



NATIONS CUPS AND EUROPEAN OUTINGS

How Jumping and Eventing Athletes Move Up the Development Pathway

For American athletes with aspirations to compete at the elite level, there is a long path from competing at the national level to representing the U.S. at international championships.

The US Equestrian (USEF) development pathways for each Fédération equestre Internationale (FEI) discipline help bring promising athletes along each step of the way, ensuring the best chance at success.

What's more, these pathway programs are key to ensuring a robust pipeline of talent and therefore our country's competitive equestrian excellence on the greatest international stages now and in the future.

In spring of 2022, developing teams in eventing and jumping both had important outings in Europe. On the jumping side, a team of young athletes competed at CSIO3* FEI Jumping Nations Cups in Lisbon, Portugal, and Madrid, Spain. At the same time, a team represented the U.S. at the FEI Eventing Nations Cup Great Britain CCIO4*-S at Houghton Hall Horse Trials in King's Lynn, United Kingdom, and came home with a second-place finish.

U.S. Eventing Development and Emerging Coach Leslie Law and U.S. Jumping Development Coach Anne Kursinski shared their insights into their respective sports' pathways and how outings like these are essential to the country's future success at equestrian sport's biggest events.

Selecting the Teams

Athletes submit an application to be considered for a team. For Houghton Hall, three of the four team members were already in Europe, Law explained. Isabelle Bosley and Caroline Martin

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Cornelia Dorr
and Daytona Beach 8

Photo by Libby Law Photography



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Dear Friends,

Since 2003, the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation's sole mission—as the philanthropic partner to US Equestrian (USEF)—has been to provide the necessary resources to make equestrian competitive excellence possible, now and in the future. To prepare our athletes and horses to represent the United States on the most impressive international stages, we must provide the means to support their competition, training, coaching, travel, and educational needs. Key to this is ensuring that we provide numerous opportunities and a clear pathway to allow young and developing talent to reach great heights. In reading this newsletter, it excites me to see that USEF's High Performance Pathway is doing just that, thanks in part to the support that USET Foundation provides.

In eventing, Caroline Martin notes that pathway programs such as the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) North American Youth Championships (NAYC) offered formative team-oriented competition experience. She also credits the USET Foundation's Jacqueline B. Mars Training and Competition Grant and Karen E. Stives Endowment Fund Grant for enabling her to gain integral training and competition opportunities in Europe. Caroline's time in team environments and abroad paid off when she helped the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team earn team silver in the Houghton Hall CCIO4*-S in King's Lynn, United Kingdom, earlier this year.

Similarly, in jumping, Mimi Gochman—awarded the USET Foundation's prestigious Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy in January—also participated at NAYC. It's programs like this that have helped set her up for success at larger competitions such as the 2022 FEI Youth Equestrian Games at CHIO Aachen in Germany. As the U.S. representative on the North American Team, Mimi delivered six clear rounds on a borrowed horse to help them earn the team gold medal while she captured the individual bronze medal.

The way the eventing and jumping pathways function is explained in detail in the article from USEF's Leslie Potter. In addition to development programs like NAYC, up-and-coming athletes must have chances to participate in Nations Cup events, such as at the FEI Eventing Nations Cup Great Britain CCIO4*-S at Houghton Hall Horse Trials and the CSIO3* FEI Jumping Nations Cups in Lisbon, Portugal, and Madrid, Spain. Potter shares perspectives about why these outings are essential to the country's future success at championship competitions.

In this issue, we also recognize individuals and teams across disciplines that competed at the 2022 FEI World Cup™ Finals, CHIO Aachen, additional Nations Cup events in Canada, Italy, The Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain, as well as the CDIOY in Germany. We applaud the successes of U.S. driving star Taylor Bradish for her third consecutive victory in USEF Combined Driving National Championship for Single Horses and Doug Payne for his win in the Land Rover/USEF CCI5*-L Eventing National Championship. We also welcome three new individuals, Jennifer Gates, Kristi Mitchem, and Ann Thompson to the USET Foundation Board of Trustees.

Finally, we remember a legendary athlete and member of our sport from the para dressage community, Hope Hand. Her contributions to the growth of para equestrian in the U.S. were second to none, and her presence will be dearly missed.

As we complete the 2022 FEI World Championships and look ahead to the 2023 Pan American Games and 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, I want to thank you for continuing to stand by your country's athletes and horses. Supporting a robust pathway from a developing up-and-comer to an elite athlete is integral to positioning our teams to shine on the world stage for years to come.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Jenkins
Executive Director



The United States Equestrian Team Foundation (USET) is a philanthropic partner of US Equestrian (USEF). The USET Foundation funds U.S. teams and programs through charitable gifts and donations and makes grants to USEF annually.

DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY

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Photo by Equus Media

Rebecca Conway and Con Coleur

had both gone over earlier in the spring for a developing program European tour. Cornelia Dorr is based with British athlete Kevin McNabb this year. The fourth team member, Allie Knowles, traveled over from her home base in Kentucky. Martin had previous Nations Cup experience, but the other three were first timers for this level of team competition.

"The selectors had a meeting and agreed that those four should make up a team for the U.S.," said Law. "I think it's very important that we put these younger athletes in this space to get team experience. There's isn't a huge opportunity for that over here [in North America], giving them that team experience and seeing how they perform is very important [for individual athlete experience as well as for selecting future U.S. teams]."

Kursinski's jumping team for Lisbon and Madrid was comprised of Rebecca Conway, Daisy Farish, Charlotte Jacobs, Alex Matz, and Julie Welles. Most of the athletes had competed as part of a team at the North American Youth Championships (NAYC) earlier in their careers, but these events offered them their first experience on a senior FEI Nations Cup team.

"All of these riders really earn their way onto those teams [through a selection process]," Kursinski shared. "They're all very competitive and they've all been success-

ful at grand prix, but they'd never jumped on a three-star Nations Cup team, so to really get this team experience was wonderful for them."

The Team Experience

"You can talk about it all you want. You can watch all you want. But putting on that pinque coat and representing your country, it's different," said Kursinski. "To step into the ring and do it, to ride as a teammate—I thought it was just a wonderful experience for all of them."

In addition to the novelty of competing as a team, the two-round format of a Nations Cup is its own unique experience for the jumping athletes.

"Lisbon is always extremely difficult because the second round of the Nations Cup is under the lights," said Kursinski. "We all knew that going in and explained it to everybody. It was a great experience for everybody that way."

Being part of a team goes beyond what happens on course as the coaches see how the athletes perform as team players in all aspects of the experience.

