



For Immediate Release

For more information, contact
Ginny Simon, Project Marketing,
610-889-2036,
gsimon@projectmarketinginc.com

2017 Dressage at Devon Wraps Up with Juniors, Dressage Explorers and Great Rides

October 2, 2017 (Devon, PA) – Dressage at Devon concluded with the sun shining. It was a day for children and juniors with junior classes, including freestyles, the popular stick horse contest, and of course, fantastic rides.

Highlights include:

FEI Intermediate B CDI3 – Jessica Jo Tate won the class on Kynymont Gunsmoke’s Gideon with a score of 66.571.

FEI Junior Rider Freestyle CDIJ – Ava MacCoubrey took the blue on Ritter Benno (Rolls Royce x Workuta), a Bay Gelding bred by Friedrich Vekens.

FEI Grand Prix Freestyle (16-25) CDIU25 – Rodrigo Encinas Fuentes on Van the Man, owned by Cesar Parra, won the class with a score of 70.900.

FEI Intermediare I Freestyle CD13* - Lori Bell took home the blue on Flirt (Florencio x Arkona) a 9-year old Oldenburg bred by Clemens von Merveldt, with a score of 74.350.

A Peak behind the Awards

Every year, we see award presentations at Dressage at Devon but know little of their history or sponsors. Let’s take a look at just a few of the trophies awarded this year. The Malachit trophy, first awarded in 1981, goes to the stallion winner of the Breed Show every year. It’s sponsored by David and Anne Gribbons and named after one of their stallions. Interestingly, horses who win this award tend to reappear at the Grand Prix level. For instance, Idocus, who won the award in 1994, returned to Dressage at Devon in 2007 to place second in both the Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Freestyle. Also, Rodioso who won the award in 2001 made his Grand Prix debut in 2015. This year Sandros Star, owned by Hannah Salazar, claimed this prestigious award. Will we see him one day at the Grand Prix level?

The McGinty Perpetual High Score CDI award is sponsored by John McGinty to honor the highest scoring adult amateur at the show. An adult amateur himself, McGinty is an advocate for the non-professional competitor. This year, P.J. Rizvi won the award riding Breaking Dawn, a Dutch Warmblood gelding.

The Leonard L and Phyllis M. Evans Memorial Perpetual Trophy dates back to 1977. It goes to the winner of the FEI Grand Prix — the qualifier for the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle — and features names of well-known equestrians, such as Hilda Gurney, Jessica Ransehausen and Carol Lavell. In 2017, the honor went to Diane Creech and her mount, Chrevis Christo.

It's In the Genes – Tori Belles

Often, the love of horses, dressage and the winning spirit is in the blood. That's certainly true for Tori Belles, who represents the third generation of her family to show at Dressage at Devon. Her grandmother, Judy Reggio, began showing horses here in the Breed Show when it first started in 1989 and has continued to attend every year. Her mother, Suzanne Reggio-Belles, continued the tradition. Also, they have shown six generations of horses they have bred here.

Tori made her Devon debut at the age of six in the leadline class. After graduating from leadline class, she volunteered at Devon and helped her mother while she showed. Today, the tables have turned. Tori's mother was helping the twelve-year-old at her first CDI — all with good results. Tori won the Dressage Seat Equitation for Juniors' class, riding Good Grace, an 18-year-old Welsh Cross pony, with an impressive score of 80. She also won the FEI Pony Freestyle CDIP, the FEI Pony Team Test CDIP and FEI Pony Individual Test CDIP. "I just wanted to get through it and have a good time," she said. She did more than that as evidenced by her victory gallop around the Dixon Oval, which she said, "was so much fun."

About Dressage at Devon

Dressage at Devon (www.dressageatdevon.org) has been a premier North American Equestrian event since its founding in 1975. It combines world-class dressage competition and the world's largest open breed show with the international Fall Festival show and special activities for the entire family. The six-day event attracts hundreds of riders from around the world and thousands of spectators. Dressage at Devon is a 501(c) (3) PA non-profit organization, benefiting equine education.

###

Documents and/or Photos available for this release:

Caption(s):

Lori Bell on Flirt

The Stickhorse crowd