



# PLATINUM PERFORMANCE / USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS



## FINALS WEST

SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2019

RANCHO MISSION VIEJO RIDING PARK  
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIFORNIA

## FINALS EAST

OCTOBER 4-6, 2019

USET FOUNDATION HEADQUARTERS  
GLADSTONE, NEW JERSEY

QUALIFICATIONS CLOSE AUGUST 31, 2019

CLOSE OF ENTRIES – SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

SEE [USEF.ORG/TALENTSEARCH](http://USEF.ORG/TALENTSEARCH) FOR MORE INFORMATION!



**SHOW JUMPING  
ATHLETE PATHWAY**





# The United States Equestrian Team Foundation

Wishes all the 2019 Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping



## TALENT SEARCH RIDERS

*the very best!*



**Daisy Farish**

*Winner of the*

**2018 TALENT SEARCH FINALS EAST**



**Sophie Simpson**

*Winner of the*

**2018 TALENT SEARCH FINALS WEST**



Please help our United States Equestrian Teams  
Continue to Achieve Competitive Excellence

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# WEST COAST SHOWCATION

FALL SEASON #THEPLACETOJUMP

## **Blenheim Summer Classic**

**August 14 – 18, 2019**

*Entries due: July 22*

\$25,000 Markel 1.45m Grand Prix (+U25)

CPHA Medal Finals

USHJA National Hunter Derby

## **Showpark Summer Classic**

**August 21 – 25, 2019**

*Entries due: July 29*

\$25,000 Markel 1.45m Classic (+U25)

\$50,000 1.50m Grand Prix

CPHA Foundation Finals

## **Showpark All Seasons Summer Classic**

**August 28 – September 1, 2019**

*Entries due: August 5*

\$25,000 Markel 1.45m Grand Prix

Sallie B. Wheeler Hunter Breeding Championships

Blenheim Young Jumper Championships

Blenheim Developmental Jumper

Series Finals

## **Blenheim Fall Tournament**

**September 11 – 15, 2019**

*Entries due: August 19*

\$25,000 Markel 1.45m Grand Prix

\$20,000 U25 1.45m Championship

ASPCA Maclay Regionals

USHJA Pony Hunter Derby West Coast Championships

CPHA Green Hunter 3' & 3'3" Incentive Finals

BES Young Hunter Championships

## **International Jumping Festival - Blenheim**

**September 18 – 22, 2019**

*Entries due: August 26*

\$25,000 1.45m Markel Grand Prix

USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Final, West

USHJA Jumping Seat Medal Final, West

USHJA Green Hunter 3', 3'3", 3'6", & 3'9" Incentive

SW Regional Championships

NAL West Coast Finals

Show Jumping Hall of Fame JR/AO Jumper Final, West

## **The Las Vegas National CSI-W and**

**AON/USHJA National Championships**

**November 12 – 17, 2019**

Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Las Vegas

Markel Insurance Jumper Series Finals

WCE Medal Finals

**BLenheim EQUISPORTS**

**SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO • DEL MAR • LAS VEGAS**

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Sophie Simpson and Henri HX winners of the  
2018 Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping  
Talent Search Finals - West

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Photo: Captured Moment Photography

## // A TALENT SEARCH TALE

### AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE SHOW JUMPING ATHLETE PATHWAY

*By Alyssa Bansbach & Caitlin Azevedo*

Since the Show Jumping Talent Search Program began in the 1950s, it has played a key role in the pathway for promising riders to represent the United States in Show Jumping Competition. Familiar names like Beezie Madden, Richard Spooner, Lauren Hough, McLain Ward, and Meredith Michaels (Beerbaum) are just a handful of the previous Talent Search Champions to go on to international Show Jumping fame. In the case of Lauren Hough, her Talent Search Final win preceded her Olympic debut by only six years. Many credit the Talent Search Finals for helping prepare them for the challenges of international competition. To predict which riders are on the path to joining the next generation of Show Jumping stars, one might look at the list of top placing riders over the last decade. Sophie Simpson would be on that list of 'Ones to Watch'.

Last year, Simpson clenched victory in the prestigious Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals West. Her riding prowess was apparent during each phase of the competition. Simpson masterfully piloted her young, six-year old mount, Henri HX, through the tests of the flat phase, challenges of the gymnastics phase (including the now infamous S-line), and technical jumping phase to earn a spot in the final four. Demonstrating exceptional catch riding skills, and the ability to adjust to each type of horse, she produced smooth rounds on each of the final four mounts. This consistency put her ahead of the other three talented riders- Justin Krawitt (2nd), Kaitlyn Lovingfoss (3rd), and Jake Wasson (4th). Simpson's win cements her spot among an elite crowd of previous winners, many of whom went on to major international success in Show Jumping.

As a young professional, the USEF Talent Search Medal was the only equitation class Simpson was eligible to compete in. So, when she was given the opportunity to bring Henri HX along in Spring of 2018, competing in the Talent Search Finals became their goal. Winning this title was a dream of Simpson's junior career, which she didn't quite achieve. She had only competed in Talent Search Finals once as a junior, placing 2nd at the East Coast finals in 2016.

"It was my last junior year and I was close but it wasn't my time to win it. At the time, I thought my dream of winning the Talent Search was over until I got the privilege to ride Henri HX."

Henri HX, owned by Sloan Lindemann-Barnett at the time, peaked at the finals after strategic planning and preparation during the show season leading up to the September event. In fact, the process of preparing a young horse for this challenging class is what Simpson remembers most fondly. A sentiment that reflects true horsemanship.

Looking forward, Simpson hopes to join many fellow USEF Talent Search champions on the international stage. To represent the US at the highest level of the sport, including Nations Cup teams, WEG, World Cup Finals, and the Olympics, is Simpson's future goal. USEF Talent Search Finals was part of the journey towards her ultimate dream.

She believes, "The Talent Search Finals are a good stepping stone for future goals because every part of the final teaches you discipline. From the flatwork to the last day of jumping the water. All these parts translate to the Grand Prix ring and the International stage of our sport."

For young riders chasing the dream of competing in Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals this year, Simpson offers this advice: "It's not a posing contest, it is a final that you have to ride and show your talent as a rider not just a poser. Also, don't give up if one of your scores isn't as high as you would like, it's not over until it's over and a lot can happen over the three rounds. So stay strong and keep fighting for those good rounds!"

While her junior and equitation years are behind her, Simpson carries the knowledge and experience she gained to her career. She and her partner (and future husband!) Sean Leckie started their own business, Blue Ridge Farms, in California. With their collective strengths and experience, they make a great team. On the path to the international show jumping stage, we look forward to seeing Simpson's name in lights on leaderboards as she travels to the top.



## // HISTORY OF THE SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH PROGRAM



Photo: Courtesy of USET News

*Jim Rice, the first USET Gold Medalist.*

The Show Jumping Talent Search Program has a rich history that dates back to the 1950's. Held annually during the National Horse Show in New York City from 1955 -1963, the Harry T. Peters Trophy (which was the predecessor to the Talent Search Program) was a combined test, consisting of a dressage test, which was held in the now demolished Squadron A Armory, and a jumping test, which was held in Madison Square Garden. Early winners included Wilson Dennehy, Patti Heuckeroth, and Carol Hofmann Thompson.

What is now known as the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search was started in 1965 by the U.S. Equestrian Team (now the U.S. Equestrian Team Foundation) as the USET Equitation Class. The Class was designed to fill the gap for those juniors who qualified for the "Medal" and the "Maclay" early in the year and had no further incentive to keeping showing in horsemanship (Equitation).

The USET Medal Classes encouraged Young Rider development through the awarding of Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals for wins earned in Medal Classes throughout the United States. At the end of the competition year, two riders who accumulated the most wins were invited to spend a week with the Team at its Training Center in Gladstone, New Jersey the following year.

In 1982, the Program incorporated year-end Finals as a further goal and in 1994 the USET decided to change the name of the USET Medal Program to the USET Show Jumping Talent Search Program.



Photo: Courtesy of USET News

*The early USET medals.*

This change better reflected the focus of the Program by asking developing riders to meet a more difficult set of standards than required in other competitions, thus helping to prepare them for berths on future international Show Jumping Teams.

In 2003, the USET became a Foundation for the purpose of raising funds for equestrian high performance programs, and the newly formed United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) emerged as the National Governing Body for equestrian sports. The Show Jumping Talent Search Program became a part of USEF's Show Jumping High Performance Department and continues to serve as the pipeline for future stars to travel through on their way to the high performance world.



