



PLATINUM PERFORMANCE / USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS



FINALS WEST

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2020
RANCHO MISSION VIEJO RIDING PARK
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIFORNIA

FINALS EAST

OCTOBER 15-18, 2020
TRYON INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTER
MILL SPRING, NORTH CAROLINA

QUALIFICATIONS CLOSE AUGUST 31, 2020
CLOSE OF ENTRIES – SEPTEMBER 7, 2020 (WEST) & SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 (EAST)
SEE USEF.ORG/TALENTSEARCH FOR MORE INFORMATION!



**SHOW JUMPING
ATHLETE PATHWAY**



BLLENHEIM EQUISPORTS



INTERNATIONAL JUMPING FESTIVAL

Rancho Mission Viejo Riding Park at San Juan Capistrano, CA

September 16 – 20, 2020

USEF "Premier" Hunters; Level "4" Jumper Rated

**HOST TO THE PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING
TALENT SEARCH FINALS – WEST**



Ellie Ferrigno and Discovery O winners of the
2019 Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping
Talent Search Finals - East

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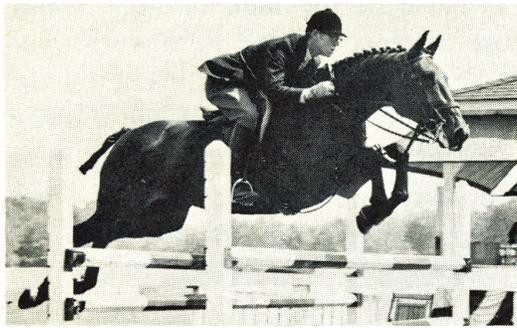
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Photo: Andrea Evans/US Equestrian

// 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.

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.



The early USET medals.

Photo: Courtesy of USET News



Photos: James Leslie Parkert(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!

Cover photo: Shannon Brinkman Photo

WEST COAST || SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2020 SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA

MANAGER.....Stephanie Lightner, Carlsbad, CA
SAFETY COORDINATOR.....Janet Fall, El Macero, CA
SECRETARY.....Carolyn Becker, Calabasas, CA
USEF LIAISON.....Erin Keating, Lexington, KY
USEF TECHNICAL DELEGATEAnthony D'Ambrosio, Red Hook, NY
JUDGES/COURSE DESIGNERSMandy Porter, Encinitas, CA
.....Julie Winkel, Reno, NV
STEWARD.....Debbie Sands, Encintas, CA
SCHOOLING SUPERVISORDonna Rocchetti, Falls, PA
ANNOUNCERSVic Carmen, Katie Frank, Jeff Gilbert, Tim Herrick,
.....Davin Malmqvist & Jesse Yumang
VETERINARIANDr. Anne McCabe, 858.442.4009
FARRIERJoshua Powell, 760.846.2417

EAST COAST || OCTOBER 15-18, 2020, MILL SPRING, NC

MANAGER & SAFETY COORDINATORDavid Distler, West Palm Beach, FL
SECRETARY.....Steven Morrissey, Bedminster, NJ
USEF FACILITY LIASONSteven Morrissey, Bedminster, NJ
USEF SPORT LIASONErin Keating, Lexington, KY
USEF TECHNICAL DELEGATEAnthony D'Ambrosio, Red Hook, NY
JUDGES/COURSE DESIGNERSLauren Hough, Wellington, FL
.....Archie Cox, Los Angeles, CA
STEWARD.....Maria Biancone, Roseland, NJ
SCHOOLING SUPERVISORDoug Curry, Aiken, SC
VETERINARIAN.....Tryon Equine, 828-894-6065
FARRIERJack Montgomery, 864-310-9748

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. The form must be completed and submitted to the Show Office below, along with proper payment, by the entry deadline of September 7, 2020.

Address West Coast entries to:
USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals – West
Carolyn Becker, Show Secretary
30767 Gateway Place #162
Rancho Mission Viejo, CA 92694
Phone: 949.443.1841
Fax: 949.443.1843
Email: office@showpark.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. The online entry must be submitted, with proper payment, by the entry deadline of September 21, 2020.

