



# THE WARM-UP RING

*The Official News of the Jumping Committee*

November 2017, Volume 13, Issue 10

## IN THIS ISSUE

Royal Horse Show Photo Gallery

Amy Millar Claims First Canadian Show  
Jumping Championship Title

Makayla Clarke and Grace Munro Tie in  
\$5,000 MarBill Hill Royal Pony  
Jumper Final

Erynn Ballard Bests \$25,000 Knightwood  
Hunter Derby

Eric Lamaze Ends Global Champions  
League with Team Victory

Canada's Eric Lamaze to Defend Rolex  
Top Ten Final Title in Geneva

Nicole Walker Takes Uplands Under 25  
Jumping National Championship

Julia Madigan Crowned National  
Junior/Amateur Jumping Champion

Mackenzie Wray Wins 2017 Running Fox  
CET Medal Final

Sam Walker Wins 2017 JC Medal  
National Final

Canadian Success Stories

Canada's Eric Lamaze to Defend Rolex  
Top Ten Final Title in Geneva

Longines World Rider Rankings

Acknowledgments



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



The Royal Horse Show, held as part of the 95th edition of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, has come and gone, and all of you who qualified and competed there should be proud of your accomplishments with your horse. The best of the best are showcased at The Royal, and to win there is truly an achievement of which to be proud.

At The Royal, the Jumping Committee awarded its four "of the Year" awards. These important presentations usually take place during the annual Jump Canada Hall of Fame Gala; however, this year's Gala took a one-year hiatus in 2017, with the money usually raised at this event instead directed to the Caribbean Equine Relief Fund which is helping animals displaced by the recent hurricanes.

We were delighted to present the JC Official of the Year Award to John 'J.T.' Taylor; the JC Owner of the Year Award to Artisan Farms for a record fifth time; the JC Sponsor of the Year Award to Ed James of SSG Gloves; and our JC Volunteer of the Year Award, kept secret until the presentation, to the very deserving Mark Samuel. These recipients are so worthy of our recognition, and we are extremely

grateful for all their support of Canadian hunter and jumper sport over the past many years. Be sure to look for profiles on all four of the award winners in the December issue.

We also award JC Youth Bursaries to deserving young people from across Canada at this time of the year, made possible through a leadership donation by the Samuel Group of Companies. The JC Youth Bursary program is open to riders between the ages of 14 and 21 who demonstrate solid goals within equestrian sport, commitment to their own education, and financial need. Some years we receive many applications (last year we had 14) and some years we receive less. This year we received four applications, and we were able to award bursaries to three deserving individuals in recognition of the challenges young riders face as they strive to continue their education while riding at the upper levels of jumping sport.

If you are a young rider or the parent of one, we urge you to apply for a JC Bursary to help further your riding goals. To find information, go to the EC website. Fill out the application, and be sure to include all the documentation that is requested. The Jumping Committee feels very strongly that helping rising stars in our sport is the way to a bright and successful future for show jumping in Canada, and we are only too happy to assist in whatever way we can.

Wishing you all a restful and quiet off-season before our competition schedule starts up once again in the New Year.

**Pamela Law**  
Chair, Jumping Committee

# ROYAL HORSE SHOW PHOTO GALLERY

Toronto, Canada | All Photo Credits – © Jump Media



Quebec's Alexanne Thibault was named the reserve champion in the Uplands Under 25 National Championship.



Millar Brooke Farm groom extraordinaire Danny Ingratta at the FEI Horse Inspection with Conenzo.



Ed James of SSG Gloves with Royal Horse Show manager Peter Doubleday in his signature SSG Gloves shirt.



François Lamontagne shows off his signature style on his way to the Leading Canadian Rider title.



Nicole Walker (left) walks the course with coach Cian O'Connor (center) and Mark Kinsella.



Canada's top ranked female rider Tiffany Foster flashes her signature smile.



Sam Pegg and Caroquodos T contested their first Canadian Show Jumping Championships.



Terrance 'Torchy' Millar.



Jill Henselwood coached Ali Ramsay to a third-place finish in the Canadian Show Jumping Championships.



Tiffany Foster and Tripple X III starred in the CTV News at Noon broadcast with Anwar Knight.



Ben Radvanyi Photography

Amy Millar of Perth, ON, claimed her first Canadian Show Jumping Championship title riding Heros on Saturday night, November 4, at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

## AMY MILLAR CLAIMS FIRST CANADIAN SHOW JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

Canadian Olympian Amy Millar of Perth, ON, claimed her first Canadian Show Jumping Championship title on Saturday night, November 4, at the Royal Horse Show, held as part of the 95th Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, ON.

Sitting third following Friday's opening round of competition with 1.25 penalties, Millar returned for a two-round final in front of a full house in the Ricoh Coliseum on Saturday evening. Piloting her 2016 Rio Olympic Games mount, Heros, Millar jumped fault-free over the tracks set by Brazilian course designer Guilherme Jorge to move to the top of the leaderboard and win her first national championship title.