Photos: James Leslie Parker(1), Shannon Brinkman (2-3)

*The Talent Search Program is a proven pipeline of helping riders to develop their show jumping skills while laying groundwork for future international success. McLain Ward (pictured above) won the Finals East in 1990 and is now a two-time Olympic Gold Medalist!*

## // OFFICIALS

### WEST COAST || SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2019 SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA

MANAGER.....Stephanie Lightner, Carlsbad, CA  
SAFETY COORDINATOR.....Janet Fall, El Macero, CA  
SECRETARY.....Carolyn Becker, Calabasas, CA  
USEF LIAISON.....Steven Morrissey, Bedminster, NJ  
USEF TECHNICAL DELEGATE .....Anthony D'Ambrosio, Red Hook, NY  
JUDGES/COURSE DESIGNERS .....Wendy Peralta, Geneva, FL  
.....Lillie Keenan, New York, NY  
STEWARD.....Debbie Sands, Encintas, CA  
SCHOOLING SUPERVISOR .....Donna Rocchetti, Falls, PA  
ANNOUNCERS .....Vic Carmen, Katie Frank, Jeff Gilbert, Tim Herrick,  
.....Davin Malmqvist & Jesse Yumang  
VETERINARIAN .....Dr. Anne McCabe, 858.442.4009  
FARRIER .....Joshua Powell, 760.846.2417

### EAST COAST || OCTOBER 4-6, 2019, GLADSTONE, NJ

MANAGER & SAFETY COORDINATOR .....David Distler, Norwalk, CT  
SECRETARY.....Lynn Lopez, Long Valley, NJ  
USEF LIAISON .....Steven Morrissey, Bedminster, NJ  
USEF TECHNICAL DELEGATE .....Anthony D'Ambrosio, Red Hook, NY  
JUDGES/COURSE DESIGNERS .....Susan Ashe, Wellington, FL  
.....Molly Ashe Cawley, Wellington, FL  
STEWARD.....Doug Curry, Aiken, SC  
SCHOOLING SUPERVISOR .....Maria Biancone, Roseland, NJ  
ANNOUNCER .....Matt Harris, Boulder, CO  
VETERINARIAN.....Dr. Greg Staller, Running S. Equine Veterinary Services  
Emergency 908.581.7008  
FARRIER .....Bob Pethick, Bedminster Forge, 908.510.2462

The above individuals have accepted their invitation to officiate. The Committee reserves the right to add, vary or make substitutions.

## ENTRIES

Please contact the East Coast Show Secretary listed below with all inquiries regarding the Talent Search Program or Finals.

### WEST COAST

A PDF entry form is available on the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search website, [usequestrian.org/talentsearch](http://usequestrian.org/talentsearch). The form must be completed and submitted to the Show Office below, along with proper payment, by the entry deadline of September 9, 2019.

Address West Coast entries to:  
USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals – West  
Carolyn Becker, Show Secretary  
7668 El Camino Real  
Suite 104-501  
Carlsbad, CA 92009  
Phone: 949.443.1841  
Fax: 949.443.1943  
Email: [showparkoffice@gmail.com](mailto:showparkoffice@gmail.com)

### EAST COAST

Entries will be completed online and details will be available on the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search website, [usequestrian.org/talentsearch](http://usequestrian.org/talentsearch). The online entry must be submitted, with proper payment, by the entry deadline of September 9, 2019.

Address all Talent Search inquiries to:  
USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals – East  
Lynn Lopez, Show Secretary  
P.O. Box 83  
1040 Pottersville Road  
Gladstone, NJ 07934  
Phone: 859.225.7691  
Fax: 908.719.7588  
Email: [llopez@usef.org](mailto:llopez@usef.org)

# 2018 / 2019 Youth Jumping & Jumping Seat Equitation Programs Overview



US Equestrian and USHJA offer numerous programs designed to develop the next generation of Jumping athletes. In addition to offering competition opportunities, many of these programs provide benchmarks which allow athletes to set goals that reflect their age category, such as competing in 1.20m – 1.25m Programs at FEI ages 12 and 14.

*See the Details links for further information about Program qualifications, applications, and selections procedures.*

Championships	Type	Athlete Age	Maximum Fence Height	Details
<b>USHJA 3'3" Jumping Seat Medal Final</b>	Jumping Seat Equitation	USEF Junior	1.0m	<a href="http://ushja.org/jumpseatmedal">ushja.org/jumpseatmedal</a>
<b>USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals</b>	Jumping Seat Equitation	USEF Junior & Young Rider (up to FEI 21)	1.15m	<a href="http://usequestrian.org/talentsearch">usequestrian.org/talentsearch</a>
<b>USHJA Zone Jumper Team Championships (3 Levels)</b>	Team & Individual Jumping	USEF Junior & Amateur	1.15m 1.25m 1.35m	<a href="http://ushja.org/zonejumper">ushja.org/zonejumper</a>
<b>FEI North American Children's Rider Championship</b>	Team & Individual Jumping	FEI 12 – 14	1.25m	<a href="http://usequestrian.org/jumping">usequestrian.org/jumping</a>
<b>FEI North American Junior Rider Championship</b>	Team & Individual Jumping	FEI 14 – 18	1.40m	<a href="http://usequestrian.org/jumping">usequestrian.org/jumping</a>
<b>FEI North American Young Rider Championship</b>	Team & Individual Jumping	FEI 16 – 21	1.50m	<a href="http://usequestrian.org/jumping">usequestrian.org/jumping</a>
<b>USEF National Junior Jumper Championships / Prix des States</b>	Team & Individual Jumping	USEF Junior	1.45m	<a href="http://usequestrian.org/jumping">usequestrian.org/jumping</a>
<b>USEF U25 North American Championship</b>	Individual Jumping	FEI 16 – 25	1.50m	<a href="http://usequestrian.org/jumping">usequestrian.org/jumping</a>

Other Competitions	Type	Athlete Age	Maximum Fence Height	Details
<b>FEI CSIO Nations Cup Teams (3 Levels)</b>	National Team Jumping	FEI 12 – 14 FEI 14 – 18 FEI 16 – 21	1.25m 1.40m 1.50m	<a href="http://usequestrian.org/jumping">usequestrian.org/jumping</a>
<b>Youth Olympic Games (2018 Event)</b>	Continental Team & Individual Jumping	FEI 15 – 18	1.30m	<a href="http://usequestrian.org/jumping">usequestrian.org/jumping</a>



