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Exceptional Athletes Shine in Long Island Horse Show Series for Riders with Disabilities Finals Presented by Dime Bank at 2024 Hampton Classic Horse Show

Monday's Expanded Schedule Includes Competitions in Most Rings for the First Time

Bridgehampton, NY – August 26, 2024 – Multiple exceptional riders descended on the 2024 Hampton Classic Horse Show for the 17th annual **Long Island Horse Show Series for Riders with Disabilities** (LIHSSRD) Finals Presented by Dime Bank on Monday, all vying for prestigious year-end awards in their respective divisions.

The morning started with 14 LIHSSRD riders and their trusted mounts putting their best feet (and hooves) forward in the Walk/Trot with Aides, Intermediate Walk/Trot and Independent divisions. Then they joined their families and volunteers in one of the Classic's VIP chalets for a luncheon with Stuart Lubow, CEO of Dime Bank; Susan Schaefer, Bridgehampton Branch Manager and Vice President of Dime Bank; and American Grand Prix rider Molly Ashe Cawley. Lubow and Schaefer helped to present awards to each rider in the ring, while Ashe Cawley presented additional ribbons and gift bags at the luncheon.



Two-time FEI World Cup[™] Finalist Molly Ashe Cawley (right) helped present gift bags and awards to the riders who qualified for the 2024 LIHSSRD Finals presented by Dime Bank © KindMedia

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.

"This day at the Hampton Classic highlights the values of therapeutic riding – inclusion, compassion, excellence and an awareness of body, mind and spirit," said Jane DaCosta, Founder and Executive Director of Metropolitan Equestrian, one of LIHSSRD's participating organizations. "But more importantly, it shows every rider that their athletic abilities should never stand in the way of their dreams."

Riders in the **Walk/Trot with Aides** division presented in front of the judges first, with Ava Barbera of Manhasset, NY, earning the championship aboard Lisa Zimmerman's *Wizard*.



Ava Barbera and Wizard © KindMedia

Kenzie Pu-Folkes of Great Neck, NY, then claimed top honors in the **Intermediate Walk/Trot** division with HorseAbility Inc.'s *Vigo Massuere*.



Kenzie Pu-Folkes and Vigo Massuere © KindMedia

Securing the **Independent Championship** to conclude the day's Finals was Jayla Douglas of New York, NY, riding Alexander Jacobson's *My Type of Bay*.



Jayla Douglas and My Type of Bay © KindMedia

"We are always honored to host the LIHSSRD Finals, and we are extremely proud of how far these athletes have come," said Shanette Barth Cohen, the show's Executive Director. "We are so impressed with what these riders achieve in their journeys, and over the years, they have become an integral part of the Hampton Classic family. Congratulations to everyone for their accomplishments!"

The Hampton Classic also expanded its Monday schedule to include competitions in most rings for the first time. Other highlights included two Mane 'n Tail 1.0m Jumper classes following the LIHSSRD Finals presented by Dime Bank. In the **\$1,250 Mane 'n Tail 1.0m Junior Jumper**, Shane Radimer of Marlton, NJ, finished in first and second place, respectively, with RadEquestrian LLC's *CC Top 4* (0/0/28.105) and *Eastwood* (0/0/29.388). Meredith Sanger-Katz of New York, NY, and her *Penn* took top honors in the **\$1,250 Mane 'n Tail 1.0m Amateur Jumper** (0/0/29.560).

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 nonperishable 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 <u>www.wvvh.tv</u>.

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