"There are very few things that I get as excited about as the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair," said Millar, 40, whose father, Ian Millar, has won a record 12 Canadian Show Jumping Championship titles in his illustrious career. "It has been such a big part of my life for so long that I have wanted this for probably the whole time I have been alive! It is so important to me and to Canada; the stands are filled with Canadians who love the sport, and it has always been so prestigious to win."

Young Canadian talent dominated the leaderboard at the close of the Canadian Championships. François Lamontagne, 33, of St. Eustache, QC, moved up from fifth in Friday's opening round to a second-place finish behind Millar with a total score of 3.73 riding Chanel du Calvaire. Ali Ramsay, 25, of Victoria, BC, piloted Hermelien VD Hooghoeve into third with a final score of 4.24 while Nicole Walker of Aurora, ON, celebrated her 24th birthday with two clear rounds aboard Falco van Spievel to finish fourth overall with 5.34 penalties.

Isabelle Lapierre, 38, of Levis, QC, was close behind with 5.86 penalties for fifth riding Cescha M. Laura Jane Tidball, 39, of Langley, BC, rounded out the top six riding Concetto Son for owner Thunderbird Show Park with 9.06 total penalties. Ten-time Canadian Olympian Ian Millar was poised to defend his Canadian Championship title, but three rails down on Saturday night moved his daughter into the spotlight.



François Lamontagne of St. Eustache, QC, was named the 2017 Canadian Show Jumping Reserve Champion riding Chanel du Calvaire at the Royal Horse Show.



Ali Ramsay of Victoria, BC, was third in the 2017 Canadian Show Jumping Championship riding her Belgian Warmblood mare, Hermelien VD Hooghoeve.

"I've done this class many times and, by far, this was the biggest and most difficult Canadian Championships that has ever been built," said Amy Millar of Jorge's tracks. "I think that is a reflection of how strong our Canadian riders are. It's the first time that our starting field has been this strong, and that's pretty exciting for Canadian show jumping."

Of her performance in the 2017 Canadian Show Jumping Championship, Amy Millar noted, "I just had to keep telling myself to ride well, jump clean, and stay focused. Every time winning entered my mind, I pushed it away and thought, 'just concentrate on what you know; ride well and jump clean rounds'. And obviously it worked!"

Amy Millar's winning mount, Heros, is a ten-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding (Canadian River x Clinton I).

"Heros is owned by a group, AMMO Investments," explained Amy Millar. "It's Ann Matthews and her daughter, Karen Sparks, and Patty Overlund and Patrick O'Brien, who are mother and son, and my family. It's a group of people that I've known a long time and really love; they are all good friends of mine, and I can't thank them enough for their support."



Amy Millar aboard Heros is presented as the 2017 Canadian Show Jumping Champion by Karen Hendry-Ouellette, Equestrian Canada's Manager of Jumping.

Based on their performance in the Canadian Show Jumping Championship, Amy Millar and runner-up Lamontagne qualified for the Royal Horse Show's international division. They joined fellow Canadian athletes Tiffany Foster of North Vancouver, BC, Kean White of Rockwood, ON, Vanessa Mannix of Calgary, AB, Erynn Ballard of Tottenham, ON, Ali Ramsay of Victoria, BC, and Ian Millar of Perth, ON, who were all pre-qualified based on their world ranking.

### \$125,000 Canadian Show Jumping Championship – Final Standings

Rider	Hometown	Horse	Final Score
1. Amy Millar	Perth, ON	Heros	1.25
2. François Lamontagne	St. Eustache, QC	Chanel du Calvaire	3.73
3. Ali Ramsay	Victoria, BC	Hermelien VD Hooghoeve	4.24
4. Nicole Walker	Aurora, ON	Falco Van Spieveld	5.34
5. Isabelle Lapierre	Levis, QC	Cescha M	5.86
6. Laura Jane Tidball	Langley, BC	Concetto Son	9.06



Marion Cunningham and Bill Tilford of MarBill Hill Farm present Makayla Clarke (left) aboard Twisted and Grace Munro (right) aboard Ever So Clever as co-winners of \$5,000 MarBill Hill Royal Pony Jumper Final on Sunday, November 5, at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

## MAKAYLA CLARKE AND GRACE MUNRO TIE IN \$5,000 MARBILL HILL ROYAL PONY JUMPER FINAL

Makayla Clarke of Hilden, NS, riding Twisted and Grace Munro of Wolfville, NS, riding Ever So Clever tied for the win in the \$5,000 MarBill Hill Royal Pony Jumper Final held at the Royal Horse Show on Sunday, November 5, after both jumped clear and stopped the jump-off timers in the exact same time, 23.10 seconds.

Both hailing from Nova Scotia, Clarke and Munro have been friends for four years and have competed against each other in the Pony Jumper division all season. While they weren't expecting the Royal Pony Jumper Final to end in a tie at the Royal Horse Show, it is not the first time the two riders have finished an event in a dead heat.