"It was great having them all together and seeing their camaraderie," said Kursinski. "Julie Welles was the alternate the second week, and she was fabulous on the ground and

helping out with the other riders at Madrid. She was so part of the team. That kind of experience is what they need before getting to a championship.”

“When you’re on a team, you do have the feeling that you’re not just riding for yourself,” explained Law. “This creates an added pressure and added responsibility, and in some athletes, that does affect performance in the beginning. But through experiencing it and becoming more confident, you learn to perform in that area.”

A Place on the Pathway

While any Nations Cup competition is a prestigious event in its own right, these early team events are an essential part of the preparation for competitions at the championship level.

“I’m a true believer that we’ve got to get athletes in that space,” said Law. “If we don’t do it, we’re not going to learn from it. I think we have to remember that there are going to be mistakes, especially with younger athletes. If there are going to be mistakes, that is the place for them. Let’s find out what they are and how we can improve them. Because we don’t want those mistakes when you’re trying to qualify for an Olympic Games. And we certainly don’t want them at the Olympic Games where we’re trying to win medals.”



Photo by Shannon Brinkman

Brian Moggre and Balou du Reventon

The eventing team’s second-place finish at Houghton Hall was worth celebrating, and it positions the program and the athletes well for the long-term future of the U.S. on the world stage.

“It’s a milestone for our younger athletes coming through who will hopefully step up and compete for the U.S. at an Olympic Games or World Championship,” Law shared. “They won’t be at the World Championships this year, but if they have the horsepower, could they be at Paris [for the 2024 Olympics]? Maybe. For those athletes, we’re probably looking at the next World Championship and the Olympic Games in Los Angeles [in 2028].”

Simply getting overseas to compete against European teams is an essential component of developing competitive team athletes.

“It’s great, the depth we have,” Kursinski said of the up-and-coming jumping talent in the U.S. “But we don’t have [easy access to] international experience like the Europeans [do]. For us, getting riders to qualify [for NAYC] and getting that team experience under their belts is so important.”

For the jumping development pathway, Kursinski’s role falls in between Youth Chef d’Equipe DiAnn Langer and Senior Chef d’Equipe Robert Ridland. The three of them communicate with each other when it comes to building teams.

“Robert will look to me for getting riders for his five-star teams that have been on teams before,” said Kursinski, pointing to Brian Moggre and Jessica Springsteen as recent examples of athletes who competed at NAYC and youth Nations Cup teams before being tapped for senior championship teams.

“The pathway really does work,” said Kursinski. “On occasion, somebody might have a brilliant horse and not have done the Young Riders. But it’s really hard to say, ‘Okay, we’re going to put you on a five-star team’ if you haven’t done a three-star. It’s just a different kind of pressure.”

Synergy Between the Sports

U.S. eventing has continued to refine its pathway in recent years, and jumping has served as a model to follow.

“I don’t think it’s an accident that U.S. jumping is as successful as it is,” said Law. “A lot of them are in Europe all summer and doing Nations Cups over there. There are a lot of components [to jumping’s success], but I think one of the big components is that they’re over there competing on teams and getting the experience before they have to do it in a senior championship. That’s why I am keen to [bring younger teams to compete at European Nations Cups] because I know they’re doing it in jumping, and they get results.”

Kursinski noted there is plenty of interest from jumping athletes who want to be considered for a three-star Nations Cup team, and the jumping discipline managers at USEF are always working to secure invitations for more of these competitions to give as many qualified athletes as possible a chance to compete for the team.

On the eventing side, there simply aren’t as many team events on the FEI calendar, but Law is a big believer in getting to those competitions whenever possible. – Adapted from US Equestrian article by Leslie Potter



FEI EVENTING NATIONS CUP GREAT BRITAIN CCIO4*-S

LAND ROVER U.S. EVENTING TEAM

Secures Silver

At the Eventing Nations Cup Great Britain CCIO4*-S, which ran from May 26–29, 2022, in King's Lynn, United Kingdom, the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team finished in second place on a total team score of 117.9. The home team from Great Britain won the event on a final score of 114.0, while Sweden rounded out the top three teams on a final total of 122.0. The U.S. contingent, led by Chef d'Equipe Leslie Law, saw top performances from rising eventing stars Isabelle Bosley, Cornelia Dorr, Allie Knowles, and Caroline Martin over the three days of competition.

In their first time competing abroad together, Knowles, of Lexington, Kentucky, and the late Ms. Poppins, a then 11-year-old Westphalian mare owned by Katherine O'Brien, had the best dressage score for the team, earning a 29.6. Martin, of Miami Beach, Florida, and Islandwood Captain Jack, a 13-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding owned by Caroline and Sherrie Martin, also put in a strong performance, receiving a score of 30.4. Bosley, of Cochranville, Pennsylvania, and her own Night Quality, an 11-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding, received a 39.3, while Dorr, of Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts, and Daytona Beach 8, a 12-year-old Oldenburg mare owned by HCS Syndicate, earned a 42.7, which served as the team's drop score on the first day of competition.

The team produced several key rounds on the second day over the stadium course set by Sue Peasley of Great Britain. Martin and Knowles both produced clear rounds inside of the time. Dorr also jumped fault free, and Bosley dropped just one rail. After the first two phases, the team held on to the third-place position on a score of 102.7.

Cross country proved to be influential in the overall leaderboard. The U.S. combinations impressed around the track designed by Alec Lohore



Photo by Libby Law Photography

(L-R) Caroline Martin, Isabelle Bosley, Cornelia Dorr, and Alexandra Knowles

of Great Britain, which spanned 3,810 meters and featured numerous technical questions over undulating terrain. Dorr and Daytona Beach 8 were the trailblazers for the team, crossing through the finish timers in six minutes 42 seconds with only 0.4 time faults to add. Bosley and Night Quality had an unfortunate parting of ways at the water complex in which both were unharmed, but the result put added pressure on Martin and Knowles to finish positively with no drop score.

Knowles and Ms. Poppins were careful and calculated in their trip, opting to take some of the longer routes to ensure a team finish. The pair crossed through the timers in seven minutes 14

seconds, adding 13.2 in time, and leaving Martin to secure the team's overall standing on the leaderboard. The veterans of the young team, Martin and Islandwood Captain Jack showed the value of their longstanding partnership, producing a clutch performance, finishing in six minutes 45 seconds. That added 1.6 in time to the team's overall score, which secured the silver medal position and propelled Martin to a fifth-place individual finish in an extremely competitive CCIO4*-S division.

