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Extraordinary Athletes Take the Stage During Long Island Horse Show Series for Riders with Disabilities Finals presented by Dime Bank at 50th Annual Hampton Classic Horse Show

Series Also Celebrates 20 Years of Competition Opportunities

Bridgehampton, NY – August 25, 2025 – Multiple exceptional riders and their equally talented horses took the stage at the Hampton Classic Horse Show on Monday, putting their best feet (and hooves) forward for the 2025 Long Island Horse Show Series for Riders with Disabilities (LIHSSRD) Finals presented by Dime Bank.

The Series, which was established in 2005 by HorseAbility Inc. to provide riders with disabilities with opportunities to participate in USEF-rated hunter/jumper shows, also celebrated **20 years of exceptional competition** this year.

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.

All eyes were on the LIHSSRD athletes and their trusted mounts Monday morning as they vied for prestigious year-end awards in their respective divisions: Advanced Independent, Walk/Trot Independent and Walk/Trot with Aides. Afterward, they joined their families and volunteers for an awards ceremony and luncheon in one of the Classic's VIP chalets. Helping to present the awards was three-time Olympic medalist and Show Jumping Hall of Fame inductee Joe Fargis.

"I'm flattered and honored to be here," Fargis said. "I think it is so commendable that all these athletes come together at this special, special place. The riders all did a fantastic job, and of course, we can't forget their outstanding horses."





Olympic double-gold medalist Joe Fargis helped present awards to the exceptional athletes at the 2025 Long Island Horse Show Series for Riders with Disabilities Finals presented by Dime Bank © KindMedia

After winning a division championship at the LIHSSRD Finals in 2024, Kenzie Pu-Folkes of Great Neck, NY, returned to the Hampton Classic winner's circle this year for top honors in the **Advanced Independent** division aboard HorseAbility Inc.'s *Black Magic*.



Kenzie Pu-Folkes and Black Magic won the 2025 LIHSSRD Advanced Independent Final © KindMedia

Securing victory in the **Walk/Trot Independent** division with HorseAbility Inc.'s *Albert Einstein* was Ellie Mahoney of Manhasset, NY.



Ellie Mahoney and Albert Einstein won the 2025 LIHSSRD Walk/Trot Independent Final © KindMedia

In the **Walk/Trot with Aides** division, Ava Barbera of Manhasset, NY, and Lisa Zimmerman's *Calgary* brought home the championship.



Ava Barbera and Calgary won the 2025 LIHSSRD Walk/Trot with Aides Final © KindMedia

"We are all so thrilled to have the Series here at the Hampton Classic in their 20th year," said Shanette Barth Cohen, the show's Executive Director. "Hosting their Finals is one of the things I'm most proud of in my tenure here. We love that we have a way for everyone to participate in this horse show. I want to give special thanks to the families, volunteers, and most importantly the horses for making it all possible."

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 begins 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.

Outside of the show rings, families can enjoy unique shopping in the Agneta Currey Boutique Garden and on Stable Row; hands-on activities, pony rides and petting zoo animals at the Kids Exhibition Tent; and many more fun activities during Kids Day (Saturday, August 30).

Daily entry to the Hampton Classic is \$25 per carload which includes grandstand seating on all days except Grand Prix Sunday. Admission is free on Monday. Admission is also free on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for Seniors, members of the Military and those who bring three or more non-perishable food items for local food pantries.

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

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.