Address all Talent Search inquiries to:
USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals – East
Steven Morrissey, Show Secretary
P.O. Box 83
1040 Pottersville Road
Gladstone, NJ 07934
Phone: 859.225.7686
Fax: 908.719.7588
Email: smorrissey@usef.org



2020

PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF
 SHOW JUMPING
 TALENT SEARCH
 FINALS EAST



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING PHOTOS TAKEN AT FINALS EAST YOU MUST PRE REGISTER BY SUBMITTING THE SIGN UP FORM FROM OUR WEBSITE OR AT THE EVENT.



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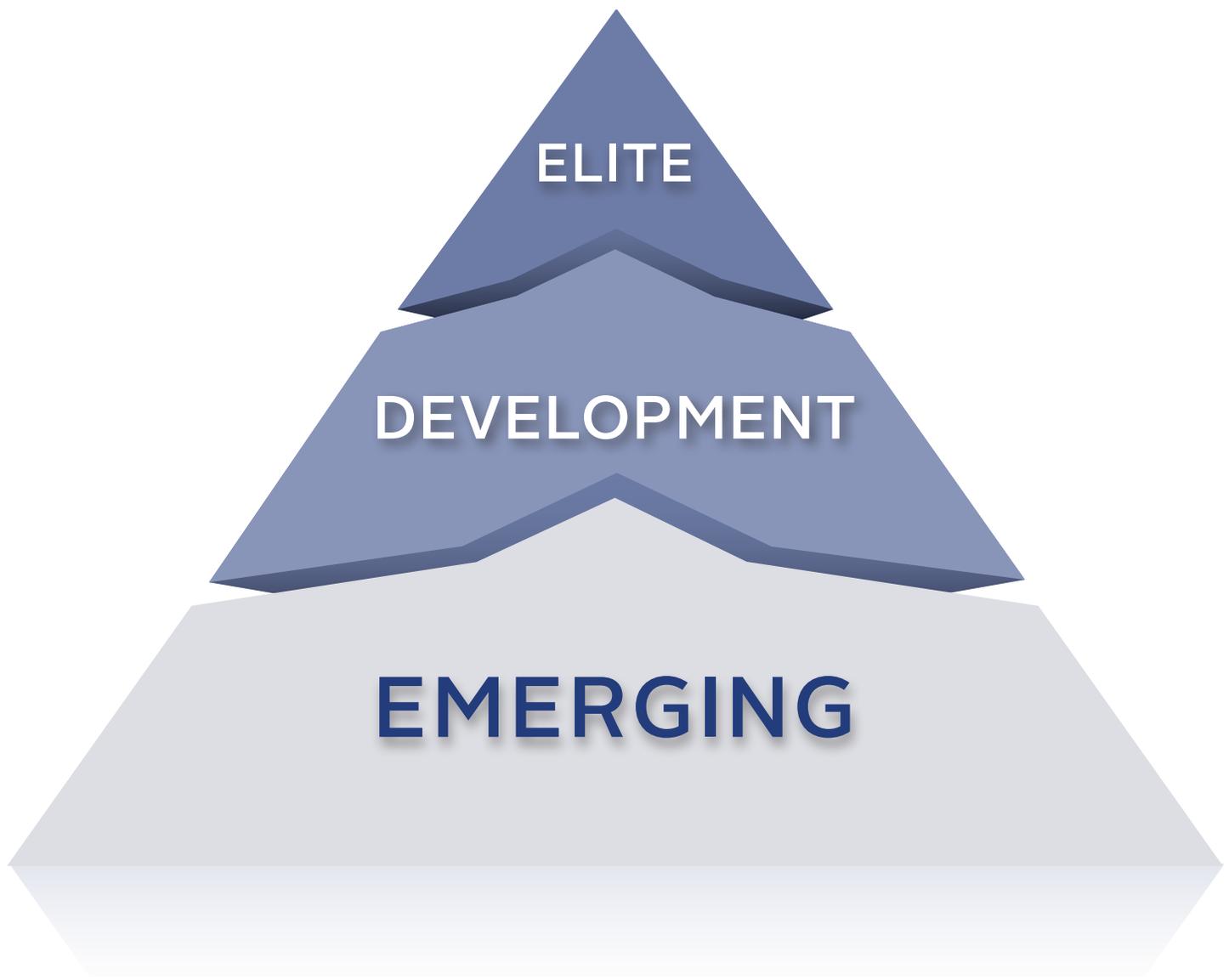