Knowles and Ms. Poppins finished in 14th overall, just ahead of teammates Dorr and Daytona Beach 8 who secured 15th. – Adapted from US Equestrian Press Release

THE PATHWAY

Propels Caroline Martin to the Top

Caroline Martin of Riegelsville, Pennsylvania, was a prominent U.S. eventing athlete from a very young age. At 17, she was named to the US Equestrian (USEF) Eventing High Performance Development Training List, making her the youngest eventing athlete at that time to do so. At the age of 18, she earned team gold at the 2013 Adequan®/FEI North American Youth Championships (NAYC) presented by Gotham North, and by the time she was 23, she added completing an Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) CCI5* event to her resume.

Martin quickly became a household name on the international eventing scene, but it wasn't a fluke or a little bit of luck that propelled her to the top. Along with key trainers and mentors, Martin credits US Equestrian (USEF) High Performance pathway programs, many of which are supported by the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation—such as NAYC and competition grants—for giving her the experience necessary to be successful at the highest levels.

“Young Riders was the first big show I went to with a big team atmosphere and I had no idea competing could be like that,” Martin shared. “The biggest thing I learned from it, which I think is extremely important, is a sense of camaraderie. It’s so critical to do the training sessions beforehand to get to know everyone and the coaches. It’s such an invaluable experience because you literally repeat it the older you get—it’s no different than a Nations Cup. If someone wants to follow the pathway to become an elite rider, it starts at Young Riders.

“I grew up in the Young Riders program and I was fortunate that I had been funded by my family,” Martin continued. “But by the time I was 22, I was out of the program and my family said I needed to step away from the horses or find a way to fund myself.”

After participating in NAYC and gaining higher-level competition experience, Martin was determined to make



Photo by Shannon Brinkman

Caroline Martin, aboard Quantum Solace, achieved a distinguished accomplishment by earning two notches on the Markham Memorial Perpetual Trophy as a result of being the highest-placed U.S. junior rider in the CCI3 competition at both Jersey Fresh and the Dutta Corp. Fair Hill International in 2014.*

riding her career, so she leaned into the challenge. “I sold a lot of my advanced horses and started working for Emil Spadone and Paul Hendricks helping them to sell horses,” Martin said. “I cut back on my professional career and tried to focus on making money while competing [where possible] at the upper levels.”

Despite spending less time focused on her riding, Martin’s talent and grit didn’t go unnoticed; she was selected for a myriad of grants that would

ensure financial assistance for training opportunities as well as travel to and competition at international events. She was a recipient of the USET Foundation’s Jacqueline B. Mars Competition and Training Grant in 2017 and the USET Foundation’s Karen E. Stives Endowment Fund Grant in 2018, which enabled her to train and compete in England. Most recently, in 2022, she was the recipient of the United States Eventing Association (USEA) Foundation’s Wilton Fair Fund

and USEF's European Developing Rider Tour Grant, the latter of which enabled her to compete in the Houghton Hall CCIO4*-S in King's Lynn, United Kingdom, as part of the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team. Her solid effort as the anchor rider at Houghton Hall helped the young team earn the silver medal, while she secured a fifth-place finish individually.

"[These grants] allowed me to fly a string of horses to Europe and become a student again," Martin explained. "Trying to survive month after month and figuring out how to pay your bills [puts you in a certain mindset]. Now, [thanks to the financial support from the grants], my only goal is to do well at competitions and learn as much as I can. That's huge for any athlete, especially riders [because the sport is so expensive]."

Martin acknowledged that advisors and coaches, such as U.S. Eventing Development and Emerging Coach Leslie Law, have helped ensure that a robust pathway exists for eventing riders wanting to make it to the elite level. "Leslie pushed for the [European Developing Rider Tour Grant] to happen and it's a phenomenal opportunity," she said. "It's an introduction to doing senior teams. [U.S.-based riders] don't get many opportunities to practice being on a team because we're isolated from Europe; it's great to get the experience and pressure and really think about the team score as opposed to the individual score."

As Martin continues competing in Europe and looks toward goals like the being selected for the 2023 Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile, she notes that her progress forward was made possible by the opportunities the pathway presented her and hopes her trajectory up the pathway is a prime example of the type of talent the U.S. can produce.


"I don't think it's stressed enough that this pathway from Young Riders on up is so significant. The pathway that the USET Foundation and USEF gave me is what got me to where I am today," she concluded. "If we didn't have these steps, there is no way I'd ever be successful on a senior team. There is such a good pathway—people need to take advantage of it, it's the only way forward." – By Kara Pinato Scro 



Photo by Shannon Brinkman

Caroline Martin and Islandwood Captain Jack

MIMI GOCHMAN RISES TO THE OCCASION at 2022 FEI Youth Equestrian Games



Photo by Shannon Brinkman

Mimi Gochman and Merino van de Achterhoek

For up-and-coming U.S. jumping riders, the development pathway plays a critical role in helping athletes gain experience at the international and team levels. The 2022 FEI Youth Equestrian Games, held this year in the main stadium at CHIO Aachen in Germany from June 23–July 3, presented a talented young American rider with a unique opportunity along this pathway. Mimi Gochman of New York, New York, was the U.S.-based athlete selected to participate in the Games as part of the North American Team and individually. In addition to Gochman, Xaviera Maurer Buch of Mexico, Shannon Grubba of Costa Rica, Gabriela Maradiaga of Honduras, and Carlos Andres Meany Morataya of Guatemala rode on the team led by Chef d'Equipe DiAnn Langer.

Select riders aged 15 to 18 from 30 countries were invited to compete in the championship aboard borrowed mounts. Throughout the event, which features two rounds of team competition and an individual final, Gochman was foot perfect putting in six brilliant clear rounds with Merino van de Achterhoek, a 10-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding

owned by Der Faller Sportpferde. Together the pair helped the North American Team claim the gold medal in the Team Final, and they secured the bronze medal in the Individual Final. For Langer, events like these are valuable stepping stones for developing athletes. They help them build relationships with other athletes from around the world and focus on certain elements of their skillset that may push them outside of their comfort zone and help them grow into better horsemen and women and athletes.

“For me as the Youth Chef d'Equipe and Technical Advisor for the U.S. Jumping Team, I'm always looking for these opportunities for our youth in the U.S.,” she explained. “These opportunities tie it together for me in terms of the pathway. When you look at where our up-and-coming senior team athletes are now, they were on our youth teams, and that's what you can accomplish through hard work.”

Of the experience, Gochman noted the importance of understanding and respecting different riding techniques from around the world and touched on the horsemanship

and knowledge she'll take away after competing on a borrowed horse.

"One of my biggest takeaways from this entire experience is how to learn from other people," Gochman explained. "A lot of these people are coming from new nations and ones that I haven't ridden with before and that I wouldn't have met otherwise. We had to be on time for ourselves and each other, learn how to communicate with other people like owners, grooms, our teammates, and make sure that everyone's included. It's the perfect balance of having fun and meeting new people, but also being serious with your competition goals as a team and as an individual.

