebrating 50 years of world-class equestrian competition in 2025, the **Hampton Classic Horse Show** takes place in Bridgehampton, NY, **August 24-31**, featuring FEI CSI5* and CSI2* show jumping and USEF Premier hunter competitions with more than \$1 million in prize money. The highlight of the week is the \$400,000 Longines Hampton Classic 5* Grand Prix, one of the world's premier show jumping competitions, on Sunday, August 31.



Baylee Rowan and Watermelon won the \$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship © KindMedia

Saturday's \$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship challenged each entry to a technical 15-effort course for the initial round, followed by an equally winding 13-effort course for the top 10 finishers returning in the second round. Although Rowan and North Run's 9-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding led the whole way under the guidance of trainers John Brennan and Missy Clark, the judges' panel asked for additional testing to determine final standings between her and second-place finisher Madison Ramsey (Palm Harbor, FL).

A student of Frank Madden and Capital Hill Show Stables, Ramsey had been fourth after the initial round, only to close the gap between her and Rowan with her skillful execution of the second round aboard *Mac One III*. At the end of the work-off, Rowan maintained her lead to win by just one point (181 total points), while Ramsey and Taylor Madden's 16-year-old Anglo-European gelding claimed second with 180 points.



Rowan and Watermelon © KindMedia

"It's so amazing," Rowan said. "Just being here at such a prestigious and historical horse show is so special on its own, but to actually win here makes it even better. I had a lot of practice with my team, and I know my horse well. He's been so perfect to me, so I was very confident each time we went into the ring."

The rest of the top five were just as close in their final standings. Third went to Adriana Forte of Water Mill, NY, who earned 178.5 points with Heritage Farm Inc.'s chestnut Warmblood *Candescent* under the direction of trainer Andre Dignelli. JJ Torano of Wellington, FL, a barn mate of Rowan's at North Run, finished fourth with 178 points aboard The Northjet Group's 13-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding *Favorite Edition Z*. Guided by trainer Kim Davidson, Brooke Hagerty of Terrebonne, OR, took

fifth with 176 points aboard *The Original*, an 11-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding owned by The Hagerty Family.



L: Madison Ramsey and Mac One III took second place. R: Adriana Forte and Candescent finished third. © KindMedia

Several more champions were crowned on Friday and Saturday in the hunter rings, including **Grand Pony Hunter Champion** *Foxmor Secret Powers*, owned by Grace Green and ridden by Finley Baras of Bedford Corners, NY, to multiple top placings in the **Medium Pony Hunter** division.



Finley Baras and Foxmor Secret Powers won the Grand Pony Hunter Championship © KindMedia

Stephanie Danhakl of Haverford, PA, had quite the showing in the **Human Touch Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'3" 36+** division, earning Champion and Reserve Champion with her *Cadet* and *Quest*, respectively. Her performances with *Cadet* also secured the **Grand Amateur-Owner Hunter Championship**.

In the Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'3" 18-35 division, Caroline Ratigan of Berwyn, PA, and her *Admiral Blue* brought home the Championship and associated Breitling Trophy sponsored by Stephanie Bulger and MeadowView Farm.





Stephanie Danhakl and Cadet (left) won the Grand Amateur-Owner Hunter Championship for their efforts in the Human Touch Amateur-Owner 3'3" 36+. Danhakl also took the division's Reserve Championship with Quest (right in presentation). © KindMedia

The **Grand Junior Hunter Championship** went to Frog Pond Stables' *Cerulean Blue*, ridden by Lilly Herzog of Pepper Pike, OH, to outstanding scores in the **Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 15 & Under**. Herzog also claimed the division's Reserve Championship with Rivers Edge LLC's *Balthazar*.





Lilly Herzog and Cerulean Blue won the Grand Junior Hunter Championship © 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 Horse Show. Rated **USEF 'Premier-6'** for hunters and jumpers with designated **FEI 2* and 5*** jumping 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 began on Thursday, August 28, with the \$5,000 Citarella Open Jumper CSI2* and \$32,000 CSI5* Two-Phase and continues throughout the weekend with seven 2*/5* classes. FEI competition also includes Friday's \$32,000 Wölffer Estate 2* Grand Prix Qualifier, \$116,100 Douglas Elliman 5* Grand Prix Qualifier, Saturday's \$62,500 5* Winning Round, and culminates with the \$70,000 Hampton Classic 2* Grand Prix and \$400,000 Longines Hampton Classic 5* Grand Prix on Sunday, August 31.

Other competition highlights include the \$30,000 The Wellington Jumper Challenge, \$10,000 Stomp Capital 1.40m Open Jumper, \$40,000 CME Group 1.45m National Grand Prix, \$10,000 Hunt & Go Stake presented by The Baran, \$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship, \$25,000 Agneta & Brownlee Currey 1.45m Junior/Amateur Jumper Classic, and \$30,000 Longines Rider Challenges, which are now being offered as two separate bonuses: \$10,000 for the FEI 2* division and \$20,000 for the FEI 5* division.

Tickets for **reserved grandstand seats** for Grand Prix Sunday, August 31, are \$55 per seat and are available on the <u>Hampton Classic website</u>. Tickets for the Classic's new **Judge's Box Lounge**, which offers an elevated experience for watching Grand Prix Ring competition on Thursday-Sunday, August 28-31, are also available. Lounge tickets are priced at \$200 for Thursday, \$300 for Friday or Saturday, and \$600 for Grand Prix Sunday and are available on the <u>Hampton Classic website</u>.

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 www.hamptonclassic.com or call 631-537-3177. Hampton Classic Horse Show, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation.