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Baylee McKeever Wins the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Presented by The Atlantic Southampton

Bridgehampton, NY – Aug. 31, 2021 – Baylee McKeever of Brewster, N.Y., rode McLain Ward’s Salvatore to top honors in the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Presented by The Atlantic Southampton at the Hampton Classic on Tuesday.

As with any equitation class, the judge evaluated only the rider's performance for this competition, not the performance of the horse. The Talent Search was a two-part class comprised of a traditional over-fences portion, after which the top twelve returned to the ring for an under-saddle phase. Following the two tests, McKeever was awarded the blue ribbon. Eva Fisherman of Brookline, Mass., placed second and Lauren McCaulley of St. Charles, Ill., third.



Baylee McKeever rode Salvatore to the win in the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Presented by The Atlantic Southampton © Kind Media

McKeever is trained by her father, Lee, and Ward, who just returned from the Tokyo Olympic Games. Although McKeever hadn't ridden "Sal" for a bit before the Hampton Classic, she knew he was being taken care of while she was away.

"I thought Sal was in his best condition today," McKeever said. "I know he's always ready to go, and I felt that he really understood the course and listened to me as I went along."

The 1.15m course, comprising 12 jumping efforts, was designed by Ireland's Alan Wade. Steve Sarafin judged the class's over-fences phase, and Chris Wynne judged the under-saddle.

While lining up for the results, McKeever wasn't sure if she had won. "We felt good going into the flat. Sal was just fantastic. I know I can always be better, though, so I thought I had a little room for improvement."



Baylee McKeever and Salvatore © Kind Media

Earlier in the day, 41 riders competed across two sections of the \$10,000 Gimme Shelter/Storeybrook Farm Open Jumper 1.40m class Presented by Copperline Farm. The 13-effort course was also designed by Alan Wade.

Charlie Jayne of Wellington, Fla., and Ammann Equestrian LLC's Stakan 4 were the fastest of eight horse-and-rider combinations to go clean in the \$10,000 Gimme Shelter Open Jumper Section A, stopping the clock at a time of 55.643 seconds. Ireland's Gavin Harley rode Kavalli Di Magico, owned by Clear Ride LLC, to a second-place finish in 56.538 seconds. Brazil's Rodrigo Pessoa and Artemis Equestrian Farm LLC's Major Tom were third with a time of 58.942 seconds.



Charlie Jayne and Stakan 4 © Kind Media

Victoria Colvin of Loxahatchee, Fla., and Gemino, owned by BMT Partners, had the fastest of nine clear rounds in the \$10,000 Storeybrook Farm Open Jumper Section B, winning the class with a time of 55.591 seconds. Second place went to Evan Coluccio of Marshall, Va., aboard Hampton Green Farm LLC's Egalini for their time of 56.749 seconds. Alex Matz of Coatesville, Penn., was third, riding Horseshoe Trail Farm LLC's VDL Nikita Van De Leeuw to a time of 58.619 seconds.



Victoria Colvin and Gemino © Kind Media

For full results, visit hc.showmanagementsystem.com.

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. The Hampton Classic features more than 200 classes in six 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 show grounds. This year’s Hampton Classic features five FEI classes in its grass Grand Prix ring showcasing elite riders from around the world, including Olympic and World Equestrian Games veterans. There are also kid-friendly activities throughout the week including pony rides, petting farm animals, daily special attractions and more.

Daily admission to the Classic is \$20 per carload. Admission is free on Monday, and seniors are admitted free on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Grandstand tickets for the \$300,000 Hampton Classic Grand Prix on Sunday, September 5, are \$45 per person for reserved bucket seating, which are available for purchase on the Hampton Classic website.

The Hampton Classic is pleased to continue its relationship with ShowNet by offering its services FREE to all exhibitors. Services include: Orders of Go; Live Ring Status; Live Results; and Post Round Video.

For those who can’t make it to the show grounds, complimentary live webcasts of all Grand Prix ring competitions air on the Hampton Classic website, produced by ClipMyHorseTV and courtesy of LONGINES. ClipMyHorseTV is also providing a complimentary live webcast of all Anne Aspinall ring competitions and archive video, all available on the Hampton Classic website. 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.