"This has happened several times at the Windsor Spring and Summer Horse Shows in Nova Scotia," said Clarke, 15, who was competing at the Royal Horse Show for the first time. "We have shown together a lot and it has been a long season to get here. At first, it was nerve racking to be here, but once you're in that ring, it feels like any other horse show with a lot more atmosphere."

Of her experienced mount, Twisted, Clarke noted, "He's still going strong at 22 years of age. He is a little firecracker, but a lot of fun to ride. After this show, I will start looking for a horse to move up on."

Munro, meanwhile, has owned her pony for four years, and keeps her at home where she cares for Ever So Clever herself. The Royal Horse Show marked the pair's last competitive appearance together, as Ever So Clever has been sold and Munro, 17, will compete on horses next season.

"It was really exciting to win our last class together," said Munro. "The atmosphere here is really different than anywhere else we show, so being here and doing well is really exciting."

Savannah Singh of Stoney Creek, ON, placed third with a jump-off time of 23.64 seconds riding Northwind Darby for owner and grandmother, Cara Whitham. Erin Oswald of Rigaud, QC, took fourth with a time of 24.74 seconds riding Brookside Look At Me, owned by Sandra Costanzo O'Brien, while Ella Marquis of Caledon, ON, rounded out the top five with four faults in the jump-off riding Fluff on Fire for owner Mark Marquis.

Oswald's performance in the MarBill Hill Royal Pony Jumper Final helped her and Brookside Look At Me earn the division championship title. The pair was second in the Stake and third in the Welcome class held Saturday, November 4. Having won the Welcome and finished third in the Stake, Kilby Brunner Deforest of Hillsburgh, ON, was named reserve champion riding Beaverwood's Kauri.



Erynn Ballard of Tottenham, ON, and Enchanted won the \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby on Tuesday, November 7, at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

## ERYNN BALLARD BESTS \$25,000 KNIGHTWOOD HUNTER DERBY

Erynn Ballard of Tottenham, ON, and Enchanted won the \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby on Tuesday, November 7, at the Royal Horse Show, held as part of the 95th Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, ON.

Ballard and Enchanted, a six-year-old mare owned by Christel Weller, entered the Ricoh Coliseum as the penultimate entry. Judges Chance Arakelian of Rancho Santa Fe, CA, and James Clapperton of Morrilton, FL, awarded Ballard and Enchanted a base score of 90, nine handy bonus points, and the maximum ten bonus points for jumping the higher height option fences set by course designer Rob Carey of Vineland, ON. With an impressive overall score of 109, the pair shot to the top of the leaderboard by a large margin.

With one entry left to contest the hunter derby track, all eyes were on Darcy Hayes of Aurora, ON, aboard Say When, who had emerged victorious in the \$15,000 Braeburn Farms Hunter Derby held Sunday, November 5. When the pair posted a score of 99 points, the win went to Ballard by a considerable ten-point margin. Brent Balisky of Langley, BC, and Class Act, owned by Wendy Valdes, rounded out the top three with a score of 97.5.

"My focus in the derby is always to get the highest hunter score that I can get because that's out of 100," explained Ballard. "Your handy and your high options are out of 20, so, I'm always trying to aim for 100 and the rest is icing. Tonight, I didn't want to jump the big combination. I thought it was very impressive for a six-year-old, and it was off a short turn."



Darcy Hayes of Aurora, ON, and Say When, owned by Danielle Trudell-Baran, won the \$15,000 Braeburn Farms Hunter Derby for the second year in a row on Sunday, November 5, at the Royal Horse Show.



Jeff Brandmaier (left), Muffie Guthrie, and their daughter, Liza Jean, presented Erynn Ballard and Enchanted with the Lorna Jean Guthrie Challenge Trophy for the Canadian Hunter Derby Champion.

However, with riders contesting Tuesday night's class in reverse order of their placings in Sunday's \$15,000 Braeburn Farms Hunter Derby, Ballard knew she had tough competition entering the ring behind her in the form of Hayes and Say When, owned by Danielle Trudell-Baran.

"I was so good up to that point, I risked it all to be first," said Ballard, 37, who was competing at the Royal Horse Show for the 29th time. "If I had jumped the low option, I was probably going to be second losing those valuable points. Enchanted stepped up her game; she was super."

For the victory, Ballard and Enchanted were presented with the Paddy Ann Burns Trophy. Enchanted earned the Lorna Jean Guthrie Challenge Trophy for the Canadian Hunter Derby Championship as the high point horse in both the \$15,000 Braeburn Farms Hunter Derby and the \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby.

"She is a very special horse," Ballard said of Enchanted, purchased a year ago through Paul Hendrix's Dutch Sport Horse Sales auction in The Netherlands. "She's very sure of herself for a six-year-old. To go into that pressure situation and to do so well is great. She was a stand-out tonight in the class."

Margaret 'Muffie' Guthrie of Guelph, ON, was awarded the Bob Rose Trophy, presented by Brian and Wendy O'Leary, as the top-placed amateur competitor aboard Lucky 2 Knight, owned by Knightwood Stables.

