

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Contact: Marty Bauman, 508-698-6810; <u>marty@classic-communications.com</u>

## Ashe Cawley Takes the Crown in \$32,000 Wölffer Estate CSI2\* Grand Prix Qualifier at 2024 Hampton Classic Horse Show

Sweetnam Wins \$10,000 Lugano Diamonds Junior/Amateur Welcome Stake

*Bridgehampton, NY – August 30, 2024 –* Friday's competition in the Hampton Classic Grand Prix Arena commenced in the morning with the **\$32,000 Wölffer Estate CSI2\* Grand Prix Qualifier**, which featured 31 entries representing ten countries. With the top two placings separated by just a hundredth of a second, Molly Ashe Cawley (USA) and *Berdien* brought home the win in 38.46 seconds.

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.



Molly Ashe Cawley (USA) and Berdien won the \$32,000 Wölffer Estate CSI2\* Grand Prix Qualifier © KindMedia

Course designer Nick Granat created a 16-effort, 1.45m track for the \$32,000 Wölffer Estate CSI2\* Grand Prix Qualifier, with only nine horse-and-rider combinations advancing to the jump-off. Ashe

Cawley and Louisburg Farm's 13-year-old Zangersheide mare narrowly claimed victory in 38.46 seconds; fellow American Vanessa Hood and *K&T Geromino*, a 9-year-old Swedish Warmblood gelding owned by Take Two LLC, finished second with their faultless time of 38.47 seconds.

"I thought I left a little room on course, actually," Ashe Cawley said. "I knew I could be beaten, especially by Sydney (Shulman Desiderio) if she was clear. Her horse is so fast. I felt I was a little slow down the first line and tried to make it up across the middle to the liverpool. I took a little risk there, but I think that's how I nipped by Vanessa with a very tiny hundredth of a second."



Ashe Cawley and Berdien © KindMedia

Ireland's Philip McGuane rounded out the podium with his 39.18-second time aboard Nayel Nassar and Evergate Stables LLC's 14-year-old Belgian Sport Horse gelding *Edgard De Prefontaine*.



L: Vanessa Hood and K&T Geromino took second. R: Philip McGuane (IRL) and Edgard De Prefontaine finished third. © KindMedia

Later in the afternoon, 54 entries challenged Granat's 15-effort, 1.40m course in the **\$10,000 Lugano Diamonds Junior/Amateur Welcome Stake**. Eight horse-and-rider pairs made it to the jump-off, but only one finished double-clear: Olivia Sweetnam of Wellington, FL, and *HDB Quality*, Sweet Oak Farm's 11-year-old Westphalian mare. Their steady, clean round catapulted them to the top of the leaderboard for the win.

"I saw the majority of the class doing four strides in the line down to the double verticals, but five suited my horse better so I did that to help us out a little bit," said Sweetnam, who won the 2023 Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series' Junior East Conference presented by Rood & Riddle with the same mount. "My family has had *HDB Quality* for five years, and I've ridden her for the past two and a half. I have a really good partnership with her in the ring and in the barn. She's so sweet, so competitive and wants to win so badly. I just love her."



Olivia Sweetnam and HDB Quality won the \$10,000 Lugano Diamonds Junior/Amateur Welcome Stake © KindMedia

As the fastest of the four-faulters, Cristian Hacker of Wellington, FL, and Alexa Elle Lignelli of New York, NY, rounded out the top five riding two mounts each. Hacker was second and fourth, respectively, with CSH Equine LLC's 12-year-old Selle Français mare *Cocaine De Riverland* (0/4/31.678) and 12-year-old Warmblood gelding *Sparks 55* (0/4/33.092). Lignelli was third and fifth, respectively, aboard Skyline Sporthorses LLC's 11-year-old Warmblood gelding *Fayuri* (0/4/32.229) and 11-year-old Belgian Sport Horse gelding *Helium* (0/4/33.498).



Sweetnam and HDB Quality © 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 began Thursday, August 29, with the **\$10,000 Citarella Open Jumper CSI2\*** and **\$32,000 CSI5\* Two-Phase** 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.