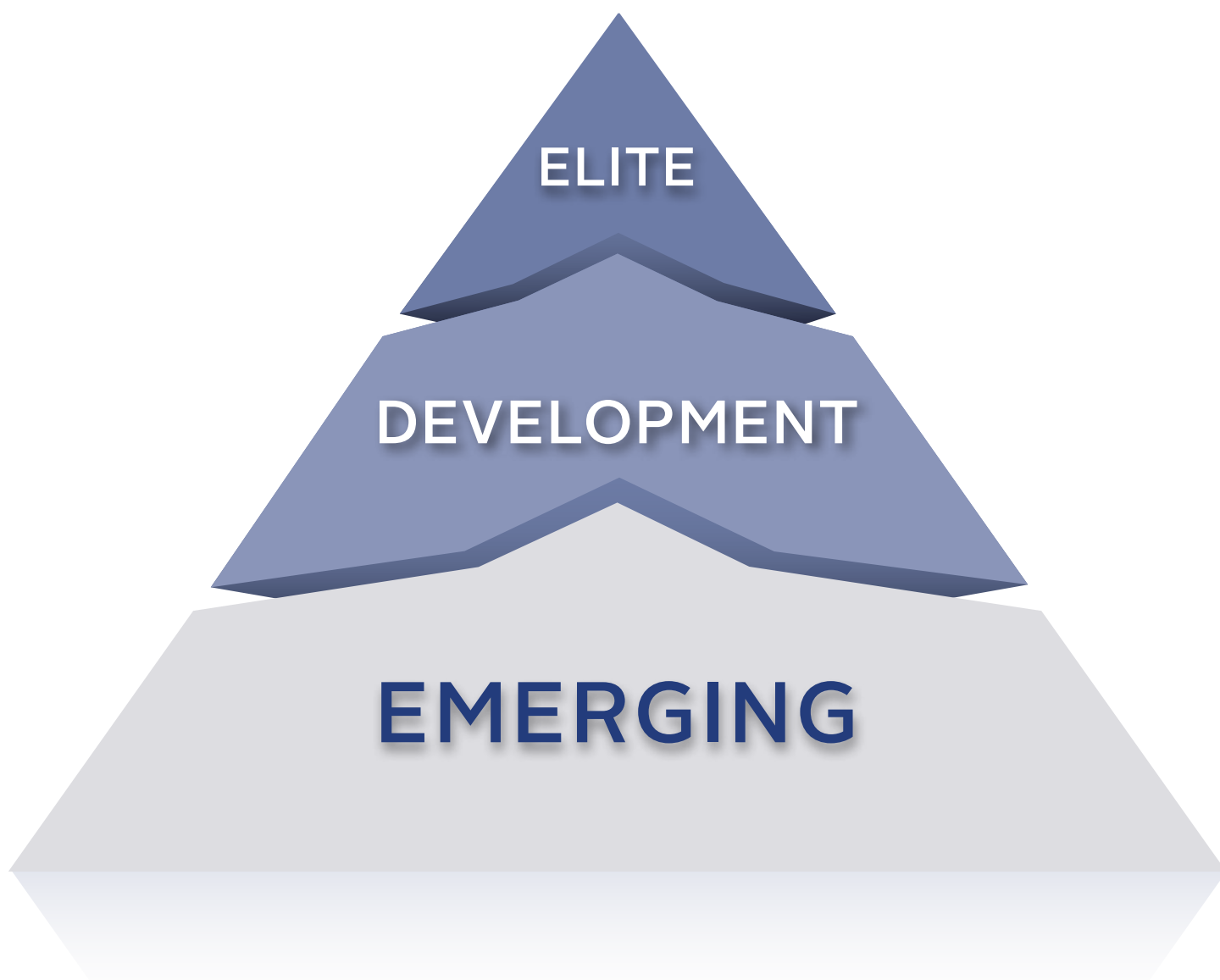


# SHOW JUMPING ATHLETE PATHWAY



[WWW.USEF.ORG](http://WWW.USEF.ORG)

[WWW.USHJA.ORG](http://WWW.USHJA.ORG)



*Developing the United States' Emerging stars into Elite Athletes of the future.*

## // OVERVIEW OF THE SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH

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**Mission:** The Talent Search Program plays an important role in the rider pathway as it addresses the principal that form follows function and that it is important for a rider to have equitation basics and a solid jumper seat position in order to become an effective jumper rider. The Talent Search classes test a rider's ability to ride a jumper style course effectively while maintaining the classic American forward style of riding. The Talent Search program fosters this tradition in U.S. Show Jumping and builds on preparing the next generation of international jumping riders.

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**The Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Program** seeks to educate and test participants by encouraging Junior and Young Riders to develop show jumping skills, thus laying groundwork for future international successes. The Program consists of Classes held across the country and the Finals held each autumn at the USET Foundation Headquarters in Gladstone, NJ and in San Juan Capistrano, CA during the International Jumping Festival.

A very demanding competition, the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals attracts the nation's top Junior and Young Riders in head-to-head competition and are carefully orchestrated to test the entrant's skills in the show jumping arena. The Finals are open to U.S. citizens who are Junior or Young Riders under Federation rules and who have qualified through their placement in Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Classes. By focusing on skills which are judged with regard to execution and technique as they relate to performance, riders must show that they understand and can successfully solve problems presented to them as they compete in four varied and difficult Phases.

Riders are first judged on the flat. In Phase I they are asked to demonstrate knowledge of the elementary principles of dressage training which affect a show jumper's performance.

In Phase II, riders are asked to translate the skills demonstrated on the flat to an intensive gymnastic course. Making quick turns, and shortening and lengthening their horses' strides while maintaining rhythm and balance are the hallmarks of the difficult Gymnastics Phase.

Phase III consists of show jumping over grand prix style fences, which may include natural obstacles such as a grob, ditch, bank, Liverpool and/or water jump. Modeled after the historical style of the Show Jumping World Championships, Phase IV consists of a ride-off among the top four competitors. The competitors ride their own horses first, then each of the others' mounts in turn over the same course.

USEF Talent Search Medals are awarded in recognition of wins in Talent Search Classes. Five wins qualify the rider for a Bronze, 10 for Silver, and 20 for the coveted USEF Gold Medal. Wins are cumulative and may be carried forward for as long as the rider qualifies as a Junior or Young Rider as defined by USEF rules.

Gold Medal winners are no longer eligible to compete in Talent Search Classes, but may compete in the Finals through the calendar year in which they reach their 21st birthday under USEF rules for Young Riders. Winners of the Talent Search Finals may continue to compete in Talent Search Classes in pursuit of additional wins leading towards special Gold, Silver and Bronze USEF Medals, but may not compete in future Finals.

Since its beginning, 966 Bronze Medals, 365 Silver Medals, and 98 Gold Medals have been awarded. The roster of graduates of the Program is impressive and includes Greg Best, Chris Kappler, Peter Leone, Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum, Beezie Madden, Katie Monahan Prudent, Richard Spooner, McLain Ward, Andre Dignelli, Joie Gatlin, Lauren Hough, Brianne Goutal, and Charlie Jayne.



## // SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH GOLD MEDALISTS



Photo: James Leslie Parker

<b>2017</b>	Kelli Cruciotti	<b>2003</b>	Jamie Taylor	<b>1992</b>	Lynn Gaeckle
<b>2016</b>	Alexandria Desiderio	<b>2002</b>	Kristy McCormack		Tracy Typinski
	Ransome Rombauer	<b>2001</b>	Caitlin Cullen	<b>1991</b>	Shachine Belle
<b>2015</b>	Caitlin Boyle		Maggie Jayne	<b>1990</b>	Laura Chapot
	Victoria Colvin		Tara Krisle		Wendy Chapot
<b>2014</b>	Lillie Keenan		Sarah Willeman	<b>1989</b>	Becky Adler
<b>2013</b>	Hasbrouck Donovan	<b>2000</b>	Tiffany Cornacchio		Andrea Barbarossa
	Caitlin Hope		Jenny Jones		Cassandra Karazissis
<b>2012</b>	Haley Buchmiller	<b>1999</b>	Amanda Baird	<b>1988</b>	Havens Schatt
<b>2011</b>	Chase Boggio		Cullen Latimer		Christy Conrad
	Hayley Barnhill		Caitlin Venezia		Christina Delia
<b>2010</b>	Allyson Blais	<b>1998</b>	Amanda Carone		Candice Schlom
	Hannah Selleck		Kai Kampsen	<b>1987</b>	Stacia Klein
	Jacqueline Lubrano	<b>1997</b>	Marley Goodman		Meredith Michaels
	Jessica Springsteen		Elise Haas		Kelly Mullen
	Laura Pfeiffer		Jackie McQuade	<b>1986</b>	Neil Ashe
	Michael Delfiandra		Mary Mead		Kara Flynn
	Shelby Wakeman	<b>1996</b>	Samantha Darling	<b>1985</b>	Archie Cox
<b>2009</b>	Amelia McArdle		Courtney Donaldson	<b>1984</b>	Helen Homer
	Emma Johnson		Leslie Fishback		Francesca Mazella
<b>2008</b>	Carly Anthony		Suzanne Guerette	<b>1983</b>	Jennifer Pesko
	Michael Desiderio		Kristin Posehn	<b>1980</b>	Ruthann Bowers
<b>2007</b>	Julie Welles	<b>1995</b>	Amy Betuker		Maura Nielsen
	Maggie McAlary		Hilary Schlusemeyer	<b>1978</b>	Elizabeth Guerin
	Mara Kranz		Alix Schwartz	<b>1975</b>	Alex Dunaif
	Maria Schaub		Emily Straw		Vincent Sava
	Nikko Ritter	<b>1994</b>	Jaime Krupnick	<b>1974</b>	Robin Ann Rost
<b>2006</b>	Haylie Jayne		Abigail Mort	<b>1971</b>	Katie Monahan
<b>2004</b>	Ashley Delzer	<b>1993</b>	Katherine Davis		Anna Jane White
	Charlie Jayne		Juliana Starbuck	<b>1969</b>	Teri Ardleigh
	Courtney Anne McKay		Terry Stephens	<b>1968</b>	Ann Snyder
	Erin Stewart	<b>1992</b>	Hillary Bowers	<b>1967</b>	James Rice
<b>2003</b>	Andrew Ramsay		Libby Copeland		

## // SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS BEST HORSES



Photo: © The Book LLC

**WINNER OF THE GRAPPA TROPHY**  
2018 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING  
TALENT SEARCH FINALS EAST BEST HORSE AWARD



Photo: Captured Moment Photography

**WINNER OF THE GULLIVER TROPHY**  
2018 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING  
TALENT SEARCH FINALS WEST BEST HORSE AWARD

