



Bugs Bunny Operetta Music Secures Open Grand Prix Freestyle Title, Last-Minute Entry Is Reserve Champion at US Dressage Finals

November 2, 2025 – Wilmington, OH – On Saturday evening, November 1, at the 2025 US Dressage Finals presented by Adequan® Kristin Wasemiller-Knutson danced her way to the champion's blanket in the [Open Grand Prix Freestyle](#) with a fabulous ride on Vashti which garnered 72.25% and the nod from all three judges.

The pair finished as runners up in the previous evening's Grand Prix but pulled out all the stops to land the freestyle title 24 hours later. The US Dressage Finals at World Equestrian Center (WEC) in Wilmington, OH, runs October 30 to November 2, 2025, and offers a prize fund of \$125,000.



For the second time in their career, Kristin Wasemiller-Knutson and Vashti claimed the Open Grand Prix Freestyle, with a unanimous 72.25% win. Photo by [SusanJStickle.com](#)

There was a sense of déjà vu as the same duo also won this class in 2021, so their names will once again be engraved on the Jazzman Perpetual Trophy, presented by Donna Richardson. Jennifer Roth clinched the reserve sash with a last-minute decision to contest the class after another competitor scratched. She piloted Barbara Lightner's 12-year-old Lusitano Imperador DR to 71.258%. The 24-year-old Josefina Parada, who was jetting off on her honeymoon the following morning, filled third place with 71.125% on her own 14-year-old Floriscourt gelding, Floyd.

"I could not have been happier with my ride; I didn't care what the score was," enthused Wasemiller-Knutson, who rode to a Bugs Bunny operetta compilation she edited herself as well as designing the complex floorplan. "I wanted to use that music, and it took me years to try to get it the way I wanted it."

[Read More](#)

A Sainly Four-Year-Old

With 35 names on the start list and a run-time of six hours, the [First Level AA Championship](#) was always going to be a hot class. Ultimately it was Mila Perry and her own four-year-old mare Jabberwocky Eden who prevailed with 73.241%.



Mila Perry and the four-year-old Jabberwocky Eden, by Jameson RS2, headed up a huge First Level AA Championship with 73.241%. Photo by [SusanJStickle.com](#)

"We rode really early, so we were all checking scores at the end. It came down to the wire, and she held it," said Perry, who trains with Lauren Chumley. "She's unbelievable and I love her, but it was an utter shock and surprise to win."

[Read More](#)

Two Friends, Two Titles

Two friends secured the [Prix St. Georges Junior/YR Championship](#) and the [Third Level Junior/YR](#) title. Ryleigh Koch clocked up a 67.696% on Ruben D4K to claim the small tour sash, while Finley Peterson rode Chrevi's Camelot to 68.583% and the third level blanket. The pair both attended the Dressage 4 Kids summer intensive program with Lendon Gray in Maine in 2020.



Finley Peterson, 16, claimed the Third Level Junior/YR title on Chrevi's Camelot with 68.583%. Photo by [SusanJStickle.com](#)

Koch initially acquired Ruben D4K, a 15-year-old gelding by Rubinerio, through the Dressage 4 Kids program, and after three years was able to buy him in 2025.

[Read More](#)

Competition concludes on Sunday, November 2, with the last 10 titles to be decided on the closing day. The full digital show program is available [here](#). Follow the action via the [USDF Facebook page](#), [USDF Instagram page](#), and the [US Dressage Finals website](#), plus [live online streaming from the Sanctuary Arena](#) on USEF Network with expert commentary from Kathy Connelly.

[Finals Coverage Hub](#)

[Start Lists and Results](#)



[Follow along on USDF's Instagram page](#)

Along with presenting sponsor Adequan®, the US Dressage Finals is supported by SmartEquine, LeMieux, and Platinum Performance. Contributing sponsors include Premier Equestrian, Sterling Thompson Equine, and Uvex.

About USDF

Founded in 1973, the United States Dressage Federation is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to education, recognition of achievement, and promotion of dressage. For more information about USDF membership or programs, visit [www.usdf.org](#), email usdressage@usdf.org, or call 859-971-2277.

US Dressage Finals Media Contact:

Jennifer Wood
jwood@jumpmediallc.com