"I'm very grateful and my horse was incredible," concluded Gochman. "In the U.S., we have a big riding community, and it feels amazing to represent them proudly and with my head held high. Now I can go home knowing how incredible it is to ride in Aachen. Not a lot of people get that opportunity so I'm super lucky." – Adapted from US Equestrian press releases 🐾



Photo by FEI/Richard Juilliant

The gold medal-winning North American Team: (left to right) Mimi Gochman (USA), Shannon Grubba (Costa Rica), Carlos Andrés Meany Morataya (Guatemala), Xaviera Maurer Buch (Mexico) and Gabriela Maradiaga (Honduras), with Chef D'Equipe DiAnn Langer



Mimi Gochman leads the victory gallop for the gold-medal winning North American Team.

Photo by Shannon Brinkman

U.S. Athletes Contest CHIO Aachen World Equestrian Festival

Dressage

The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team took seventh place in the FEI Dressage Nations Cup CDIO5* at CHIO Aachen, finishing on a final team total of 427.048. The team included Katie Duerrhammer of Greenwood Village, Colorado, Charlotte Jorst of Reno, Nevada, and Steffen Peters of San Diego, California, and was led by Chef d'Equipe George Williams.

"While our goal is always to come into these major CDIO5* competitions in Europe and be as competitive as possible, we also had the opportunity to learn this week, which will benefit us greatly in the future," said Chef d'Equipe George Williams. "We saw some expensive mistakes, which impacted our scores but leading into the FEI Dressage World Championships [in August], it is important that we are able to identify where and how we can improve."

In individual competition, Adrienne Lyle of Wellington, Florida, and Salvino, a 15-year-old Hanoverian stallion owned by Betsy Juliano, received

a 76.891 percent from the ground jury in the HAVENS Horse Feed-Prize FEI Grand Prix CDI4* to take second place overall.

Eventing

The Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team finished fifth overall at CHIO Aachen in the SAP CCIO4*-S, completing on a final team score of 158.4 penalties. The team included Will Coleman of Gordonsville, Virginia, Sydney Elliott of Bossier City, Louisiana, Meghan O'Donoghue of Round Hill, Virginia, and Buck Davidson of Unionville, Pennsylvania, and was led by Chef d'Equipe Bobby Costello. Coleman and Off The Record, a 13-year-old Irish Sport Horse owned by the Off The Record Syndicate—who made history last year as the first American to win the prestigious CHIO4*-S Aachen—finished as the highest-placed U.S. combination in sixth place overall.

"There were some really good moments for us to take away from this competition as a team and as individu-

als," said Costello. "I was pleased with how some of the pieces came together, but I also don't believe any of us feel satisfied with the overall result and are going to look to continue improving and delivering better results for our program and our country, especially as we get closer to the [FEI Eventing] World Championships [in September]. I would like to thank the athletes, owners, and support crew for their genuine dedication and hard work over the past few days."

Jumping

The NetJets U.S. Jumping Team finished sixth in the Mercedes-Benz Jumping Nations Cup of Aachen CSIO5* on a final team total of 27 faults. The team featured Lillie Keenan of New York, New York, Chloe Reid of Ocala, Florida, Adrienne Sternlicht of Greenwich, Connecticut, and was anchored by McLain Ward of Brewster, New York. The team was led by Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland. – Adapted from US Equestrian press releases

McLain Ward Named City of Aachen Rider of the Week

In individual competition, Ward and his 2020 Olympic Games partner, Contagious, a 13-year-old German Sporthorse gelding owned by Beechwood Stables LLC, rose to the top of the Turkish Airlines-Prize of Europe, besting a class of 56 entries, and later in the week claimed the win in the RWE Prize of North Rhine-Westphal. Ward capped off a brilliant week with a fifth-place finish in the prestigious Rolex Grand Prix of Aachen aboard longtime partner HH Azur, a 16-year-old Belgian Warmblood mare owned by Double H Farm. ■



Photo by Shannon Brinkman

The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team Claims Second Place

at FEI Dressage Nations Cup – The Netherlands

The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team ended a week at CHIO Rotterdam on a high note by securing second place in the FEI Nations Cup™ – The Netherlands CDI05*. The event took place June 23-26, 2022, in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. The team was led by Chef d'Equipe George Williams and included Katie Duerrhammer, Ben Ebeling, Ashley Holzer, and Alice Tarjan.

The result came down to a tie with Sweden for second place; the U.S. team came out ahead thanks to a higher combined score in the Grand Prix to finish just behind the winning home team from The Netherlands.

The Nations Cup competition kicked off on Thursday, June 23, with the Grand Prix. Holzer of Wellington, Florida, and her own Valentine, a 12-year-old Hanoverian mare, led the U.S. team's standings with a 72.957% and a third-place finish. The pair was

rewarded by the judges for excellent lateral work and walk/passage transitions. Tarjan of Oldwick, New Jersey, and her own nine-year-old Hanoverian mare, Serenade MF, also finished in the top ten. The pair earned a 71.239% from the judges. Duerrhammer of Greenwood Village, Colorado, and Kylee Lourie's 11-year-old Westphalian gelding, Paxton, scored a 70.456% in their Grand Prix test. Ebeling of Moorpark, California, and Illuster Van de Kampert, a 14-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding owned by ACR Enterprises, Inc., scored a 57.152%.

Tarjan and Serenade MF returned for Saturday's Grand Prix Special where they turned in a solid test with exceptional extended trots that earned high marks from the judges. Their score of 71.191% put them in third place for the Special. This was the first overseas outing and first competition at the five-star level for Serenade MF, who was bred



Photo by Shannon Brinkman

Alice Tarjan and Serenade MF




Photo by Shannon Brinkman

Ashley Holzer and Valentine

in the U.S. by North Carolina-based breeder Maryanna Haymon.

Holzer and Valentine performed their Grand Prix Freestyle test to contemporary music by Camila Cabello and Simply Three. Their performance earned a 76.420% and fifth place in the Freestyle, helping to secure the team's spot on the podium.

"I couldn't be happier with our team placing and am proud of our riders, two of whom rode in their first European competitions last year," said Williams. "I couldn't have asked for more. It bodes well for the future considering that our team in Rotterdam was made up of some younger horses, all of which are really just starting their grand prix careers." – Adapted from US Equestrian press release 

UP-AND-COMING SHOW JUMPING TALENT GAIN EXPERIENCE ON

European Tour

On June 5, 2022, the U.S. Jumping Team concluded a two-week European tour where they earned sixth in the FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ of Lisbon CSIO3* at the Sociedade Hípica Portuguesa, in Lisbon, Portugal, and sixth in the FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ of Madrid CSIO3* at the Club de Campo Villa Madrid in Madrid, Spain. Both teams were comprised of talented up-and-coming show jumping athletes and were led by Chef d'Equipe Anne Kursinski.