### EAST

### WEST

2018	<b>Salt Lake</b> (Two Acres Equestrian, LLC, Owner)	<b>Scirocco 91</b> (AES Equestrian, Owner)
2017	<b>Charisma</b> (Heritage Farm)	<b>Caracas 89</b> (Elvenstar Farm, Owner)
2016	<b>Clearline</b> (McLain Ward, Owner)	<b>Cantoblanco</b> (Megan Hilton, Owner)
2015	<b>Skyfall</b> (Linda Langmeier, Owner)	<b>Lalonde</b> (Alexis Graves, Owner)
2014	<b>Zentina B</b> (Chasonette Farm, LLC, Owner)	<b>Sorcerer</b> (Sydney Hutchins, Owner)
2013	<b>Class Action</b> (Allison Toffolon, Owner)	<b>Lamont</b> (Catherine Boettcher, Owner)
2012	<b>Drake</b> (Don Stewart, Jr., Owner)	<b>Santika</b> (Samantha Harrison, Owner)
2011	<b>Uriam</b> (Michael Murphy, Owner)	<b>Punkt</b> (Melissa Doddridge, Owner)
2010	<b>Massimo</b> (Chase Boggio, Owner)	<b>Fernway Park</b> (Don Stewart, Jr., Owner)
2009	<b>Pioneer</b> (Heritage Farm, Owner)	<b>Bingo Bongo</b> (Holly Scapa, Owner)
2008	<b>Sir Neel</b> (Victoria Hobbs, Inspirational Farms, Owner)	<b>W.C. Swing</b> (Carol Bird, Owner)
2007	<b>Deneuve</b> (Jessica Springsteen, Owner)	<b>Y2K</b> (Natalie Rae Medlock, Owner)
2006	<b>Mid-Accord</b> (Maggie McAlary, Owner)	<b>Ketel One</b> (Amber Levine, Owner)



## // SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS WINNERS

### DAISY FARISH

WINNER OF THE 2018 PLATINUM  
PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING  
TALENT SEARCH FINALS EAST



Photo: © The Book LLC

### EAST

2018	Daisy Farish	2000	Sarah Willeman
2017	McKayla Langmeier	1999	Jennifer Jones
2016	TJ O'Mara	1998	Cullen Latimer
2015	Victoria Colvin	1997	Ellie Ritch
2014	Geoffrey Hesslink	1996	Hillary Schlusemeyer
2013	Michael Hughes	1995	Jackie McQuade
2012	Jacob Pope	1994	Lauren Hough
2011	Samantha Schaefer	1993	Abigail Mort
2010	Brittany Hurst	1992	Jessica Karp
2009	Matthew Metell	1991	Peter Lutz
2008	Sophie Benjamin	1990	McLain Ward
2007	Nikko Ritter	1989	David Oliynyk
2006	Charlie Jayne	1988	Tamara Provost
2005	Julie Welles	1987	Craig Shegog
2004	Brianne Goutal	1986	Neil Ashe
2003	Michael Morrissey	1985	Andre Dignelli
2002	Kristy McCormack	1984	Jenno Topping
2001	Derek Braun	1983	Karen McKelvey
		1982	Sandy Nielsen

## // SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS WINNERS

### SOPHIE SIMPSON

WINNER OF THE 2018 PLATINUM  
PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING  
TALENT SEARCH FINALS WEST



Photo: Captured Moment Photography

### WEST

2018	Sophie Simpson	2000	Anneliese Kallow
2017	Halie Robinson	1999	Eva Gonda
2016	Peyton Warren	1998	Michelle Yang
2015	Ransome Rombauer	1997	Elise Haas
2014	Sydney Hutchins	1996	Kirsten Coe
2013	Olivia Champ	1995	Kristin Posehn
2012	Samantha Harrison	1994	Abigail Dachs
2011	Demi Stiegler	1993	Megan Johnstone
2010	Taylor Ann Adams	1992	Devon Jackson
2009	Theo Boris	1991	Emily Esau
2008	Hannah Selleck	1990	Lauren Kay
2007	Natalie Ray Medlock	1989	Karen Chandler
2006	Nick Haness	1988	Richard Spooner
2005	Alex Maida	1987	Lisa Osier
2004	Kasey Ament	1986	Meredith Michaels
2003	Katie Gardner	1985	Stacey Eurich
2002	Tedra Bates	1984	Catherine Schwenn
2001	Jamie Taylor	1983	Linda Harwood
		1982	Joie Gatlin



## // NEW CHANGES TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE PLATINUM PERFORMANCE / USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS

The US Equestrian Jumping Sport Committee approved the following modifications to go into effect for the 2019 Platinum Performance / USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals based on recommendations from the Talent Search Task Force. These modifications were made as a result of an assessment of the 2018 Talent Search Finals and feedback collected from key constituents.

- **The Finals fence height will now be 1.15m (previously 1.20m).**
- **A trot fence, not to exceed .90, may be permitted prior to the first gymnastics round of the Finals.**
- **Judges will have the ability to develop their own gymnastics courses with the approval of the designated Talent Search Finals Technical Delegate.**

Qualifying criteria for the 2019 Talent Search Finals will remain the same; however, the Talent Search Task Force will continue to outline modification recommendations to the Jumping Sport Committee for consideration regarding the 2019/2020 Talent Search Finals qualifying classes.

## // QUALIFICATIONS

### 2018/2019 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH POINT SCALE

Effective September 1, 2017 the following Point System will be used for the 2018/2019 Talent Search qualifying period (Sept 1, 2018 - Aug. 31, 2019):

3*	2*	1*
1st Place - 90 Points	1st Place - 45 Points	1st Place - 30 Points
2nd Place - 60 Points	2nd Place - 30 Points	2nd Place - 15 Points
3rd Place - 40 Points	3rd Place - 20 Points	3rd Place - 10 Points
4th Place - 20 Points	4th Place - 10 Points	4th Place - 5 Points
5th Place - 10 Points	5th Place - 5 Points	
6th Place - 5 Points		

- To qualify for the Finals West, a rider must earn 30 points and a ribbon placing in a 2\* or 3\* Talent Search class
- To qualify for the Finals East, a rider must earn 90 points and a ribbon placing in a 2\* or 3\* Talent Search class
- A 3\* win automatically qualifies a rider for the East or West Final
- Riders qualified for both Finals must choose one of the two Finals in which to compete

## // RULES AND REGULATIONS

Open to Junior and Young Riders under USEF rules who are U.S. citizens, members of the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc., and who have qualified prior to September 1, 2019. Previous Finals winners are ineligible for either Final.

This competition is a test of an individual's abilities as a potential show jumping rider. Management shall settle any dispute or question that may arise and Management's decision shall be final. Exhibitors and other participants herein, as a condition to admission, agree to such a method of settlement.

Every class offered herein which is covered by the rules and specifications of the current USEF Rule Book will be conducted and judged in accordance therewith. Should any questions or disputes arise that are not provided for in the rules, the same shall be referred to the management whose decision shall be final.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS REPRESENT AN EXCEPTION TO USEF RULE EQ 102.9.a/b/c.**

**1. ENTRIES** - Entries for both Finals close September 9, 2019. Entries received after September 9 may be accepted at the discretion of Management.

**Entry Fee: \$350 Schooling Class Fee: \$100**

Numbers will not be issued until the entries have been properly signed, entries have been paid in full, and USEF release forms have been signed. Entry fees are inclusive of USEF Fees (D/M \$15, USEF \$23) and USHJA Zone Fee (\$30).

**2. PAYMENT** - Exhibitors are advised that non-negotiable funds are a serious offense which may be considered grounds for refusing entries. This includes checks and credit cards that are declined. A fine equal to 10% of the amount due or \$50.00, whichever is greater, will be made for all non-negotiable funds. Accounts will be given ten (10) days in which to be paid in full (including penalty) or they will be turned over to the USEF under GR913.

**3. REFUNDS** - Entries that are scratched before the closing date (September 9, 2019) will receive a full refund. Stall, tack stall, and shavings fees are not refundable after the closing date. Entries that are scratched after the closing date but before the start of the competition (Schooling Class is start of competition) will receive a refund of entry fees paid minus a \$25 office fee. Entries that are scratched after the competition begins will receive a refund of entry fees paid minus a \$25 office fee upon receipt by the Show Secretary of a veterinarian's certificate or medical doctor's note.

**4. FINALS HORSE** - Competitors must compete on the same horse throughout all Phases of the competition except for Phase IV where competitors ride their own horses first then each of the other's mounts in turn over the same course. Stallions are permitted.

## // RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONTINUED)

**5. SCHOOLING** - FEI Schooling Rules will apply at both Finals, e.g. there will be no poling or use of offsets. Schooling fences will be flagged and must be jumped in the correct direction. FEI Schooling Rules will be in effect beginning Thursday, September 19, 2019 for the West Coast Finals and Friday, October 4, 2019 for the East Coast Finals.

**6. ELIMINATION** - Two refusals or a fall by horse and/or rider will result in elimination from the Phase in which they are competing. The competitor may continue to compete in the competition in subsequent Phases.

**7. MEDAL CEREMONY** - Competitors who have earned a Gold, Silver or Bronze Medal during the past year will be presented their Medal in a Medal Ceremony prior to the start of Phase IV. Competitors must be appropriately attired in order to participate in the Medal Ceremony. It is the competitor's responsibility to notify the USEF Liaison at least 24 hours before the Ceremony if there are any discrepancies with the type of Medal earned.

**8. AWARDS CEREMONY** - Awards will be presented immediately following Phase IV. The Top Ten competitors must be formally attired and mounted for the Awards Ceremony.

**9. AWARDS & TROPHIES** - Champion trophy, ribbon, and cooler to the winner. Reserve Champion frame, ribbon, and cooler to 2nd place. Picture frames, ribbons, and coolers to 3rd and 4th place. Ribbons for 5th through 10th place. Best Horse frame and ribbon to the horse determined as the best by the judges. Leading Trainer trophy to the trainer of the winner.

Ties for anyone finishing 5th-10th will be broken as follows:

- According to the higher score in Phase III (Jumping); if there is still a tie, then
- According to the higher score in Phase II (Gymnastics); if there is still a tie, then those tied will remain tied.

**10. ATTIRE** - Riders must be properly attired for all Phases. Polo shirts are acceptable for the Schooling Class. White breeches are required for Phases III and IV.

**11. PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR** - It is compulsory for all persons at Federation licensed hunter, jumper or hunter/jumper competitions, when mounted anywhere on the competition grounds, to wear properly fastened protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. It must be properly fitted with harness secured. The Federation makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, about any protective headgear, and cautions riders that death or serious injury may result despite wearing such headgear as all equestrian sports involve inherent dangerous risk and as no helmet can protect against all foreseeable injuries. USEF GR801.

**12. EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT** - EMTs will be on the show grounds for the duration of the Finals.

**13. DOGS** - While on the showgrounds all dogs must have proof of a rabies certificate and be restrained on a leash at all times. Stable dogs must be confined at all times. Owners of loose dogs are subject to a \$50 fine and are responsible for the entry fee (\$350) of the horse and rider whose performance may be disrupted. Litigation fees resulting from any incident will be the responsibility of the dog owner. USEF GR1301.6

**14. LIABILITY** - All owners and competitors are personally responsible for damages to third persons caused by themselves, their employees, their agents, or their horses. They therefore are strongly advised to take out third-party insurance providing full coverage for participation in equestrian events at home and abroad, and to keep the policy up to date.

Neither the U.S. Equestrian Team Foundation, Inc., US Equestrian Federation, Inc., nor the Rancho Mission Viejo Riding Park or any affiliated companies, officials, sponsors, all of their directors, officers, members, agents and employees as well as individuals serving in a volunteer capacity, accept any liability for any expense, accident, injury, illness or loss of horses, owners, riders, attendants, spectators, or any person or property whatsoever which may allegedly or actually arise out of or in connection with, or result from anyone's child's participation in the USEF Finals or as a result of or in connection with travel to or from the USEF Finals site, whether or not caused by the negligence of the competition, the negligence or willfulness of some third party, or by any other cause.

"WARNING: UNDER NEW JERSEY LAW, AN EQUESTRIAN AREA OPERATOR IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ANIMAL ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF EQUINE ANIMAL ACTIVITIES PURSUANT TO P.L.,1 997,C .287 (C.S:1S-1 et seq)."



## // RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONTINUED)

**15. CANCELLATION OF EVENT** - Show management reserves the right to make adjustments to the schedule, procedures, and protocols and to make cancellations as deemed necessary or appropriate.

**16. INCLEMENT WEATHER** - In the event of inclement weather, Management reserves the right to move the location and start time of any of the Phases.

**17. USEF MEMBER STATEMENT** - Life, senior active and junior active members shall be eligible to participate in all classes at Regular Competitions, Eventing Competitions at the Preliminary Level or above and Combined Driving Competitions at the Advanced Level, Dressage, Reining and Vaulting Competitions and Endurance Rides. A nonmember may participate as a handler, rider, driver, owner, lessee, agent, coach or trainer at Regular Competitions, Eventing Competitions, Dressage Competitions, Reining Competitions and Combined Driving Competitions upon payment of a \$45 Show Pass fee. Participants in the following classes are exempted from the Requirements of this rule: 1) leadline; 2) exhibitions; 3) games and races; 4) classes for 4-H members; 5) walk trot (exception: Friesian performance FR222) and academy classes (academy classes are classes limited to horses used regularly in a lesson program); 6) USDF introductory level tests, pas de deux and quadrille classes; 7) NRHA Endorsed Reining Competitions. 8) Opportunity classes, 9) citizens of other nations who have proof, in English, of current membership in good standing of their own National Federation, 10) USEA beginner novice division; and 11) assistant handlers in Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes.

**18. FEDERATION ENTRY AGREEMENT** - By entering a Federation-licensed Competition and signing this entry blank as the Owner, Lessee, Trainer, Manager, Agent, Coach, Driver, Rider, Handler, Vaultor or Longeur and on behalf of myself and my principals, representatives, employees and agents, I agree that I am subject to the Bylaws and Rules of The United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (the "Federation") and the local rules of the competition. I agree to be bound by the Bylaws and Rules of the Federation and of the competition. I will accept as final the decision of the Hearing Committee on any question arising under the Rules, and agree to release and hold harmless the competition, the Federation, their officials, directors and employees for any action taken under the Rules. I represent that I am eligible to enter and/or participate under the Rules, and every horse I am entering is eligible as entered. I also agree that as a condition of and in consideration of acceptance of entry, the Federation and/or the Competition may use or assign photographs, videos, audios, cable - casts, broadcasts, internet, film, new media or other likenesses of me and my horse taken during the course of the competition for the promotion, coverage or benefit of the competition, sport, or the Federation. Those likenesses shall not be used to advertise a product and they may not be used in such a way as to jeopardize amateur status. I hereby expressly and irrevocably waive and release any rights in connection with such use, including any claim to compensation, invasion of privacy, right of publicity, or to misappropriation. The construction and application of Federation rules are governed by the laws of the State of New York, and any action instituted against the Federation must be filed in New York State. See GR908.

**19. MOTORIZED VEHICLES** - Minors who do not have a valid driver's license which allows them to operate a motorized vehicle in the state in which they reside will not be permitted to operate a motorized vehicle of any kind, including, but not limited to, golf carts, motorcycles, scooters, or farm utility vehicles, on the competition grounds of licensed competitions. Minors who have a valid temporary license may operate the above described motorized vehicles as long as they are accompanied by an adult with a valid driver's license. The parent(s), legal guardian(s), or individual who signs the entry blank as a parent or guardian of a minor operating a motorized vehicle in violation of this rule are solely responsible for any damages, claims, losses or actions resulting from that operation. Violations of this rule will be cause for sanctions against the parent(s), guardian(s) and/or trainer(s) who are responsible for the child committing the offense. Penalties may include exclusion of the child, parent(s), guardian(s), and/or trainer(s) from the competition grounds for the remainder of the competition and charges being filed against any of the above individuals in accordance with Chapter 6. Wheelchairs and other mobility assistance devices for individuals with disabilities are exempt from this rule. See USEF GR1301.7

**20. MEDICAL WASTE** - Competition management shall place a minimum of one sharps container per each competition, whether or not stabling is provided. Additionally, at least one sharps container per 50 occupied stalls for the disposal of needles and other disposable sharp instruments in convenient locations in barns housing competition horses. It is competition management's responsibility to replace such containers when full and dispose of them properly. Competition management may fine any individuals including trainers, owners, exhibitors, or their agents up to \$100 for improper disposal of needles or other sharp disposable instruments. USEF GR1210.4.

