

# Show News



McLain Ward and HH Gigi's Girl  
Photo by Jump Media

Two-time U.S. Olympic team gold medalist **McLain Ward** and **Double H Farm's HH Gigi's Girl** won the \$205,000 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Toronto, presented by GroupBy, in front of a sold-out crowd of over 7,000 fans during the CSI4\*-W **Royal Horse Show** held November 2-11 in Toronto, Canada. It was McLain's second big win of the Royal Horse Show, as he also topped the \$50,000 Weston Canadian Open riding **Kessler Show Stables' Tradition de la Roque**. McLain, 43, estimates that he has been competing at the Royal Horse Show for almost a quarter of a century. "I love it here," said McLain, who was also crowned Leading International Rider. "Obviously, I'm not Canadian, but I think of this as a second home. The show is being run beautifully and the organization is phenomenal. We had a sold-out crowd, and I'm thrilled to be part of it." For more about The Royal Horse Show, visit [www.royalfair.org/horseshow.html](http://www.royalfair.org/horseshow.html).



Nicole Walker and Falco van de Spieveld  
Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography

**Nicole Walker** of Aurora, Ontario, claimed her first **Canadian Show Jumping**

**Championship** title on opening weekend of Toronto's famous **Royal Horse Show**. The National Under 25 Champion at last year's Royal Horse Show, the 24-year-old proved she was more than capable of competing against the big guns in this year's \$125,000 Canadian Show Jumping Championships. With a win in Friday night's opening night speed round, presented by Lothlorien, **Nicole** and her mount, **Falco van de Spieveld**, a 13-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding, had the advantage of going last in Saturday night's all-deciding final phase. Defending champions **Amy Millar** and **Heros** kept the pressure on until the end, but Nicole kept her cool to deliver another clear jumping round, save for one time fault, and claim the national title. "I will never forget this!" said Nicole, who is based north of Toronto at **Adena Springs** and trains with 2012 Irish Olympic individual bronze medalist **Cian O'Connor** and **Mark Kinsella**.



Danielle Robinson and Julliard winning the MAEF Novice Championship  
Photo by Ava Lindsay

There was much to be celebrated at the end of the seventh **Mid-Atlantic Equitation Festival**, sponsored by **County Saddlery**, at the **Show Place Arena** in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Sunday, November 18th, marked the end of the busy three-day event that featured over \$6,500 in scholarship awards, and more. Every year, the second day at MAEF is highly anticipated for its traditional **Saturday College Fair** and **Equijet Team Class and Parade**, and

neither disappointed for 2018. Twelve of the best schools in the country that offer riding and showing opportunities set up shop on the upper concourse for a meet and greet with prospective students and riders to discuss academics, scholarships, financial aid, and of course, horses, and the turnout was exceptional. Although MAEF consistently encourages an enthusiastic and innovative environment, the show also puts a special effort into providing educational and scholarship opportunities to all of its junior and amateur athletes. Throughout the weekend, over \$6,500 in scholarship money was presented to the winning participants of MAEF's scholarship programs, and upon the show's conclusion, riders, spectators, trainers and staff left the Showplace Arena already excited for MAEF 2019. To learn more about the Mid-Atlantic Equitation Festival, please visit [www.midatlanticeq.com](http://www.midatlanticeq.com).

## Mark Your Calendar



Deeridge Farms Gardens  
Photo by Peggy Jacobs

The **Wellington Garden Club** is conducting a once-in-a-lifetime tour of **Deeridge Farms Gardens** on Saturday, April 13, as a fundraiser for its 501(c)(3) nonprofit activities. The Gardens were inspired by **Frederick Law Olmstead** and are on the grounds that are the location of the **Palm Beach Masters**, **Deeridge Derby** and **Palm Beach Open** equestrian events. Thanks to the generosity of **Peggy Jacobs**, those who purchase the \$100 ticket from the Wellington Garden Club website will be able to view a variety of gardens including the Japanese, bromeliad, and orchid house.