FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Competition Set to Start at Virginia CCI/CIC & Horse Trials and USEF One-Star Eventing National Championships

Lexington, VA — Virginia Horse Trials received a record number of entries for the October CCI/CIC and Horse Trials and will start 550 horses from Starter through CCI2* level at the Virginia Horse Center this weekend. This year, VHT is also host of the USEF One-Star Eventing Championship, which boasts more than 70 competitors vying for the Richard Collins Trophy and Harry T. Peters Trophy.

Autumn is in full swing in the Blue Ridge Mountains. The long-range views paint the landscape with vivid orange, yellow and red, and a brisk wind added some spark to this afternoon’s first horse inspection. CCI2*/CIC2* competitors presented to the ground jury of Wayne Quarles (USA) and Robin Fisher (USA). CCI* competitors presented to Vanda Stewart (IRL) and Ellen Prichard Bryan (USA). The FEI Veterinary Delegate is Sandi Farris, DVM (USA).

By popular request, the fall Intercollegiate Team Challenge will include Alumni riders. Eight teams in total will participate in the friendly team challenge with competitors from Starter through the CIC2* level. Two alumni teams will represent their former school alongside current students. This is a great way to encourage alumni to support the developing USEA Intercollegiate Eventing Program. Alumni participants
this weekend include Olympian Will Coleman, riding for University of Virginia, and Sarah Pyne, member of the Clemson University’s 2017 Intercollegiate Champion Team.

Dressage gets under way for international competitors and the Intermediate and Preliminary horse trials divisions on Friday, Nov. 2. All three phases of eventing will run on the first day of competition as the CIC2* will negotiate a show jumping course designed by Chris Barnard and the Intermediate and Preliminary divisions will ride across the country on courses designed by Andy Bowles and John Michael Durr.

Organizer Andy Bowles extends a warm welcome to all competitors, owners and supporters and wishes great rides for all: “It’s fabulous to see the great numbers we have this weekend, and I’d like to thank everyone for choosing to come to VHT.”

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