Brent Balisky of Langley, BC, swept the Western division of the Canadian Hunter Derby Championship, presented by the Equestrian Canada (EC) Jumping Committee. As the 2017 Western Region Champion with Class Act, Balisky earned a \$6,000 bonus, as well as \$4,000 as the Western Region Reserve Champion riding Easystreet, owned by Thunderbird Show Stables.

As the Eastern Champion, Isabelle Lapierre of Levis, QC, and Carrera S, owned by Johannie Legare, was awarded the Prince of Thieves Trophy, presented by Paul Halpern and the Law family of St. Lazare, QC.

### \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby Results – Tuesday, November 7

Rider	Hometown	Horse	Score
1. Erynn Ballard	Tottenham, ON	Enchanted	109.00
2. Darcy Hayes	Aurora, ON	Say When	99.00
3. Brent Balisky	Langley, BC	Class Act	97.50
4. Muffie Guthrie	Guelph, ON	Lucky 2 Knight	97.00
5. Brent Balisky	Langley, BC	Easystreet	96.00
6. Sam Walker	Nobleton, ON	Miracle	95.00
7. Diana Dionisio	Burlington, ON	Lancelot	90.00
8. Ryan Roy	King City, ON	Leopold	89.00
9. Quincy Hayes	Aurora, ON	King Bee	86.00
10. Carly Stevens	Foothills, AB	Corona OS	84.00
11. Maude Boulanger Bouchard	Mirabel, QC	Geneva	83.00
12. Scott McKay	Acton, ON	Cut To The Chase	81.00

# ERIC LAMAZE ENDS GLOBAL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE WITH TEAM VICTORY

Canada's Eric Lamaze, riding alongside Harrie Smolders, led the Hamburg Diamonds to the overall victory in the final event of the Global Champions League held November 10 and 11 in Doha, Qatar.

The 2017 Global Champions League saw 18 teams participate, with the majority named for stops on the Global Champions League tour. Heading into the final event of the season, the Hamburg Diamonds held a narrow lead over Valkenswaard United, with the final rankings to be decided over two days in Doha.

Lamaze incurred nine faults in Friday's opening round, hindered by two broken ribs suffered days earlier, while his teammate, Harrie Smolders of The Netherlands, jumped a clear round to keep hopes of an overall victory alive. On Saturday night, Lamaze delivered when it counted most, producing a clear round aboard his 2016 Rio Olympic bronze medal partner, Fine Lady 5, a 14-year-old bay Hanoverian mare (Forsyth x Drosselklang II) owned by Andy and Carlene Ziegler's Artisan Farms in partnership with Lamaze's Torrey Pines Stable. When Smolders matched his fault-free performance riding Don VHP Z, the Hamburg Diamonds secured the 2017 Global Champions League title with a total of 312 points over Valkenswaard United, who kept the pressure on right until the end and finished runner-up with 308 points. The Mexico Amigos finished a distant third with 250 points.

The Hamburg Diamonds won a total of €2,269,614 in prize money throughout the 2017 Global Champions League season. Lamaze, Smolders, and six-time British Olympian John Whitaker were joined by Under 25 competitors, Audrey Coulter of the United States and Belgium's Jos Verlooy, in representing the Hamburg Diamonds over the course of the 2017 season for owners Copernicus and Euro Horse. Two riders from each team are selected to compete in each of the 15 Global Champions League events held around the world.

"Thank you to Axel Verlooy and the Coulter family for including me on their team this season," said Lamaze, 49. "When Axel first approached me, I didn't hesitate to join such a strong team. It took the best riders to win the championship title.

"I would also like to thank my owners, particularly Andy and Carlene Ziegler, for allowing me to ride their horses in the Global Champions League this year," added Lamaze.

Lamaze competed in four Global Champions League events riding his 2016 Rio Olympic mount, Fine Lady 5. He also made three appearances with Chacco Kid, an 11-year-old chestnut Oldenburg gelding (Chacco Blue x Come On) owned by Andy and Carlene Ziegler, Rick and Sara Mershad, and Ludi and Carol Sollak, who, collectively, form The Chacco Kid Group.



Eric Lamaze and Fine Lady 5, owned by Artisan Farms and Torrey Pines Stable, led the Hamburg Diamonds to the overall Global Champions League title on November 10 and 11 in Doha, Qatar.



Harrie Smolders and Eric Lamaze of the Hamburg Diamonds are presented as the overall winners of the 2017 Global Champions League in Doha, Qatar."





Nicole Walker of Aurora, ON, and Excellent B on their way to claiming the 2017 Uplands Under 25 National Championship at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

## NICOLE WALKER TAKES UPLANDS UNDER 25 JUMPING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Nicole Walker of Aurora, ON, won the Uplands Under 25 National Championship on Saturday, November 11, at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

As the culmination of the Canadian Under 25 series, a total of 15 Canadian athletes and one international wild card, awarded to Daniel Coyle of Ireland, attended the Royal Horse Show to go head-to-head for the national title.

