

### Coluccio Claims Three Hunter Championships at Capital Challenge

Wilmington, OH – Ten professional hunter champions were named on Tuesday, September 29, at the Capital Challenge Horse Show in Wilmington, OH, which continues through Sunday, October 4, at the World Equestrian Center.

Earning the first championship of the day, and his very first Capital Challenge professional championship title, was Evan Coluccio of Marshall, VA, riding Miller's Cove.

Coluccio and the 11-year-old German Sporthorse gelding, owned by Balmoral, finished first, second, and third over fences and third under saddle to clinch the Green Conformation Hunter division championship, sponsored by Joie Gatlin – Morley Abey Show Jumping Inc.



Evan Coluccio earned three champions on Tuesday, September 29, at Capital Challenge, including in the Green Hunter 3'9" division with Philadelphia Story. Photo by **Shawn McMillen Photography** 

Immediately after securing his first Capital Challenge professional hunter championship, Coluccio went on to repeat the feat. He secured his second tricolor of the day in the Green Hunter 3'9" aboard Philadelphia Story, also owned by Balmoral.

"It's huge!" said Coluccio of what it means to be champion at Capital Challenge. "This is my first championship win at Capital Challenge in the professional hunters – and not only one, now [multiple]! For me, it's awesome. I can't believe it. My horses have been awesome; the courses have been beautiful. It's all been great.



"Balmoral sent me the horses about 10 days ago," continued Coluccio, who picked up the rides for the California-based farm after their team was unable to make the trip to Ohio due to concerns surrounding the coronavirus pandemic and wildfires on the West Coast. "This is my first show with Philadelphia Story. We went in yesterday, and he won all of the classes. He had a little rub today, or I think he would have won the last

one too."

In total, Coluccio and the eight-year-old grey Hanoverian gelding claimed two wins and a second-place finish over fences and the win in the Green Hunter 3'9" Under Saddle on their way to the championship.

Read More

Evan Coluccio and Miller's Cove. Photo by <u>Shawn McMillen</u> <u>Photography</u>

# 3'6" - 4' Hunter Champions

All photos by Shawn McMillen Photography



Green Conformation Hunter

Sponsored by Joie Gatlin-Morley Abey Show Jumping Inc.

**Champion:** Miller's Cove, ridden by Evan Coluccio and owned by Balmoral

**Reserve:** In Writing, ridden by Steven Gregorio and owned by Sterling Malnik



Green Hunter 3'6"

Sponsored by Peter Pletcher/PJP Farm & Lee Sadrian and the Kellogg Family

**Champion:** Guggenheim, ridden by Evan Coluccio and owned by the Lignelli Family

**Reserve:** In Writing, ridden by Steven Gregorio and owned by Sterling Malnik



Green Hunter 3'9"

Sponsored by Lannie Lipson

**Champion:** Philadelphia Story, ridden by Evan Coluccio and owned by Balmoral

**Reserve:** Private I, ridden by Michael Britt - Leon and owned by Kelly Sims



High Performance Hunter

**Champion:** Monday Balous, ridden by Cassandra Kahle and owned by Redfield Farm

**Reserve:** In the Know, ridden by Samantha Schaefer and owned by Madeline Schaefer



High Performance Conformation Hunter

**Champion:** Category, ridden by Tim Goguen and owned by Camille LeBlond

**Reserve:** High Society, ridden by Evan Coluccio and owned by Alexa Elle Lignelli



Green Hunter 3' Colts and Geldings

Sponsored by Boggs Hill/Mr. & Mrs. Tim Goguen

**Champion:** Cascatero, ridden by Cassandra Kahle and owned by Redfield Farm

**Reserve:** Rarity, ridden by Kelley Farmer and owned by David Glefke & Kelley Farmer



Green Hunter 3' & 3'3" Mares

Sponsored by Penelope Ayers

**Champion:** Ever So Often, ridden by Kate Conover and owned by Ava Peck

Reserve: Heavenly, ridden by Marisa Metzger and owned by Laurie Jueneman 3' - 3'3" Hunter Champions



Green Hunter 3'3"

Sponsored by Hunt Tosh, Inc.

Champion: Unprecedented, ridden by Geoffrey Hesslink and owned by Shadowfax Equestrian, LLC

Reserve: Captain America, ridden by Courtney Lenkart and owned by Lori Mathews

#### WCHR Hunter Under Saddle



Suede, ridden by Hillary Johnson and owned by Copper Fox LLC

All photos by <u>Shawn McMillen</u> <u>Photography</u>



Green Hunter 3' <u>7 & Over</u>

Sponsored by David Belford & Christopher Payne, New Hope LLC

**Champion:** Jordan, ridden by Erica Quinn and owned by Gentry Beresford

Reserve: Cornucopia, ridden by Abby Jorgensen and owned by Isabella David



Green Hunter 3' <u>6 & Under</u>

Sponsored by Jennifer & Roger Smith

**Champion:** Caso 2, ridden by Marisa Metzger and owned by Elizabeth Simpson

**Reserve:** Side Hustle, ridden by Courtney Lenkart and owned by La Primera Hacienda, L P

### **Behind-the-Scenes Video**



The Capital Challenge team is extremely appreciative to the Roberts family and everyone at the World Equestrian Center for stepping in and hosting this year's show. Hear just a bit of what went into gearing up for #CCHS2020 from Roby and Jennifer Roberts <u>here</u>.

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