## // FINALS WEST, RANCHO MISSION VIEJO RIDING PARK - SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA

**STABLING:** Stalls will be permanent and/or portable with stall doors. Stalls will be provided without bedding.

**FOOTING & RING DIMENSIONS:** Footing is grass for all phases. Warm up arenas are grass/sand. Dimensions of competition arenas are: Pacific Field - 190' X 200' and Grand Prix Field - 250' X 300' (note Grand Prix field will be restricted to approximately 150' x 325' for Phase II).

**HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:** Please refer to the International Jumping Festival Prize List or contact the Show Secretary.

**SCHOOLING:** Finals West horses may only compete in Class #229 (1.15m) held on the Grand Prix Field on Wednesday, September 18. After that, no other schooling is permitted on the Grand Prix Field until the Schooling Class on Thursday, September 19. One Schooling Class will be held on the Grass Field on Thursday, September 19 at approximately 4 p.m. and will be open to Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals competitors only. Riders may ride more than one horse in the Schooling Class but **must declare their Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals horse to the Show Secretary no later than half an hour after the completion of the Schooling Class.** A course of approximately 8 obstacles will be set and will include a water jump (with or without a pole). Each rider will have 90 seconds in the arena and will be free to jump any flagged obstacle, including multiple times, but rules regarding eliminations for refusals and falls will be enforced. Only Junior or Young Riders entered in the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals West may ride horses in the Schooling Class. At the conclusion of the Schooling Class, only the Junior or Young Rider entered in the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals West may ride the horse on which they have declared they will compete and the horse may not compete in any other classes until the conclusion of the Finals West.

**FEED, HAY & BEDDING:** Hay and shavings may be ordered in the horse show office. Advance orders - 949.443.1847.

## // FINALS EAST, USET FOUNDATION HEADQUARTERS - GLADSTONE, NJ

**STABLING:** Stalls will be either permanent or temporary with stall doors. Stalls will be provided without bedding. Exhibitors are advised that failure to clean out a permanent stall will result in an additional charge of \$200 per stall. Accounts will be given ten (10) days in which to be paid in full or they will be turned over to the USEF under GR913.

**FOOTING & RING DIMENSIONS:** Footing is all-weather. Dimensions of the competition arena are 150' x 325'.

**ARRIVAL:** Horses may not arrive at the USET before 9 a.m., Thursday, October 3. All horses must be on the grounds by 5 p.m., Friday, October 4. **Horses planning to arrive after 5 p.m. and before 8 a.m. must contact Management.** Horses may not leave the grounds without the permission of Management.

**HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:** In accordance with USEF GR845, all horses entering the USET Headquarters property must be accompanied by documentation of Equine Influenza Virus and Equine Herpes Virus (Rhinopneumonitis) vaccinations within six months prior to entering the stables. Horses not in compliance with this rule may be required to leave the competition grounds upon request by Competition Management. See USEF GR845 for documentation requirements.

**SCHOOLING:** Schooling will be permitted in the Main Arena on Thursday, October 3 from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. and on Friday, October 4 from 8 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. One Schooling Class will be held on Friday, October 4. Riders may ride more than one horse in the Schooling Class but **must declare their Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals horse to the Show Secretary no later than half an hour after the completion of the Schooling Class.** A course of approximately eight obstacles will be set and will include a water jump (with or without a pole). Each rider will have 90 seconds in the arena and will be free to jump any flagged obstacle, including multiple times, but rules regarding eliminations for refusals and falls will be enforced. Only Junior or Young Riders entered in the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals East may ride horses in the Schooling Class. At the conclusion of the Schooling Class, only the Junior or Young Rider entered in the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals East may ride the horse on which they have declared they will compete.

**FEED, HAY & BEDDING:** Shavings may be ordered from the show office or with the entry. Feed and hay is available for purchase from Somerset Grain & Feed of Bernardsville, NJ - 908.766.0204. Advance orders are recommended. **There will be no feed delivery on Saturday or Sunday so please plan accordingly.**

**PARKING:** Grounds will be restricted in the interest of safety and security. Vans and trailers must park in the designated areas. All competitors must follow parking directions. Campers are not permitted at the USET Headquarters.

**VIDEO SERVICES:** ShowNet, [www.shownet.biz](http://www.shownet.biz).

**PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES:** The Book LLC. 561.792.9331, [www.thebookllc.com](http://www.thebookllc.com).

**SCOREBOARD AND TIMING:** Ryegate Show Services Inc.

## // SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
FINALS WEST	4:00 p.m. Schooling Class (Grand Prix Field) 5:00 p.m. Rider Meeting	8:00 a.m., Phase I Flat (Pacific Grass Field) 2:00 p.m., Phase II Gymnastics (Grand Prix Field)	8:00 a.m. Phase III Jumping Phase IV Ride-Off (Grand Prix Field)
	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6
FINALS EAST	2:00 p.m. Schooling Class 5:00 p.m. Rider Meeting	8:00 a.m. Phase I Flat 1:00 p.m. Phase II Gymnastics	8:00 a.m. Phase III Jumping 1:30 p.m. Phase IV Ride-off

## // TACK (INCLUDING SCHOOLING CLASS)

- Legal bits include snaffles, pelhams, gags, kimberwicks, and two or three ring bits. Full bridles may be used. Any other bits (including but not limited to hackamores, etc.) are prohibited.
- Change of bridle is permissible, between phases.
- Legal nosebands include leather cavesson, flash, drop and figure eight.
- Martingales are not permitted in the flat phase. Running martingales used in the conventional manner are legal in the over fences phase only. Standing martingales, German martingales, draw reins, or restricted martingales are prohibited in all phases.
- Bit converters may be used.
- Blinkers are prohibited.
- Boots and conservative colored bandages are permitted on the legs only. The total maximum weight of equipment allowed to be added to a Horse's leg, front or hind (single or multiple boots, fetlock rings, etc.), is 500 grams or 17.637 ounces (shoe excluded).
- Elimination will incur for competing with a belly band, or a wrap or bandage anywhere other than the horse's legs.
- Type of saddle is optional.
- Nose nets are permitted.

## // PHASE I (FLAT)

**PHASE I: FLAT** - The purpose of Phase I (Flat) is to prepare the horse for jumping. Riders will be asked to demonstrate the following as a group or individually: working walk, working trot sitting, working trot rising, working trot showing a lengthening of stride, working canter, working canter showing a lengthening of stride, and working canter on the counter lead. Judges may require advanced flatwork such as shoulder-in, shoulder-out, haunches-in, and haunches-out. To be judged on rider's position and seat, as well as the correctness and effectiveness of the aids. No martingales will be allowed in Phase I. Phase I will have a multiplier of 1. The start order of Phase I will be by a random draw.

## // PHASE II (GYMNASTICS)

**PHASE II: GYMNASTICS** - Phase II is to be judged over a series of gymnastic lines, which will be developed by the Judges with the approval of the designated Talent Search Finals Technical Delegate. A trot fence, not to exceed .90m, may be permitted prior to the first gymnastics exercise. To be judged on effectiveness of execution. The course will be posted and open 30 minutes prior to the start of competition for walking, and may be walked only by the competitor. Phase II will have a multiplier of 1.5. The start order of Phase II will be the reverse order of standings after Phase I.

## // PHASE III (JUMPING)

**PHASE III: JUMPING** - To be shown over a course of approximately 10-13 fences set at 1.15m with spreads to 1.50m (excluding the water jump, which may be wider). To include one double combination and one triple combination, or three double combinations, and an open water jump (with or without a pole, see USEF JP128). Speed 350 meters per minute. The course will be posted and open 30 minutes prior to the start of the competition for walking and may be walked only by the competitor. To be judged on effectiveness of execution. Time and jumping faults will be taken into consideration in the judges' evaluation of the rider. Phase III will have a multiplier of 2. The start order of Phase III will be the reverse order of standings after Phases I and II, respectively.

Phases II, III, and IV may include obstacles such as banks, ditches, and water (no water in Phase IV).



## // PHASE IV (RIDE-OFF)

The top four competitors after Phase III (based on their cumulative scores in Phases I, II, and III) qualify as Finalists for Phase IV. The Finalists in Phase IV start equal. If a tie for the 4th Finalist exists at the completion of Phase III (Jumping), it will be broken according to the higher score in Phase III (Jumping).

**CONDUCT & START ORDER:** The start order of Phase IV (Ride-Off) will be determined by the Finalists' cumulative scores from Phases I, II, and III. The Finalist with the highest score will start last in the first round, the Finalist with the second highest score will start second to last, and so on. Each Finalist in this Phase must jump a round of the course on each of the four horses that have qualified for Phase IV, starting with his/her own and following the order shown below in the table.