"I think in these two weeks they've grown so much," Kursinski said of the athletes. "It's a wonderful opportunity to be able to do these two weeks back to back at such impressive venues. It's the experience of riding. None of these riders have been on a team before other than [during USEF Pathway Program competitions such as] Young Riders and it's their first real experience putting on the pinque coat. There were some first-time jitters, and that's something they have to get under their belts to be better. Seeing their confidence grow over the two weeks with the travel, the management, all of the aspects of being better horsemen and women on the road, and adding in the team camaraderie component like going to the ring for each other is really special. It's the true developmental aspect of it."

*Lisbon CSIO3**

At the FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ of Lisbon CSIO3*, which ran May 26–May 29, 2022, the team was comprised of Daisy Farish, Charlotte Jacobs, Alex Matz, and Julie Welles.

Welles, of Wellington, Florida, and Constable II, a 15-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding owned by Cherry Knoll Farm, were the pathfinders of the group, navigating the course designed by Bernardo Costa Cabral of Portugal, set on the grass. The pair dropped a single rail in their first tour of the course for a four-fault score.

With North Star's 10-year-old Oldenburg mare Edocenta, Jacobs, of East Aurora, New York, was the second rider out for the team. They also dropped just one rail, adding four faults to their first-round score.

Matz, of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, and his mount Cashew CR, a 14-year-old Holsteiner gelding owned by Dorothy Matz, had an integral performance with a clear first round in 71.01 seconds.

Farish, of Versailles, Kentucky, and Gerko, an 11-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding owned by Lanes End Show Jumping, were the team's final combination. They tallied eight faults, which served as the team's drop score for round one. That left the team sitting on an eight-fault score going into the second round.



Alex Matz and Cashew CR

Photo by EquusMedia



Photo by EquusMedia

Charlotte Jacobs and Edocenta

In the second round, Welles and Constable II were eliminated, putting pressure on the remaining three team members in Jacobs, Matz, and Farish to finish as a team. Jacobs and Edocenta added eight faults in their second time around the course. Matz and Cashew CR were once again foot perfect and stopped the timers in 71.06 seconds. Matz's double-clear ride was impressive, as just two other riders in the competition managed to produce a double-clear effort. Farish and Gerko concluded the team competition with eight faults in their final round. The team finished on a total of 24 faults following two rounds of competition.

*Madrid CSIO3**


At the FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ of Madrid CSIO3*, which ran June 3–June 5, 2022, the team was again comprised of Jacobs, Farish, and Matz, in addition to Rebecca Conway of Wellington, Florida.

As the trailblazer for the team aboard Edocenta, Jacobs secured a clear performance within the time allowed to start the team off strong in the first round. The track, designed by Isabel Fernandez de Cañete of Spain, was set on a beautiful grass field featuring 15 jumping efforts and an open water jump.

Farish and Gerko dropped two rails, finishing their round with eight faults. Conway and Con Coleur, a 13-year-old Hanoverian gelding owned by Blue Hill Farm, LLC, recovered from an early stop to finish the majority of the course smoothly. Unfortunately, they ran into further trouble and were eliminated in the initial round for a second stop at the final fence.

As the anchor combination, and without a drop score available to the team in the first round, Matz and Cashew CR took to the track and added just four faults after finishing in 75.05 seconds, which pushed the team forward to the second round on an overall first-round total of 12.

Jacobs and Edocenta returned to jump a calculated second trip, barely rubbing the out of the two-stride combination to add four faults plus a time fault after crossing through the timers in 80.55 seconds, just over the time allowed of 80 seconds. Farish and Gerko made quick work of their second effort, executing a well-planned and efficient ride in 75.75 seconds for the first clear in the second round for the team.

Conway and Con Coleur took all of the inside lines around the track to produce the second consecutive clear round for the team. Riding in the anchor position, Matz and Cashew CR had one of the fastest rounds of the day, taking nearly three seconds off their first-round time, crossing the timers in 72.94 seconds and adding a single rail to their final effort. Dropping the five-fault score of Jacobs in the second round, the team concluded the competition on a total of 16 faults. – Adapted from US Equestrian press releases 

U.S. Athletes and Horses

Contest Dressage, Jumping, and Vaulting

at FEI World Cup™ Finals 2022 Leipzig, Germany



McLain Ward and Contagious finished as the highest-placed U.S. pair in the 2022 FEI Jumping World Cup Final with seventh place.



The 2022 FEI Dressage World Cup Finals marked Ashley Holzer and Havana 145's first international championship appearance together taking home ninth place.



Aaron Vale and Elusive finished in the top 20 in the 2022 FEI Jumping World Cup Final.



Anna Buffini concluded her first-ever FEI Dressage World Cup Final appearance aboard FRH Davinia La Douce earning 12th overall.



Kimberly Palmer and Rosenstolz 99 secured a podium finish with third place in the 2022 FEI Vaulting World Cup Women's Individual Final.



Kalyn Noah and Corocoro 2 took seventh place in the 2022 FEI Vaulting World Cup Women's Individual Final.



Hunter Holloway and Pepita Con Spita placed 16th in the 2022 FEI Jumping World Cup Final.

All photos by Leslie Potter/US Equestrian

Jennifer Gates, Kristi Mitchem, Ann Thompson Elected to the Board of Trustees

“We’re delighted to welcome Jenn, Kristi, and Ann to the USET Foundation’s Board of Trustees,” said W. James McNerney, Jr., Chairman, President, and CEO of the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation. “As the philanthropic partner to US Equestrian (USEF), the USET Foundation supports America’s elite and developing international high performance horses and athletes. With this in mind, Jenn, Kristi, and Ann’s commitment to the success of the U.S. equestrian teams will be very valuable. The insight gleaned from their involvement in the sport at the highest levels and in multiple capacities, along with their undertakings outside of the sport, will enable them to assist in continuing to bolster both USET Foundation and USEF programs that will ensure long-lasting success for our country’s horses and athletes.”



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Gates

JENNIFER GATES of Wellington, Florida, joins the USET Foundation Board of Trustees with an extensive show jumping resume. Early in her career, Gates held top rankings in the USEF Under 25 division, helped secure the team silver medal at the 2016 North American Junior/Young Rider Championships, and won the 2017 USEF U25 Series Championship. She went on to represent the United States on Fédération Équestre Internationale (FEI) Nations Cup™ teams in 2017 and 2018 and has earned top-10 placings in some of the most prestigious show jumping grand prix events in the world.

