



The start of the Capital Challenge Horse Show on Friday will mark the show's 25th anniversary. Since its inception, the show has been a premier destination for top horses and riders from across the country.

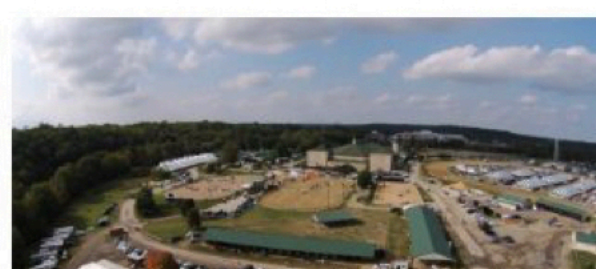
Now the Capital Challenge Horse Show is looking ahead to the next 25 years – and looking back on the show's history!

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF CAPITAL CHALLENGE



**1994**

**Oliver Kennedy** and **Billy Glass** start the Capital Challenge Horse Show at The Show Place Arena at Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, MD. The venue is still home to the horse show today.



**1994**

In the first year, Capital Challenge also launched the **National Children's Medal Final**, then sponsored by State Line Tack and now supported by **Taylor Harris Insurance Services (THIS)**.



**1996**

"Originally, we thought we were going to try to be the warm-up show for indoors; by probably the second or third year, everybody was like, **'No, this is part of indoors.'**" - Oliver Kennedy

**2001**

Glass and Kennedy introduce the **Future Hunter Championships**. The first competition of its kind, the class is designed to showcase young, green hunters.



Gray Slipper, one of the first Future Hunter division winners

**2017**

Capital Challenge expands to **10 days** and hosts the **inaugural USHJA 3'3" Jumping Seat Medal Final - East**. 2017 also featured the introduction of the **Low Junior/Amateur-Owner Jumper division**, joining the North American Medium Junior/Amateur-Owner and Adult Amateur Jumpers added over the years.



Maverick Helmer, the first winner of the USHJA 3'3" Jumping Seat Medal Final - East

**1994**

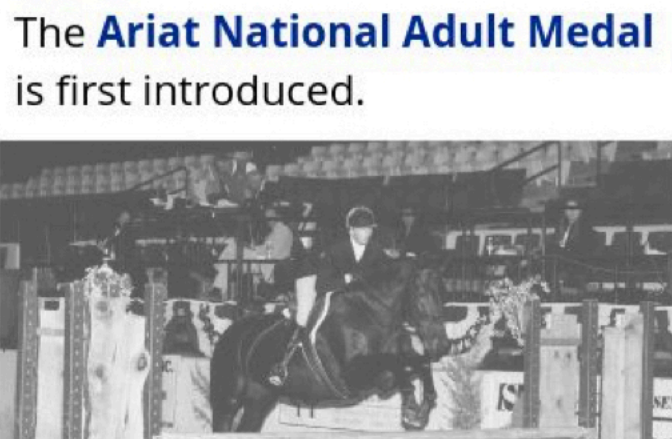
The **World Championship Hunter Rider (WCHR) Finals** moved from the Washington International Horse Show to their current home at Capital Challenge.



Peter Pletcher winning the WCHR Pro Finals in 2004

**1995**

The **Ariat National Adult Medal** is first introduced.



Molly Sewell winning the 2001 Ariat National Adult Medal

**1997**

**Rick Fancher and Oskar**, owned by Dawn Fogel, made hunter history by scoring the first ever **perfect 100** in a Regular Working Hunter class.

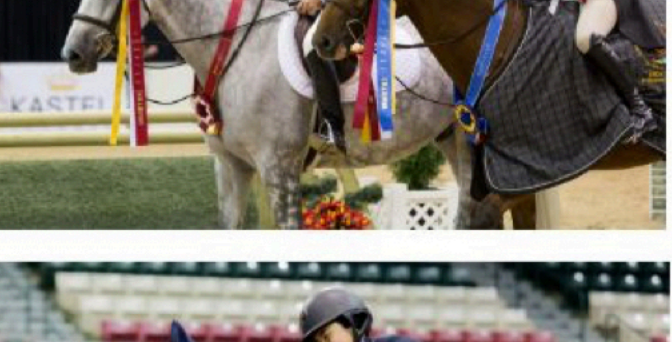
**2001-2016**

The horse show continues to grow each year. By 2013, Capital Challenge has gone from a **five-day horse show** with approximately 500 horses to a **nine-day horse show with more than 1,000 horses competing!**



**2018**

**Entries** for the 2018 Capital Challenge Horse Show are at **record high**, with many also on a waitlist and hoping to earn the coveted spots to compete.



### Today: By the Numbers

- The 2017 Capital Challenge Horse Show:
  - welcomed competitors from **41 states, Canada, and Puerto Rico.**
  - filled **1,687 stalls.**
  - and gave away **\$365,000 in prize money!**

The 25th Anniversary on **September 28 - October 7** will welcome even more horses and offer even greater prize money!

To learn more about the Capital Challenge Horse Show, visit [www.capitalchallenge.org](http://www.capitalchallenge.org). Find the horse show on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#)!

#### About the Capital Challenge Horse Show

Now in its 25<sup>th</sup> year, the Capital Challenge Horse Show sets itself apart with a distinct and unique focus on preeminent hunter and equitation competition. Held each autumn at the Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, MD, the 2018 edition of the Capital Challenge Horse Show will take place September 28 – October 7. The ten days of competition will include prestigious equitation events and the World Championship Hunter Rider (WCHR) Finals with many of the country's best horses and riders competing in junior, amateur, and professional hunter divisions. For more information, visit [www.capitalchallenge.org](http://www.capitalchallenge.org).

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