ROUND	COMPETITORS	HORSES	ROUND	COMPETITORS	HORSES
1	No. 4	A (own horse)	3	No. 2	A
	No. 3	B (own horse)		No. 1	B
	No. 2	C (own horse)		No. 4	C
	No. 1	D (own horse)		No. 3	D
2	No. 3	A	4	No. 1	A
	No. 2	B		No. 4	B
	No. 1	C		No. 3	C
	No. 4	D		No. 2	D

**VETERINARY EVALUATION:** Prior to the beginning of Phase IV, a veterinary evaluation will be held for the top four horses qualified to participate. The horses in 5th and 6th place after Phase III (Jumping) will also be required to jog. In the case of an accident before the start of Phase IV, if a Finalist or a horse is unable to participate for reasons of health, he/she will automatically be replaced by the competitor placed 5th and so on.

**OBSTACLES, SPEED, LENGTH OF COURSE:** The course will consist of approximately eight fences set at 1.15m in height with spreads to 1.50m and must include a double or a triple combination. The water jump will not be used in Phase IV. Minimum speed of 350 meters per minute with a maximum speed of 500 meters per minute. To be judged on effectiveness of execution. Time and jumping faults must be taken into consideration in the judge's evaluation of the rider. The course will open 30 minutes prior to the start of the competition for walking and may be walked only by the Finalists.

**SADDLERY:** The Finalists are allowed to change their saddles, but the horses must always be ridden in the same bridle, bit and boots used in Phase III.

**SCHOOLING:** Each Finalist will use a special enclosure in which two practice obstacles will be built (one vertical and one spread). Once set, the dimensions cannot be changed. Except for officials, the only people allowed inside the enclosure are the Finalists and the trainer and groom for each horse taking part.

Each Finalist will have two minutes to school their horse as well as the three other horses. The two-minute period will start when the buzzer is sounded. The Finalist may jump the vertical obstacle once and the spread obstacle once or the same obstacle twice. The time used of the two minute period must be shown on the scoreboard or other display beside the arena, clearly visible for the Finalist. The end of this time will be announced to the Finalist by ringing the bell. At the end of the two minutes the Finalist must enter the show ring, at which time the signal to start will be given, notifying the Finalist that he/she has 45 seconds to go through the start.

**SCORING:** The judges will score each round numerically and total all four rounds. Scores will not be announced until the end of the class. The Finalist with the highest score from all four rounds will be the winner; the Finalist with the second-highest score will finish second, and so on. The judges, at their discretion, may take into account Finalists' performances in Phases I, II, and III to break ties.

**ACCIDENTS:** *Accidents to a competitor during Phase IV:* If a Finalist has an accident during the Final preventing him/her from continuing, but the horse with which he/she has an accident is able to continue, the horse must compete in all rounds with the other Finalists.

*Accidents to a horse during Phase IV:* In the event of an accident to a horse during the first round, this round will be considered null and void. The score will then be decided on three rounds instead of four. If a horse is not fit to participate in the second, third or fourth round, the results it had obtained thus far, other than its result in the first round, are cancelled. The Finalist of the horse that is unable to continue will not participate in the fourth round. In this case the total result of each Finalist is determined over three rounds, one on his/her own horse and two on other horses.

## // DIRECTIONS

### TO RANCHO MISSION VIEJO RIDING PARK

Take the San Diego freeway 1-5. Exit at Ortega Highway. Go east four miles. Turn right on to La Pata Road (the grass field will be on your right).

### TO USET HEADQUARTERS

**FROM THE NORTHEAST:** NY Thruway take Route I-287 South, or take George Washington Bridge to Route I-80 West to Route I-287 South. From Route I-287 South take Exit 22 to Route 202/206 North (look for brown USET signs). Proceed North on Route 206 to Pottersville Road, aka Route 512 (sixth traffic light – approximately five miles). Turn left at the traffic light. Follow GENERAL DIRECTIONS below.

**FROM THE NORTHWEST:** Route I-80 East take Exit 27 off Route I-80 to Route 206 South. Take 206 South. Approximately four miles south of Chester make a right at the light for Pottersville Road, aka Route 512. Follow GENERAL DIRECTIONS below.

**FROM THE SOUTH:** NJ Turnpike take Exit 10 off NJ Turnpike to Route I-287 North. Take Exit 22B off Route I-287 for Route 202/206 North (look for brown USET signs). Proceed North on Route 206 to Pottersville Road aka Route 512 (sixth traffic light - approximately five miles). Turn left at the traffic light. Follow GENERAL DIRECTIONS below.

**FROM THE WEST:** Route I-78 East to Route I-287 North. The second exit on I-287 will be #22B for Routes 202/206 North (look for brown USET signs). Proceed North on Route 206 to Pottersville Road, aka Route 512 (sixth traffic light - approximately five miles). Turn left at the traffic light. Follow GENERAL DIRECTIONS below.

**FROM NEWARK AIRPORT:** After exiting the airport follow the signs to Route I-78 West, take Exit 29 to Route I-287 North. The second exit on I-287 will be #22B for Route 202/206 North (look for brown USET signs). Proceed North on Route 206 to Pottersville Road, aka Route 512 (sixth traffic light - approximately five miles). Turn left at the traffic light. Follow GENERAL DIRECTIONS below.

**GENERAL DIRECTIONS:** Travel on Pottersville Road for approximately 3/4 mile. On left is white USET sign, turn onto Schoolhouse Road. Follow this road, after the third speed bump the USET headquarters are on the right. The Show Office is located in the stable rotunda.

## // ACCOMMODATIONS

### WEST COAST

**HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS  
SAN CLEMENTE**  
35 Via Pico Plaza  
San Clemente, CA 92672  
949.498.8800

**BEST WESTERN CAPISTRANO INN**  
27174 Ortega Highway  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675  
949.493.5661

**DOUBLETREE GUEST SUITES  
DANA POINT**  
34402 CA-1 Pacific Coast Highway  
Dana Point, CA 92629  
949.661.1100

### EAST COAST

**DELTA HOTELS BY MARRIOTT**  
80 Allen Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
908.848.4187  
Block Rate available:  
Mention Talent Search Finals  
Restaurant on premises

**COURTYARD MARRIOTT**  
595 Martinsville Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
908.542.0300  
Block Rate available:  
Mention Talent Search Finals  
Restaurant on premises

**MARRIOTT BRIDGEWATER**  
700 Commons Way  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807  
908.927.9300  
Restaurant on premises

**HAMPTON INN BRIDGEWATER**  
1277 Route 22 West  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807  
908.722.9910

## DENALI MEMORIAL PERPETUAL TROPHY

Donated by Mrs. Maya Z. Hamburger  
awarded to the winner of the  
Platinum Performance/USEF  
Show Jumping Talent Search Finals - West

Once upon a time, in Montana, a racing Quarter Horse named "Flint Chief" was born to a thoroughbred mare. In addition to growing up and holding multi-state racing records, he was reputed to hold pole-bending and barrel racing records.

An amateur-owner named Leslie Brown spent summers in Alaska, teaching families to ride, and coincidentally, an Alaskan family bought the talented "Flint" sight unseen and shipped him from Montana to Alaska for a trail horse. He was too much for family trail riding, so exercising him fell to Leslie.

Leslie showed "Flint" some old standards and poles to jump, and from that day on, Flint jumped anything. He used his racing and pole-bending skills to make REALLY fast tight turns. Leslie dubbed him "Denali"- "The Great One" in Eskimo.

His first show was at the International Forum in Los Angeles. Leslie was shocked at the size of the jumps. Not Denali. He entered the ring, looked around, and won. And from that day on, he won wherever he went – Indio, Phoenix, Coto de Caza, Fresno, the Cow Palace, Santa Barbara, and Del Mar.

Four years after first seeing him at the Forum, Denali became 12-year old Melanie Hamburger's baby-sitter and best friend. Just as he did with Leslie, Denali carried Melanie safely over countless fences (even if it was a bit faster than her trainers might have liked)... and won.

The following year, Melanie and Denali competed successfully at Spruce Meadows. They added Grand Prix jumping to the Junior Classes. And Denali won!

Denali may have looked as though he were made from spare parts, only 15.2 1/2 hands, but he had a jumbo rump to propel him over fences and courage, heart, and a love of jumping that made everything seem easy. His expressive eyes never let Leslie or Melanie forget for one moment that Denali would keep them safe...and WINNING.



## FRENCH LEAVE MEMORIAL PERPETUAL TROPHY

Donated by Gerald A. Nielsen Family  
awarded to the winner of the  
Platinum Performance/USEF  
Show Jumping Talent Search Finals - East

French Leave...a remarkable horse.