Gates graduated from Stanford University in 2018 and is currently attending medical school at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York, New York. In addition to her academic pursuits, she remains involved in equestrian sport as the founder and owner of Evergate Stables, LLC which is focused on developing quality young show jumping horses.

ANN THOMPSON of Upperville, Virginia, is a lifelong horsewoman. Thompson has passed down her love of horses and the sport to her two daughters, Charlotte and Sofia. A long-time animal welfare advocate, Thompson is active in equine rescue and helping horses in need. In addition, she has been successful as a horse owner with several show hunter/jumper trainers and riders through her business Everlong, LLC including Ginny Edwards, Hardin Towell, and Jessica Fortin. Most recently, Everlong, LLC’s Balou du Reventon earned USEF’s 2021 International Horse of the Year title following an impressive season that included being short listed for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan, and a second-place finish in the Rolex Grand Prix of Aachen in Aachen, Germany, with young show jumping star Brian Moggre.



Photo courtesy of Ann Thompson




Photo courtesy of Kristi Mitchem

KRISTI MITCHEM of San Francisco, California, joins the USET Foundation Board of Trustees as a successful businesswoman who currently serves as the chief executive officer and head of Bank of Montreal’s (BMO) Global Asset Management (BMO GAM), BMO’s asset management division. Prior to that, she served as the CEO of Wells Fargo Asset Management and has more than 20 years of experience in related roles at State Street Corporation, BlackRock, and Goldman Sachs.

Mitchem was named one of the Most Influential Women in Bay Area Business by the “San Francisco Business Times” in 2018, one of the Top Women in Asset Management by “Money Management Executive” in 2017, and Top 100 Influential People by “Treasury & Risk” in 2008. Mitchem earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from Davidson College and a

master’s degree in business administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business, where she was an Arjay Miller Scholar. She is also a Fulbright Scholar.

In addition to her professional experience, Mitchem is passionate about high performance equestrian sport and actively supports the endeavors of her daughter Caroline Mawhinney, an up-and-coming show jumping athlete. Mawhinney shows promising talent for the U.S. and, at just 16 years old, recently won the \$25,000 Hermès Under 25 Semi-Final Grand Prix in Wellington, Florida, in March 2022, the \$15,000 Under 25 Grand Prix in Lexington, Kentucky, in May 2022, and was part of the gold-medal-winning U.S. team in the 2021 FEI Youth Nations Cup Jumping Final. – Kara Pinato Scro 

NETJETS® U.S. JUMPING TEAM

Finishes Fourth in Nations Cup of Rome CSIO5*

In the FEI Nations Cup of Rome CSIO5* at Piazza di Siena, Italy, the NetJets® U.S. Jumping Team finished in fourth place out of 10 teams with a two-round total of eight faults. Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland led the team of Lillie Keenan, Laura Kraut, Brian Moggre, and Chloe Reid for the initial Observation Event ahead of team selection for the 2022 FEI Jumping World Championships taking place August 6–14, in Herning, Denmark.

"I told the group after the class that we had a good day at the office," Ridland stated. "We had three young riders, two of them still really getting to know their horses, and they each had a ride they put in the bank and a ride they learned from moving forward."

Lillie Keenan of New York, New York, and Argan de Beliard, a 12-year-old Selle Français gelding owned by Chansonette Farm, were the trailblazers for the team, jumping clear within the time allowed.

Chloe Reid of Ocala, Florida, and Souper Shuttle, an 11-year-old Hanoverian mare owned by Live Oak Plantation, ticked just a single rail for four faults in their first team appearance together. Brian Moggre of Flower Mound, Texas, and Balou du Reventon, Ann Thompson's 16-year-old Oldenburg stallion, tallied eight faults in their first tour of the course, which would become the team's drop score for round one.

With the pressure mounting to move the team forward on a competitive score of four, Laura Kraut of Royal Palm Beach, Florida, and her longtime partner Confu, a 15-year-old Holsteiner gelding owned by St. Bride's Farm, delivered a clear round. The clean efforts by Keenan and Kraut put the team in a strong position before the start of the second round.

In the second round, Keenan dropped one rail for a score of four, while Reid garnered eight faults.

Both Moggre and Kraut needed to produce clear rounds to keep the team within striking distance. Moggre produced an important clear effort

inside the time allowed while Kraut and Confu anchored the team's performance and jumped clear once more. They crossed through the timers in 73.87 seconds, one of the faster rounds of the day, and finished as the only double clear effort of the four U.S. combinations. The team finished tied with The Netherlands on a final score of eight.

"It's preparation and a learning experience," Ridland concluded. "We really had a useful day and a good finish. Laura [Kraut] obviously showed us why she was anchor by doing what Laura always does. It was a very nice double-clean for her, and a good start to our summer season." – Adapted from US Equestrian Press Release



Brian Moggre and Balou du Reventon

Photo by Pacific Press Media Production Corp. / Alamy Stock Photo



Laura Kraut and Confu

Photo by Stefano Secchi

Taylor Bradish and Katydid Duchess

THIRD CONSECUTIVE VICTORY

USEF COMBINED DRIVING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FOR SINGLE HORSES

Taylor Bradish of Windsor, South Carolina, and Katydid Duchess took home the top prize in the 2022 US Equestrian (USEF) Combined Driving National Championship for Single Horses at the Katydid CDE. The competition was held April 20-24 at the Tryon International Equestrian Center in Mill Spring, North Carolina. After dominating the marathon phase and turning in a double-clear cones round, Bradish and Jennifer Matheson's 13-year-old Welsh Pony cross mare earned a final score of 138.85 to secure the victory.

Bradish and Katydid Duchess came in as the two-time defending national champion combination, having won in 2021 when the championship was held at the Garden State CDE in Allentown, New Jersey, and in 2020 at Live Oak International in Ocala, Florida.

"I was for sure feeling the pressure this weekend, especially going into cones," said Bradish. "I really enjoy the pressure and learning how to compete through it. I knew it was going to be a tough weekend; there were so many nice horses and drivers there to challenge us.

"The marathon course drove perfectly for us," continued Bradish. "It's a challenging course with two water hazards and hills, but Katydid Duchess is extremely fit and was still galloping up the hill at the end. I tried to challenge myself this weekend by driving the tighter, more technical lines and it paid off."


Bradish added that this year's win was especially sweet thanks to the shared history between the event and her horse.

"Katydid Duchess was bred and is owned by Katrina Becker and Jennifer Matheson on Katydid Farm, where the show originally ran," said Bradish. "This made it very special for her owners and me to win here."

