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Hampton Classic to Host New \$50,000 Kristen Baran Hunt Team Stake

Bridgehampton, NY – August 6, 2024 – The 49th annual Hampton Classic Horse Show is excited to host the new **\$50,000 Kristen Baran Hunt Team Stake** that will make its debut when this year’s event returns to Bridgehampton, NY, **August 25-September 1**. The Hampton Classic features world-class FEI CSI5* and CSI2* show jumping and USEF Premier-6 hunter competitions and awards more than \$1 million in prize money.

The \$50,000 Kristen Baran Hunt Team Stake will take place Thursday, August 29, in the Aspinall Ring at 2:00 p.m. The class will be held over one round with jumps set at 3’3” in height over a hunt-and-go style course with teams consisting of three horses, one to be ridden by a professional rider and two to be ridden by either a junior or amateur. The two non-professional riders will complete their rounds first, with their scores each accounting for 25% of their team’s final score. The professional will then complete the course with that score accounting for 50%. Riders may compete on more than one team. Show Jumping Hall of Famer Steve Stephens, former Hampton Classic manager and 2008 Olympic course designer, will be guest course designer for this class.

“We are so excited to add this new hunter team competition to our schedule,” said Shanette Barth Cohen, the show’s Executive Director. “We look forward to hosting the new \$50,000 Kristen Baran Hunt Team Stake not only for our exhibitors, but also as another way to continue supporting some wonderful charity partners. We hope everyone will enjoy this great new addition to our Thursday schedule.”

The Hunt Team Stake, the first hunt team competition ever held at the Hampton Classic, will benefit such charities as Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, the Center for Therapeutic Riding on the East End (CTREE), and the EQUUS Foundation.

The idea for the new competition came from equestrian advocate Kristen Baran and Andrew Lustig, a lifelong equestrian and former judge at the Hampton Classic. They saw it as an opportunity to introduce a novel, charitable event in hopes of strengthening the hunter industry.

“All of the charities hold a dear place in my heart and I am truly thrilled to support them,” said Baran. “It is my goal to contribute to the sport I love and raise awareness about these wonderful organizations in the equestrian community and to foster meaningful relationships that will benefit everyone.”

About the Hampton Classic Horse Show

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*** 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.

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.