Walker began her journey to the top with an impressive win in the \$12,500 1.45m Alfred Rogers Under 25 National Championship – Phase I, held as a one-round speed class. Riding Excellent B, her eight-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding (Berlin x Heartbreaker), Walker flew around the track set by Rio 2016 Olympic course designer Guilherme Jorge of Brazil. One of only two riders to produce clear rounds in Phase I, Walker stopped the clock in 61.07 seconds to narrowly beat out Veronica Bot of Burlington, ON, who crossed the timers in 61.62 seconds with Quidam's Caprice M, owned by AEI Corp.

"For Excellent B to be clear here for his first time indoors, I'm very impressed with him," said Walker, who took over the ride on Excellent B this spring from her coach, Irish Olympic medalist Cian O'Connor. "He is so mature for his age, and such a brave soul. I couldn't ask for a better horse."

In Phase II held Saturday afternoon, November 11, Walker laid down one of four clear rounds to advance to the jump-off. As the last rider to return in the jump-off, Walker knew she had to be quick and clear to catch Alexanne Thibault of Boucherville, QC, who held the lead with a time of 34.82 seconds aboard Chacco Prime. Although Walker left all the rails up, she came up short of Thibault's time, stopping the clock at 35.96 for second place.

"I thought today was a little tougher than the first day, a little more technical, but there are a lot of good riders here, too," said Walker. "Canada has done really well in the Under 25 classes this year. I think the course designer did a good job building to the field that is here."

Having accumulated the most points across the two phases of competition, Walker was crowned the 2017 National Champion.

"I have one year left in Under 25, and I feel like it's been a great stepping stone in helping me prepare to do bigger stuff," said Walker, reflecting on her U25 season. "I think it's building a strong field for Canada because, as you can see, the riders are getting better and better. I think it's really good for Canada's future."

The Reserve Champion title went to Thibault, combining her Phase II win with a third place finish in Phase I's speed round riding Chacco Prime, her nine-year-old Hanoverian gelding (Chacco Blue x Le Primeur).

As the National Champion, Walker received a saddle provided by Antares Sellier. In addition, plates for the class winners and prize money was generously donated by the Uplands Charitable Foundation in memory of the late Alfred Rogers, as well as the Equestrian Canada (EC) Jumping Committee.

### About the Under 25 Series

The Under 25 series is part of the Young Riders Development Program, which was spearheaded by the Equestrian Canada (EC) Jumping Committee to help increase participation and improve performance at the FEI Children, Junior and Young Rider level. By providing youth with a pathway to become involved in the sport of jumping from an earlier age, the Jumping Committee is paving the way for a strong pool of future Canadian Equestrian Team athletes to represent Canada on the world stage. More information on the Under 25 series can be found at [www.equestrian.ca/programs-services/athlete-development](http://www.equestrian.ca/programs-services/athlete-development).



Nicole Walker, mounted on Excellent B, is presented as the 2017 Uplands Under 25 National Championship by, from left to right, David Marion of Antares Sellier, Equestrian Canada Jumping Talent ID Program Advisor Beth Underhill, Bryce and Kyle Rogers representing the late Alfred Rogers, and Royal Agricultural Winter Fair President Andrew McKee.

# JULIA MADIGAN CROWNED NATIONAL JUNIOR/AMATEUR JUMPING CHAMPION

Julia Madigan of Vancouver, BC, claimed the 2017 National 1.40m Junior/Amateur Jumping Championship, presented by Dominion Regalia, on November 5 at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

The title capped off a stellar year for 21-year-old Madigan, who won individual gold and team silver medals at the 2017 Adequan/FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC) in Saugerties, NY, in July. Her mount on all occasions has been Farfelu du Printemps, a 12-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding (Action Breaker x Darco) owned by her father, John Madigan.

"It's my first time at the Royal Horse Show and it means a lot; it's the championship of Canada and very well known," said Madigan.

Madigan opened competition at the Royal Horse Show with a fourth place finish in the \$2,500 1.40m Junior/Amateur Welcome on November 4. On November 5, they returned to the Ricoh Coliseum to earn back-to-back wins in the \$2,500 Speed class in the morning, followed by the \$10,000 Royal Stake in the afternoon, where a clean and fast jump-off round secured the championship title.

Although Madigan was making her Royal Horse Show debut, Farfelu du Printemps is no stranger to the Ricoh Coliseum, having won the 2015 Canadian Show Jumping Championship under Madigan's coach, Canadian Olympic team silver medalist, Jill Henselwood.

"We bought Farfelu two and a half years ago and I rode him that summer, but then I was off to university in the fall and Jill took over," explained Madigan, a third-year Mechanical Engineering student at Queen's University in Kingston, ON.

Balancing riding with her studies, Madigan makes frequent trips to Henselwood's Juniper Farms in Oxford Mills, ON, to maintain her training, saying, "Jill helps me during the week when I am not able to come to the barn, and she schools him and shows him, and does such great work."

A total of 18 top junior and amateur jumping athletes from across the country went head-to-head for the national title. The Reserve Championship title ended in a tie between Sadie Leon, 20, of Mississauga, ON, and Alexanne Thibault, 19, of Boucherville, QC.