Bradish has been working with Katydid Duchess for six years, bringing her all the way from Training to success at the FEI three-star level, and she hopes to continue to climb the ranks.

"Duchess will have a short vacation to rest and recover," said Bradish. "We will keep working on improving our dressage and fitness in hopes of getting selected to compete at the FEI Single Horse World Championships later this year."

The Reserve National Champion title went to Raymond Helmuth of Cambridge, Iowa, with Kendro, a seven-year-old Dutch Warmblood stallion owned by Helmuth Equine. The pair kicked off the weekend with the top dressage score in the division and finished with a double-clear cones round on Sunday. The pair finished with a score of 143.18.

Rounding out the top three was last year's reserve champion combination, Carrie Ostrowski of Lexington, Kentucky, and Gellerduht, her own 11-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding. The duo had a strong dressage test on Friday, earning the second-best score in the division, and a solid marathon on Saturday. – Adapted from US Equestrian press release 



Taylor Bradish and Katydid Duchess

Photo by Meghan Bengt Photography

DOUG PAYNE

Wins Land Rover/USEF CCI5*-L Eventing National Championship presented by MARS Equestrian

Doug Payne of Rougemont, North Carolina, and Quantum Leap earned the Land Rover/USEF CCI5*-L Eventing National Championship title, presented by MARS Equestrian, at the Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event CCI5*-L competition in Lexington, Kentucky, held April 28–May 1, 2022, to claim the Roger Haller Perpetual Trophy. Payne also received the USET Foundation Pinnacle Cup which is given to the highest-placed eligible U.S. rider.

Payne, along with the 11-year-old Rheinland Pfalz-Saar gelding he owns with his wife Jessica, earned a dressage score of 37.2 then progressed from 25th to equal fifth after a clean cross-country round with only 1.2 time penalties. They ended with a double-clear effort in the show jumping phase to conclude on a score of 38.4.

“We bought Quantum Leap as a weanling from Didi Callahan who bred him, and since then we’ve had four horses that she’s bred; it was the start of a pipeline of horses coming,” Payne explained. “So, to get here he certainly blew my expectations away. He just continues to get better and better as an 11-year-old in his third five-star now. I couldn’t ask for much more.”

Boyd Martin of Cochranville, Pennsylvania, and Tsetserleg TSF, a 15-year-old Trakehner gelding owned by Christine, Thomas, and Tommie Turner, earned the Reserve National Champion honors and finished fourth overall. Their dressage test earned a score of 29.3, and they added nothing to their score after a fast and clean trip on the cross-country course. In show jumping, they had eight penalties and 1.2 time penalties to end on a score of 38.5.

Buck Davidson of Unionville, Pennsylvania, and Carlevo were third in the National Championship and fifth overall. Davidson and the 15-year-old Holsteiner gelding owned by Katherine O’Brien scored 27.4 in the dressage phase, tallied 10 cross-country time penalties, and 1.2 show jumping time



Doug Payne and Quantum Leap with groom Courtney Carson.

penalties to finish on a score of 38.6.

Payne, who progressed through the USEF High Performance pathway program as a member on the USEF High Performance Eventing Training List, is a decorated international athlete. He earned a team gold medal from the 2019

Pan American Games in Lima, Peru, and was the highest-placed U.S. rider at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan. He can now add this National Championship title to his list of accolades. – Adapted from US Equestrian Press Release 🐾



Doug Payne and Quantum Leap

Photo by Shannon Brinkman

Photo by Pacific Press Media Production Corp. / Alamy Stock Photo

Remembering Hope Hand

On June 12, 2022, beloved para equestrian Hope Hand of Newton Square, Pennsylvania, lost her battle with pancreatic cancer and passed away at age 73. Hand, who was born with spina bifida and paralyzed from the waist down, served as an ambassador for the sport and built a legacy through the para equestrian programs she helped develop and the pathways she created for generations of athletes to come.

Hand (née Kean) was born on June 9, 1949, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and despite her physical impairment, was an athlete from a young age. As a girl, she was drawn to fast cars and sports, but her use of crutches or a wheelchair kept her from participating in many traditional team sports. As a result, she enjoyed activities such as kayaking, snow and water skiing, and at the age of 10, she began riding horses at a nearby stable. She graduated from Widener Memorial School in 1966 and earned a degree in accounting

and mechanical engineering from Temple University in 1974. She began working at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in 1967 and rose to corporate tax auditor by the time she retired in 2009.

In her riding career, Hand's ambitious spirit was evident. As a member of U.S. para dressage teams, she won a bronze medal at the 1999 World Dressage Championships in Denmark and competed at the 2000 Paralympics in Sydney, Australia, serving as the Team Captain. She also rode in the 1996 Paralympics in Atlanta, Georgia, the 1997 British Invitational, earning gold and bronze medals, as well as the 1997 Bradshaw Challenge Cup at the Festival of Champions, where she rode on a team with Steffen Peters and Guenter Seidel in a format that saw the freestyle score of a para athlete combined with the scores of their able-bodied teammates.

In addition to competing, Hand was a champion for disabled American equestrians and served as a driving force in helping the para equestrian discipline grow from the grassroots level to international prominence.

Notably in 2010, she founded the United States Para Equestrian Association (USPEA) where she served as president until her passing. Through the USPEA, Hand assisted athletes in becoming more involved with the sport and aimed to help them expand their knowledge of and experience with the various para equestrian disciplines.

Beyond her work with the USPEA, Hand demonstrated her steadfast advocacy and support of para equestrian athletes by organizing fundraising events, establishing rider and trainer clinics and symposiums, attracting sponsors, and getting to know the athletes in her community on a personal level. She was often considered the go-to person for athletes beginning their careers, advising, encouraging, and educating them throughout their journey.

Hand became internationally respected for her tireless work advancing para equestrian sport through her positions on numerous boards and committees. Hope was a member of the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) Para Dressage Technical committee from 2006 to 2010 and from 2016 to 2020. She served as a member of the US Equestrian (USEF) Board of Directors for 11 years from 2002 to 2013, was part of the USEF International Disciplines Council (IDC) from 2013 to 2022, was the USEF Para Dressage Sports Committee Chair from 2006 to 2013, and Vice Chair of the same committee from 2013 to 2022. Additionally, Hand served on the USEF Para Dressage Centers of Excellence panel from 2017 to 2022, and the Path International Advisory Board from 2018 to 2022.

In January 2020, Hand was awarded with the Pegasus Medal of Honor from USEF for her outstanding service to horses and the sport through her unwavering dedication and many contributions to the sport.


Hand is survived by her husband Stanley Hand, daughter Amy Cappozzoli and son-in-law Eric, grandchildren Parker and Lincoln Cappozzoli, brother Charlie Kean and sister-in-law Pamela, and her dog, a West Highland Terrier named Finley. 



