

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 2016 Virginia CCI/CIC and Horse Trials wrapped up on Sunday at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington with great competition and gorgeous weather.

Lindsay Kelley and Cooley Cruise Control jumped the only double clear round in the inaugural CCI2* division to hold their overnight position and win on their dressage score of 51.8.



Lauren Kelley and Cooley Cruise Control are the winners of the inaugural VHT CCI2. Shown during awards with VHT organizer Andy Bowles and ground jury members Alain James (FRA), Annabel Scrimgeour (GBR), and Helen Brettell (GBR).*

Photo by Brant Gamma Photo

“He’s a super show jumper. I was a little bit nervous about how he would feel after pushing him so hard yesterday but he jumped better than he ever has today. He must have known it was the real deal,” Kelley said of the 7-year-old Irish Sport Horse.



Lauren Kelley and Cooley Cruise Control. Photo by Brant Gamma Photo

Boyd Martin and his homebred Ray Price, an 8-year-old Thoroughbred/Warmblood owned by Windurra USA and Amy Lindgren, dropped a single rail to finish second.

Woods Baughman and his and James Baughman's 9-year-old Thoroughbred Montesquieu made a steady climb up the leaderboard, placing 13th after dressage, moving up to sixth after a double clear cross country round and finishing third overall with just one rail down in the final phase.

Kim Severson and Ellie Brown's Ringfort Fighting Chance led CCI*-A from start to finish, adding nothing to their dressage score of 40.6 to top the 39-horse division in the 11-year-old Irish Thoroughbred's first FEI appearance.



Kim Severson and Ringfort Fighting Chance won the CCI1-A division. Photo by Brant Gamma Photo*

Martin was second again in the one-star, this time with Barry, a 7-year-old Thoroughbred owned by Martin and Windurra USA, finishing on their dressage score of 43.0. Plain Dealing Farm's 6-year-old Irish Sport Horse MTF Cooley Classic was piloted to third place by Lucia Strini, adding only two time penalties for a final score of 43.8.

Cornelia Dorr and the elegant chestnut Louis M likewise led the CCI*-B division from the start. Dorr, 18, and her 11-year-old Rheinlander gelding scored 40.2 in dressage and added only four penalties in show jumping to finish with the only final score in the 40s out of 20 talented juniors and young riders in the class.

Charlotte Collier and Parker Collier's 10-year-old Holsteiner Clifford M moved up from sixth after dressage to finish second on 50.5. Will Zuschlag and his 8-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding RF Southern Command added only time penalties in show jumping to finish third overall on 51.0.

Area II Championships and Adult Team Challenge

Virginia Horse Trials Adult Team Challenge Scores



“The War Horses”: Carrie Irwin riding Clifden, Cheryl Ray riding IntotrickU, Cynthia Holbrook riding Blue Ridge Breckenridge and Hugh Wrigley riding Master the Moment won the Training Adult Tea, Challenge.

Virginia Horse Trials was pleased to once again host the Area II Championships. New this year was the addition of Junior Championship classes. Congratulations to the 2016 Area II Champions:

Intermediate: Sydney Solomon and Early Review C
Junior Preliminary: Katherine Christopher and Frodo of the Shire
Open Preliminary: Allison Springer and Fairvoya S
Junior Training: Olivia Hayes and Beaujeste
Training: Colleen Rutledge and Paul Just Paul
Junior Novice: Charlotte Stillfried and Pepper
Open Novice: Leslie Chelstrom Lamb and Quinn Lane
Junior Beginner Novice: Annabelle Kress and Batteries Not Included
Open Beginner Novice: Lauren Chumley and Nikolas

The Area II Adult Rider Team Challenge has long been a popular activity at the fall Virginia Horse Trials. This year, 17 teams made up of adult riders from Areas I, II and III competed in a friendly team competition at the Beginner Novice through Preliminary levels. More information about the USEA Adult Rider program can be found on the [USEA website](#).

“My team and I are very pleased with the success of the competition this week and grateful to all the riders, owners and volunteers for their participation. For me it’s about providing a high-quality but personable event that makes everyone who attends feel special,” said VHT organizer Andy Bowles.



Annabelle Kress and Batteries Not Included are the 2016 Area II Junior Beginner Novice Champions.

Photo by Brant Gamma Photo

“This event is the final competition of the year for many riders and we hope it will continue to be a destination event for eventers around the country. Thank you to everyone who makes Virginia Horse Trials an important part of their year. We will see you at the next one in May!”

Live Scores for all divisions can be found on [Event Entries](#). Visit the Virginia Horse Trials [website](#) for more news and information on future competitions and find Virginia Horse Trials on [Facebook](#).

About the Virginia Horse Trials

The Virginia Horse Trials takes place at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, Virginia, nestled in the rolling hills of Rockbridge County, where eventers from across the Eastern Seaboard come for a fun and challenging competition at the Beginner Novice through the FEI two-star levels. VHT has hosted two USEA Recognized Horse Trials each year since founders Brian and Penny Ross started the event in 1989. They organized the event through its 25th Anniversary in 2014. Andy Bowles took over the organization of VHT in 2015 and looks forward to maintaining it as a destination for East Coast eventers in the years to come. VHT hosted the inaugural USEA Intercollegiate Eventing Championships in May 2016 and will host an FEI CCI2* for the first time this October.

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