Leon's Royal experience began on a high note, winning the Welcome class after being one of just two riders to go double-clear. Riding Camilla, her ten-year-old Dutch Warmblood mare (Van Gogh x Hors La Loi II), Leon's jump-off time of 32.51 seconds was just enough to bump Mackenzie Wray, 18, of Loretto, ON into second place (32.86 seconds) with Castor, owned by Makin Holdings Inc.

Thibault, who was also part of Canada's silver medal team at Young Rider Championships as well as the individual silver medalist, took third place in the Welcome as the fastest of the four-fault performances riding her 2017 NAJYRC partner, Chacco Prime (Chacco Blue x Le Primeur), a nine-year-old Hanoverian gelding.

Thibault and Leon both finished outside of the ribbons in the Speed class the following day, but finished strong in the Royal Stake, which saw four riders qualify for the jump-off. Thibault's jump-off time of 36.42 seconds was just 1.17 seconds off Madigan to earn second place, while Leon picked up four faults in the first round for fifth place.

As the overall winner, Madigan was presented with the Canadian Junior/Amateur Championship Plate, donated by the Equestrian Canada (EC) Jumping Committee in memory of Andre Bollinger.



Julia Madigan, 21, of Vancouver, BC, claimed the 2017 National Junior/Amateur Jumping Championship aboard Farfelu du Printemps on November 5 at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.



Julia Madigan, mounted on Farfelu du Printemps, is presented with the Canadian Equestrian Team Challenge Trophy as the Junior/Amateur Jumper Champions by Karen Hendry-Ouellette of Equestrian Canada, on Sunday, November 5, at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

# MACKENZIE WRAY WINS 2017 RUNNING FOX CET MEDAL FINAL

Mackenzie Wray of Loretto, ON, won the 2017 Running Fox CET Medal National Final on November 9 at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

A total of 16 top equitation competitors qualified for the CET National Final within the four regions of British Columbia, Prairie (AB, SK, MB), Ontario, and Atlantic (QC, NB, NS, NF, PEI).

Wray's ride to the top began on November 8 when she won the Flat and Gymnastic phase of the CET Medal aboard Contact, an eight-year-old Holsteiner gelding owned by Makim Holdings Inc. Tackling the challenging test, which included extended and collected gaits, counter canter, changes of lead, and a turn on the haunches, as well as trot and canter poles, bounce combinations, and a line connecting two one-stride combinations that was required to be ridden in both directions – once in six strides and again in seven strides – Wray put in a polished performance to earn the top mark of 85.00.

"I think the Flat and Gymnastic phase was the hardest because there was so much to remember, and I think that really plays with the riders' mind," said Wray, who previously won the JC Medal Final at the 2016 Royal Horse Show riding Contact. "When I get nervous I tend to rush through everything, but I really kept it together."

In the Jumping phase held November 9, Wray placed second with a score of 83.00 to be among the top four riders called back for final testing. As the final competitor, Wray laid down a smooth and efficient trip in the final test, which included jumping from a counter-canter and trotting into a bending line.

"I definitely came back to win this year," said Wray, who finished outside the top ten in the 2016 Running Fox CET Medal National Final. "I was really confident in Contact, he has been amazing this year."

A Business Administration student at Hartpury College in England, Wray flew back to Canada specifically for the Royal Horse Show, with minimal time to get back in the saddle and prepare.

"The weeks leading up to the CET Final were hard because I didn't get to ride much; I was back from England for a day and then we came right to the Royal," explained Wray, who is coached by Canadian Show Jumping Team veteran, Erynn Ballard. "I've been riding with Erynn for five years now, and I couldn't imagine training with anyone else. She makes you ride the best you can."

As the 2017 Running Fox CET Medal National Final winner, Wray was presented with a Luc Childeric saddle by Debra Smith, co-owner of Running Fox. The title sponsor of the CET Medal series and National Final for over 20 years, Running Fox also provided all 16 competitors with a Walsh leather halter, plus coolers for the top eight finishers.

Halle Gainey of Kelowna, BC, was named the Reserve Champion in the Running Fox CET Medal Final riding her Dutch Warmblood mare, Steel Magnolias. Following a fifth place finish in the Flat and Gymnastics phase, Gainey secured her spot in the final four with a score of 78.00 for third place in the Jumping phase.

Third place overall went to Mackenzey Nadeau of Carleton Place, ON, riding Ferraro K, owned by Brookstreet Stables Corporation. Rounding out the top four was Jade Fowler of Priddis, AB, riding Charmony for owner Ute Brinkmann.



Mackenzie Wray of Loretto, ON, won the 2017 Running Fox CET Medal National Final riding Contact at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.



Mackenzie Wray, mounted on Contact, is presented as the winner of the 2017 Running Fox CET Medal Final by, from left to right, Pam Law, Karen Hendry-Ouellette, Tiffany Foster, and Running Fox co-owner, Debra Smith.

