



**WORLD**  
EQUESTRIAN CENTER®



## World Equestrian Center Highlights

### WEC – Wilmington Christmas in the Midwest



The \$30,000 Grand Prix of Christmas in the Midwest was won by Sarah Meier aboard her own Nightshade SCF to cap off the 2024 season with a grand prix victory.

“He loves this job, and he just gets it. You pull him out on Saturday evening, and he knows. He doesn’t like to sit at home; he wants to go to the show. He basically jumps into the horse trailer!”



In the \$10,000 CWD Futures Prix, Izzy Beisel saved the best for last and took the top prize with Diaz Barbotiere.

“I wanted to go slow. I was having a similar issue to what I had earlier this year; I was going too fast. I need to not get in my head. We both want to go in and win, so I focused on just jumping the jumps.”



In the \$15,000 USHJA National Open Hunter Derby, Ryan Petronelli ultimately emerged victorious to mark the final derby victory of the 2024 show season riding Jill Mastoloni’s Dash Parr.

“He is awesome. I absolutely love him. He is coming eight this year. We bought him in May. We found him in Europe when he was doing the 1.35m and was a breeding stallion. We gelded him and brought him over, and this was our first week doing the 3’6” Greens. He won all of his jumping trips and was second in the under saddle. He felt fantastic today, and he jumped awesome.”



After laying down a picture-perfect second round, Jenna Drago’s consistency on Sandriano was rewarded with a score of 88 and a two-round total of 177 to take the overall win in the \$15,000 USHJA National Non-Pro Hunter Derby.

“We are going to come back here in January, and he will do the derby again. Then we go to Florida and he will stick to the three-foot. He loves the derbies so much, so I never want to stop showing him.”



Rebecca MacWilliams accumulated the most points aboard Capiche Ww to the win the \$3,500 Gambler’s Choice 1.10m.



Adeline Cordin-Blitstein topped the \$1,500 Gambler’s Choice 1.0m with Vince.



Laura Kessler took the victory riding Rule In Favor in the annual WEC Professional Medal.



Kessler and Rule In Favor rose to the top through over fences and flat phases in the WEC Professional Medal.

All photos by [Winslow Photography](#)

[Read All Horse Show Coverage](#)

## Memorable Moments From World Equestrian Center

Photos by [Andrew Ryback Photography](#) and [Winslow Photography](#)



## WEC – Wilmington Christmas in the Midwest Sunday Spotlight



Annie Gerding and RMF Hurrikane  
Photo by [Winslow Photography](#)

The final Wilmington Sunday Spotlight of 2024 shines on Annie Gerding of Columbus, OH. Despite her busy schedule throughout her time at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Gerding has never failed to make time for her passion. In her free time, Gerding is a frequent competitor in the Standlee Sanctuary with her horse, RMF Hurrikane, and spends her days with the team at Kendalwood Farm. We caught up with Gerding to learn more about her journey!

[Read More](#)

## Upcoming Events

### World Equestrian Center – Ocala

#### [2025 Winter Spectacular Show Series Dates](#)

- Winter Spectacular I: January 1-5
- Winter Spectacular II: January 7-12
- Winter Spectacular III: January 14-19
- Winter Spectacular IV: January 21-26
- Winter Spectacular V: January 28-February 2: World Champion Hunter Rider Week
- Winter Spectacular VI: February 4-9: WEC Premier Equitation Cup
- Championship on February 8
- Winter Spectacular VII: February 11-16: CSI5\*-W
- Winter Spectacular VIII: February 18-23
- Winter Spectacular IX: February 25-March 2: World Champion Hunter Rider Week
- Winter Spectacular X: March 4-9
- Winter Spectacular XI: March 12-16
- Winter Spectacular XII: March 18-23: CSIO5\* Longines League of Nations™

#### [2025 Spring Series Dates](#)

- Ocala Spring I: March 26-30
- Ocala Spring II: April 1-6

### World Equestrian Center – Wilmington

#### [2025 Winter in the Midwest Dates](#)

- USEF Premier/Level 4 Jumpers
- USEF National/Level 4 Jumpers\*
- Winter Classic 5: January 8-12
- Winter Classic 6: January 15-19
- Winter Classic 7: January 22-26\*
- Winter Classic 8: January 29-February 2\*
- Winter Classic 9: February 5-9
- Winter Classic 10: February 12-16
- Winter Classic 11: February 19-23
- Winter Classic 12: February 26-March 2\*
- Winter Spring Forward: March 5-9
- Winter Classic 14: March 12-16
- Winter Classic 15: March 19-23
- Winter Classic 16: March 26-30
- Winter Classic 17: April 2-6

[See Full Event Schedule](#)

## About World Equestrian Center

Named one of TIME’s 2024 World’s Greatest Places, World Equestrian Center features two premier equestrian and multidisciplinary venues in Ocala, Florida, and Wilmington, Ohio.

These exclusive facilities comprise state-of-the-art arenas, expansive stadiums, versatile outdoor space, sporting fields and well-appointed exposition centers. An abundance of lodging options and luxury accommodations are conveniently located on-site, along with shopping and dining throughout each property.

Dedicated to offering great sport and good fun in a family-friendly environment, World Equestrian Center promises an unparalleled experience for exhibitors, spectators, vendors, sponsors and retailers built on three core values: Quality. Class. Distinction.

Learn more at [wec.net](#).

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