Photo by Adam Brennan

Hope Hand at the 2020 USEF Annual Meeting where she received the Pegasus Medal of Honor

U.S. Young Rider Dressage Team

Ends European Tour on a High Note at Hagen CDIOY

The U.S. Young Rider Dressage Team concluded their month-long European tour with an eighth-place finish at Hagen CDIOY held at Future Champions in Hagen, Germany, from June 14–19, 2022. The CDIOY division included 26 talented horse and rider combinations from ten different countries. The team was led by Chef d'Equipe George Williams. Over the course of the competition, Williams was pleased to see improved rides from Erin Nichols, Mackenzie Peer, and Christian Simonson.

“After a bit of a rocky start in the Team Test, I was proud and happy with how our riders came back with strong performances for the Individual Test,” explained Williams. “It was exciting to see Christian prove how competitive we can be by improving on last year’s performance, earning the highest scores ever for a U.S. rider in this show, and placing fifth in the Individual and fourth in the Freestyle. Future Champions has become an important part of our program. It is such a great experience for our young athletes. Not only do they go head to head against the other top countries, but they also do it on the Europeans’ home turf.”

The first day of team competition featured athletes competing in the FEI Young Rider Team Test with Simonson of Ventura, California, and Son of a Lady, receiving a 67.794%, the highest mark for the U.S. combinations. This is Simonson’s second appearance on the U.S. European Young Rider Tour, having competed in 2021 with his mount Zeaball Diawind. Nichols of Yorba Linda, California, and Handsome Rob AR earned a 67.206% to count towards the team score. Peer of Leawood, Kansas, and her mount Ansgar, receiving a 65.981%. In CDIOY competition, the two highest scores count towards the overall team total, with the team finishing on a total of 135.00 after the first day of competition.

In the FEI Young Rider Individual Test, Simonson and Son of a Lady, an 11-year-old Danish Warmblood gelding, owned by Christina Morgan

and Clifton Simonson, were the highest-placed U.S. combination finishing fifth individually and earning a 73.168%, to improve on their performance from the day prior. Nichols and Handsome Rob AR, a 10-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding owned by Diane Nichols, took 12th with a score of 69.265%. Peer and her own Ansgar, a 17-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding, placed just outside of the top fifteen on a 68.627%.

Simonson and Son of a Lady again impressed in their FEI Young Rider Freestyle, earning a personal best 75.875% to finish fourth over-

all in the class. The pair’s freestyle showcased the gelding’s extravagant and balanced trot and canter work, giving them the highest mark of any U.S. combination to compete at the Hagen CDIOY in the team’s history. Nichols guided Handsome Rob AR to a 69.642% in their freestyle to cap off a successful week for the pair in their first appearance for the team in Europe. In the FEI Young Rider Freestyle Small Final, Peer and Ansgar took third place with a score of 70.667, improving on their marks over the continuation of the weekend. – Adapted from US Equestrian Press Release 



Christian Simonson and Son of a Lady

Photo by Foto Mhisen

FEI JUMPING NATIONS CUP OF CANADA

*NetJets® U.S. Jumping Team Takes Fifth in CSIO5**

The NetJets® U.S. Jumping Team finished fifth in the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup of Canada CSIO5*, which ran from June 1-5, 2022, at Thunderbird Show Park in Langley, British Columbia. The team was led by Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland, and included Karl Cook, Ailish Cuniffe, Kent Farrington, and Hunter Holloway.

"We came here with an emphasis on getting experience. Kent won five-star classes, including the Grand Prix, and he was the lead-off rider with a young horse competing at this level for the first time," said Ridland. "The other riders came for their own experience and growth. It was productive in that aspect, but it wasn't the result we were looking for. We're giving a lot of riders their initial experiences in Nations Cup competitions early on in their careers. Truthfully it's a big adjustment—jumping two rounds at 1.60m with the water. It's the sport at a different level so you have to experience it, and that was and is our goal."

Farrington of Wellington, Florida, led aboard Landon, a nine-year-old Zangersheide gelding owned by Haity McNerney, producing a clear round in the duo's first team appearance together. Hunter Holloway of Topeka, Kansas, and Pepita Con Spita, an 11-year-old Westphalian mare owned by Hays Investment Corp., had eight faults in their Nations Cup debut. Karl Cook of Rancho Santa Fe, California, and Coachella, a 10-year-old Oldenburg mare owned by Signe Ostby, were eliminated in the first round after a stop at the water and elected not to return for the second round. Ailish Cuniffe of South Salem, New York, in her second appear-



Kent Farrington and Landon

ance in 2022 for the team, anchored with Vivaldi du Theil, a 13-year-old Selle Français gelding owned by Graylish LLC, and added eight faults to their score. The team advanced to round two on 16 faults.

Returning for their second trip, Farrington looked strong through the majority of the course, but had the last two jumps down. Holloway improved on her results from the first round to finish with four faults. Cuniffe tallied eight faults, leaving the team on a total of 36 faults.

U.S. Junior Jumping Team Takes Third in CSIOJ

The U.S. Junior Jumping Team competed alongside their senior counterparts at Thunderbird Show Park, contesting the FEI Jumping Nations Cup CSIOJ against North American neighbors Canada and Mexico. The team was led by Chef d'Equipe DiAnn Langer and featured four up-and-coming combinations for the program.

Leila Diab of San Francisco, California, and her own Matahari HL, a nine-year-old Rheinisches mare, led the team's effort around the track set at 1.40m and designed by Peter Holmes of Canada. The duo added a rail to their first tour of the course while Andrew Lopez of Portola Valley, California, and his own George ZG, an 11-year-old Royal Dutch Warmblood gelding, also dropped a single rail to add four to the score. Sahana Ganesan of Palo Alto, California, rode her own Fast Lucca, a 14-year-old Hanoverian gelding, to a first-round score of eight faults, which would serve as the team's drop score in the first round. Alexa Leong of Sacramento, California, and her own Carlsson 72, an 11-year-old Hanoverian gelding, jumped clear moving the team forward on a team total of eight.

Diab and Matahari HL improved upon their first trip by jumping clear their second time around the track. Lopez and George ZG finished their second round with a total of eight faults, while Ganesan and Fast Lucca completed their final



Sahana Ganesan and Fast Lucca

round with twelve faults, which would serve as the team's drop score. Leong and Carlsson 72 produced a second clear effort for the team and notched the only two-round faultless rides of the four combinations. The team finished on a combined total of 16 faults. Mexico took the win with a final score of nine, with Canada securing second with twelve faults.

– Adapted from US Equestrian Press Release



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