# SAM WALKER WINS 2017 JC MEDAL NATIONAL FINAL

Sam Walker of Nobleton, ON, was crowned the JC Medal National Champion on November 7 at the 2017 Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

Riding Miracle, a 12-year-old Holsteiner gelding (Catoki x Landlord) owned by Marion Cunningham, Walker went head-to-head against 25 athletes representing four Canadian regions (Atlantic, Ontario, Prairie, and British Columbia), who were invited to compete for the national title after qualifying through their Regional Final.

"Equitation is a big focus this year; it's a really important part of my riding right now and I look to continue that in Canada and in the States," explained Walker, 15, who is coached by his parents, Scott and Dee Walker, who own and operate Forest Hill Training Centre Inc. in Caledon, ON, as well as Missy Clarke and John Brennan when he is competing south of the border. "The JC Medal means a lot to me. It's a medal final that I not only look forward to riding in, but also maybe placing in the final, and today I exceeded my goal by coming out on top."

Sam Walker kicked things off with a stellar performance in the initial jumping round, which featured 12 jumping efforts, including a three-part bending line that caused challenges for riders throughout the class. Despite being the first entry into the ring, Sam Walker nailed the tricky striding and laid down a smooth round highlighted by efficient turns and roll-backs to secure his spot among the top eight invited back to a flat phase.

The top eight were asked to perform a variety of commands at the walk, trot, and canter, including a reverse of direction at the sitting trot. Sam Walker's well-rounded equitation skills were on display during the flat phase, allowing him to move forward yet again, this time to a final jumping test for the top four riders.

After the announcer relayed the test instructions, Sam Walker had only a few minutes to memorize the shortened course, which included cantering an oxer straight from the line-up, navigating a bending line, and hand-galloping the final jump. The daring young talent rose to the challenge, setting himself apart by taking every inside turn.

"I had the benefit of watching three others go so I was able to make a solid plan for my test," explained Sam Walker, who also competed with his horse, Miracle, in the Canadian Hunter Derby National Championship at the Royal Horse Show. "I've been riding this horse for a couple of years now, and he is a very, very special horse to me. He's always honest and I always know when he is ready when he comes out of his stall. Today he felt really ready and it was great!"

Dee and Scott Walker were on hand to celebrate their son's success.

"We are just so very proud of Sam and all of his accomplishments," said Dee Walker, explaining that her son attends school online to allow him to work around his training and competition schedule, and is currently at the Grade 10 level. "He has worked very hard to get here. He is no slouch and does the work behind the scenes; he doesn't just get on and ride. He is expected to help out with everything from looking after his horses to helping out around the barn."

Scott Walker added, "I think it's a great reward for him to win this class, a well-earned reward. When dedication, attention to detail, and work ethic are there, then the success will come."

As the 2017 JC Medal Final Champion, Sam Walker was awarded the Leslie P. Usherwood Memorial Trophy, as well as a plate donated by the Usherwood family.

Finishing in second place was Miranda Burruano, who currently resides in Orchard Park, NY, riding Quixote. Taking third was Megan Champoux of Aldergrove, BC, and Easystreet, owned by Thunderbird Show Stables. Also advancing to the final test and taking fourth place overall was Christine Carlsen of North York, ON, riding Mise Le Meas for owner Valhalla Equestrian.



Sam Walker of Nobleton, ON, won the 2017 JC Medal National Final riding Miracle at the 2017 Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON.

# CANADIAN SUCCESS STORIES

Starting Gate Communications



## ERIC LAMAZE

Canadian Olympic champion Eric Lamaze claimed a grand prix victory at CSI2\* Opglabbeek in Belgium, winning the €25,875 Grand Prix Gemeente Oudsbergen on Sunday, October 29, aboard Fine Lady 5. Lamaze and the 14-year-old bay Hanoverian mare (Forsyth x Drosselklang II) owned by Artisan Farms LLC and Torrey Pines Stable, were one of 17 entries from the 66-horse starting field to advance to the jump-off and a hotly-contested race against the clock. Lamaze and his 2016 Rio Olympic bronze medal mount stopped the timers in 39.03 seconds to take the win over Harrie Smolders of The Netherlands who stopped the clock in 39.23 seconds riding Zinius for owner Eurohorse BVBA – Axel Verlooy. Coincidentally, Lamaze was using the CSI2\* Opglabbeek as a warm-up for the Global Champions League Final in Doha, Qatar, where he would be teamed with Smolders in representing the Hamburg Diamonds in their final outing of the season.

Ben Radvanyi Photography



## IAN MILLAR

Ian Millar claimed a victory for the host nation at Toronto's Royal Horse Show by winning the \$15,000 McKee International Jumper Challenge on November 8. The ten-time Canadian Olympian hailing from Perth, ON, was the fifth to contest the speed track set by 2016 Rio Olympic course designer Guilherme Jorge, laying down a time of 53.21 seconds riding Vittorio 8, a nine-year-old Hanoverian gelding owned by Future Adventures. None who followed were able to catch 'Captain Canada', with Ireland's Daniel Coyle coming the closest after stopping the clock in 53.39 seconds aboard Martha Louise.