Known as one of the most versatile horses of his time, French Leave made many appearances in the hunter, jumper, and equitation rings. Owned by the Nielsen Family, French Leave was ridden by all three children during their riding careers.



In 1982, Sandy rode French Leave to win the inaugural Show Jumping Talent Search Finals East and the USEF Hunter Seat Medal (only one of five riders to ever do so). Karen also rode French Leave to win the USEF Hunter Seat Medal in 1987 and placed 2nd the following year in the Show Jumping Talent Search Finals East. She placed 2nd in the ASPCA Maclay Finals aboard French Leave in 1987 and 1988.

Many times French Leave would zip around a junior jumper course and then race over to the equitation ring and perform in a Maclay flat phase, and at the end of the day he would win both!

## LEADING TRAINER AWARD

Donated by the late Mr. Hugh J.B Cassidy, III  
awarded to the trainers of the winners  
of the Platinum Performance/USEF  
Show Jumping Talent Search Finals - East & West



Photos: Gladstone Archive (1-2), Geoff Oliver Bugbee (3)



## BEST HORSE TROPHY - FINALS WEST THE "GULLIVER" TROPHY

Donated by Karen Healey  
awarded to the best horse, chosen by the  
Judges of the Platinum Performance/USEF  
Show Jumping Talent Search Finals - West

In 1988, Thea Neilsen called Karen Healey a few days before the USET Finals as she heard Karen needed a horse for Nicole Bloom. Thea said she had a five-year-old Thoroughbred that she had shown in the hunters and jumpers. Karen went over two days before the Finals and tried him.



Nicole used him that year and was fourth when she knocked a jump down with her feet in the last change of horses. Bert deNemethy was judging that year and accidentally scored the class on the horse not the rider and declared him the winner. It was all sorted out, but that was Gulliver's first "Best Horse" win.

Gulliver's record after that auspicious beginning is extraordinary. If one of Karen's riders didn't win whatever Equitation Final it was, Gulliver often won with the rider who had been switched on to him, always ending up the Best Horse. After that first year as a five-year-old, Gulliver helped equitation riders through 1995, when he was retired, and spent his days at Thea Nielsen's farm in Montana.

### Specific results with Karen's students include:

- 1989 2nd ASPCA Finals (Lauren Kay)
- 1990 1st ASPCA Finals (Lauren Kay)
- 1990 1st Talent Search Finals West (Lauren Kay)
- 1991 2nd ASPCA Finals (Carlee Kay)
- 1991 1st ASPCA Regionals (Carlee Kay)
- 1991 1st AHSA Regionals (Carlee Kay)
- 1992 2nd USET Talent Search Finals West (Carlee Kay)
- 1994 1st PCHA 14 Finals (Buffy Lake)
- 1994 1st LA Jr. Finals (Buffy Lake)
- 1994 1st PHA West Finals 14 (Buffy Lake)

As Karen says, "I think sometimes in the equitation we overlook the contribution of the horse, so I'd like to donate this trophy in honor of one of the best equitation horses ever — Gulliver."

## BEST HORSE TROPHY - FINALS EAST THE "GRAPPA" TROPHY

Donated by Sarah Willeman  
awarded to the best horse, chosen by the  
Judges of the Platinum Performance/USEF  
Show Jumping Talent Search Finals - East

Grappa has always known when he's in the winner's circle. Give him a loose rein for his victory photograph, and he'll hold his head high with ears pricked and a gleam in his eye. That energy and engagement have characterized everything Grappa has done in his impressive career; he is one of the best equitation horses the sport has ever seen. With Missy Clark's students, Grappa won seven national equitation championships and every major specialty class on the equitation tour, including winning the Calvin Klein Equitation Classic at Southampton three times. Grappa jumped the open water, banks and ditches with the same athleticism and grace he expressed in a Maclay class or over a hunter course. His brilliant flatwork and impeccable jumping style have made him unfailingly a pleasure to watch. In all of his show performances, Grappa displayed the classic trait of a truly great athlete: he made it look easy.

### Grappa's seven national championships include:

- 1996 ASPCA Maclay Finals (Lauren Bass)
- 1997 AHSA Medal Finals (Lauren Bass)
- 1998 WIHS Equitation Classic Finals (Sarah Willeman)
- 2000 USET Talent Search Finals East (Sarah Willeman)
- 2000 AHSA Medal Finals (Sarah Willeman)
- 2001 ASPCA Maclay Finals (Brian Walker)
- 2002 AHSA Medal Finals (Maggie Jayne)

Grappa also has the distinction of having bucked off all of his riders, often at the most unexpected moments. His mischievous personality kept him young. Still sound and healthy, Grappa retired in 2006, at the age of 20, to live at North Run/ Turnabout Farm in the green mountains of Vermont.



Photos: J.L. Parker (1), Gladstone Archive (2)



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Bonnie Jenkins and the USET Foundation Staff

Stephanie Wheeler and the Blenheim Equisports Staff

## // TALENT SEARCH FINALS-EAST AND BEYOND FOR DAISY FARISH

*By Kathleen Landwehr*

The history and prestige are palpable at the United States Equestrian Team Foundation headquarters in Gladstone, N.J., making it an excellent venue for aspiring young jumping athletes hoping to make it to the top of the sport. An impressive field competed in the four phases of the 2018 Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals-East, but it was Daisy Farish who claimed the champion title after delivering superb performances. Farish aims to one day represent the U.S. at the senior level on the international stage, and she felt the Finals were an important stepping stone to the future.

The 2018 edition of the Finals-East marked Farish's fifth consecutive appearance. She never finished lower than 11th place, but gaining knowledge over the years gave her the extra edge to win in 2018. "I think with it being my last year and having competed at it so many times before, I was just much more experienced that year," she explained. "I had been in the ride-off one time [in 2016], so having that experience of actually being in that final situation, which is the hardest part of the Finals, and so much experience over the years of riding different horses and being prepared for that situation is what made the difference."

Farish was quick to praise Arsouille des Etangs, her mount for the 2018 Finals. The Selle Français gelding owned by JMTT Girard LLC came from the jumper ring and had only started competing in equitation classes in the summer of 2018. Farish teamed up with Arsouille des Etangs in August, competing in three shows prior to the Finals. "He had been doing jumpers, and that speaks to his character," she said. "He is a pleaser and a very smart, easy-going horse for him to step in there and do as well as he did."

Working with Andre Dignelli and the Heritage Farm team was another important aspect to Farish's success. She and her fellow students practiced going through the phases in the weeks before the Finals to prepare for the challenges ahead. "We set all the gymnastics that we could possibly be jumping that they had in the former format, where they had the option that the judges could pick," Farish explained. "We practiced walking them all, so

we knew what we were walking once we were there. We set a mimic course and practiced our flat, just really trying to nail down all the phases."

Farish's experience and preparations paid off at the Finals. She was in the top three after the first three phases, never scoring lower than 89. Farish delivered four solid rides in the challenging ride-off phase to clinch top honors.

For future competitors in the Finals, Farish suggests, "just to take it phase by phase and really focus your efforts on each one. Don't get too caught up in your scores in each phase, because it is easy to get down on an early poor score or something you didn't want to happen, but it changes so much throughout the days."

The Finals-East was Farish's favorite final, because it had the strongest jumping influence of the equitation finals, and that played well into her own goals. In addition, she saw the significance the Finals played in her future equestrian endeavors. "I would really like to be a strong jumper rider, and my dream would be to one day represent the U.S. on a Nations Cup senior team," Farish said. "Knowing that [U.S. Youth Chef d'Equipe] DiAnn Langer and all of those top people from the USEF take interest in the Finals and watch it and the way they use the Finals as a pipeline for those teams made it very important for me to try to succeed there and look good for them."

Farish finished out her final junior year in 2018, which included a young rider individual gold medal at the Adequan®/FEI North American Youth Championships presented by Gotham North and a Challenge Cup victory for the U.S. team at the FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ Youth Finals. She turned professional in April 2019, and looking to the future, she hopes to continue developing as a jumping athlete. "There are many different aspects of being a professional that I have yet to learn, but it would be my dream to one day be able to put them all together and compete in this sport at a high level."



Daisy Farish and Arsouille Des Etangs winners  
of the 2018 Platinum Performance/USEF Show  
Jumping Talent Search Finals - East

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Competition Division(s) and Rating(s): National Championship - Talent Search Finals

USEF #: East - #7254 & West - #5433

# ATTENTION COMPETITORS



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