Ben Radvanyi Photography



## FRANÇOIS LAMONTAGNE

François Lamontagne of St. Eustache, QC, finished in second in both the \$100,000 Canadian Show Jumping Championship and the \$87,000 GroupBy Big Ben Challenge at the Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON. For his impressive, consistent performances on home soil, Lamontagne, 33, was presented with the Moffat Dunlap Leading Canadian Rider Award on Saturday, November 11. His mount for both the Canadian Show Jumping Championship and the GroupBy Big Ben Challenge, the nine-year-old chestnut mare Chanel du Calvaire, owned by Lamontagne, was presented with The All-Canadian Cup as the leading Canadian-owned horse. Established by the late Susan Grange, the All-Canadian Cup was presented to Lamontagne, 33, by the Grange family (pictured) representing Lothlorien Farm of Cheltenham, ON.



Three-time Olympic medalist Eric Lamaze of Canada and Fine Lady 5 will defend their title in the 475,000 CHF Rolex IJRC Top Ten Final on Saturday night, December 9, in Geneva, Switzerland.

## CANADA'S ERIC LAMAZE TO DEFEND ROLEX TOP TEN FINAL TITLE IN GENEVA

Canada's Eric Lamaze will defend his title in the Rolex Top Ten Final on Saturday night, December 9, in Geneva, Switzerland.

Lamaze will be among the top ten athletes in the world rankings going head-to-head in the two-round Rolex IJRC Top Ten Final, which offers 475,000 Swiss francs in prize money. Last year, Lamaze claimed victory riding his 2016 Rio Olympic bronze medal mount, Fine Lady 5, beating out Germany's Christian Ahlmann (left) and Switzerland's Steve Guerdat.

"The Rolex Top Ten Final is one of the most prestigious competitions that we have throughout the year, showcasing the best riders in the world riding their best horses at this moment in time," said Lamaze, 49, who is currently ranked number eight in the world. "A grand prix is a grand prix, but the Rolex Top Ten Final is something special. Winning last year really meant a lot to me, and we'll do our best to do it again!"

Prior to winning in 2016, Lamaze had contested the Rolex IJRC Top Ten Final on four previous occasions, including in 2011 when he was the runner-up riding Coriana van Klapscheut. His other three appearances, in 2008, 2009 and 2010, were all aboard the legendary stallion Hickstead, the horse that carried him to individual gold and team silver medals at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. As the event prepares for its 17th edition, Lamaze remains the only Canadian to ever contest the Rolex IJRC Top Ten Final.

"I am incredibly proud to represent Canada in the Rolex Top Ten Final," said Lamaze, who is the only Canadian equestrian athlete to have ever won three Olympic medals. "Thank you to Rolex and the International Jumping Riders Club for developing this innovative competition that truly showcases the best of the best in our sport."



Eric Lamaze and Fine Lady 5, owned by Artisan Farms, with the Rolex IJRC trophy.

# LONGINES WORLD RIDER RANKINGS

## TOP 20 CANADIAN RIDERS *as of October 31, 2017*



8.	Eric Lamaze	2620	336.	Ali Ramsay	550
54.	Tiffany Foster	1678	340.	Nicole Walker	545
85.	Kean White	1365	368.	Isabelle Lapierre	505
116.	Ian Millar	1176	389.	Jenn Serek	460
178.	Yann Candele	924	422.	Amy Millar	415
198.	Mario Deslauriers	860	424.	Ben Asselin	410
210.	Vanessa Mannix	825	431.	Rebecca McGoldrick	405
232.	Erynn Ballard	770	435.	Kara Chad	400
247.	Chris Surbey	753	450.	Beth Underhill	383
328.	Jonathon Millar	570	453.	François Lamontagne	380

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### EDITORIAL BOARD

Elizabeth Bordeaux, Karen Hendry-Ouellette (ex-officio), Pamela Law, John Taylor, Jennifer Ward (Editor), and Nancy Wetmore

### CONTRIBUTORS

Pam Law, Emily Riden, and Jennifer Ward

### EC STAFF CONTRIBUTORS

Karen Hendry-Ouellette and Crystal Labelle

### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Michelle C. Dunn, Stefano Grasso for Global Champions League, Jump Media, Ben Radvanyi Photography, ROLEX/Kit Houghton, Starting Gate Communications, and Cealy Tetley.

### LAY-OUT AND DESIGN

Starting Gate Communications Inc.

### PUBLISHER

Equestrian Canada

### TRANSLATION

Pas de deux Communications

### CONTACT US

[warmupring@equestrian.ca](mailto:warmupring@equestrian.ca)



The Jumping Committee is the committee of Equestrian Canada responsible for all hunter, hunter equitation and jumper activities in Canada from the grassroots to the international level. For more information regarding Jumping programs and activities, visit: [www.equestrian.ca/sport/jumping](http://www.equestrian.ca/sport/jumping).