SHOW JUMPING ATHLETE PATHWAY



WWW.USEF.ORG

WWW.USHJA.ORG



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

// OVERVIEW OF THE SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH

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.

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 historically held each autumn at the USEF 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, 967 Bronze Medals, 368 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-Berbaum, 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

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

// SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS BEST HORSES



Photo: © The Book LLC

WINNER OF THE GRAPPA TROPHY
2019 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING
TALENT SEARCH FINALS EAST BEST HORSE AWARD



Photo: Amy McCool

WINNER OF THE GULLIVER TROPHY
2019 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING
TALENT SEARCH FINALS WEST BEST HORSE AWARD

EAST

WEST

	EAST	WEST
2019	Cent 15 (Mountain King Ranch, LLC Owner)	Campitello 5 (Highpoint Farm, LLC, Owner)
2018	Salt Lake (Two Acres Equestrian, LLC, Owner)	Scirocco 91 (AES Equestrian, Owner)
2017	Charisma (Heritage Farm)	Caracas 89 (Elvenstar Farm, Owner)
2016	Clearline (McLain Ward, Owner)	Cantoblanco (Megan Hilton, Owner)
2015	Skyfall (Linda Langmeier, Owner)	Lalonde (Alexis Graves, Owner)
2014	Zentina B (Chasonette Farm, LLC, Owner)	Sorcerer (Sydney Hutchins, Owner)
2013	Class Action (Allison Toffolon, Owner)	Lamont (Catherine Boettcher, Owner)
2012	Drake (Don Stewart, Jr., Owner)	Santika (Samantha Harrison, Owner)
2011	Uriam (Michael Murphy, Owner)	Punkt (Melissa Doddridge, Owner)
2010	Massimo (Chase Boggio, Owner)	Fernway Park (Don Stewart, Jr., Owner)
2009	Pioneer (Heritage Farm, Owner)	Bingo Bongo (Holly Scapa, Owner)
2008	Sir Neel (Victoria Hobbs, Inspirational Farms, Owner)	W.C. Swing (Carol Bird, Owner)
2007	Deneuve (Jessica Springsteen, Owner)	Y2K (Natalie Rae Medlock, Owner)
2006	Mid-Accord (Maggie McAlary, Owner)	Ketel One (Amber Levine, Owner)

// SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS WINNERS

ELLIE FERRIGNO

WINNER OF THE 2019 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS EAST



Photo: © The Book LLC

EAST

2019	Ellie Ferrigno	2000	Sarah Willeman
2018	Daisy Farish	1999	Jennifer Jones
2017	McKayla Langmeier	1998	Cullen Latimer
2016	TJ O'Mara	1997	Ellie Ritch
2015	Victoria Colvin	1996	Hillary Schlusemeyer
2014	Geoffrey Hesslink	1995	Jackie McQuade
2013	Michael Hughes	1994	Lauren Hough
2012	Jacob Pope	1993	Abigail Mort
2011	Samantha Schaefer	1992	Jessica Karp
2010	Brittany Hurst	1991	Peter Lutz
2009	Matthew Metell	1990	McLain Ward
2008	Sophie Benjamin	1989	David Oliynyk
2007	Nikko Ritter	1988	Tamara Provost
2006	Charlie Jayne	1987	Craig Shegog
2005	Julie Welles	1986	Neil Ashe
2004	Brianne Goutal	1985	Andre Dignelli
2003	Michael Morrissey	1984	Jenno Topping
2002	Kristy McCormack	1983	Karen McKelvey
2001	Derek Braun	1982	Sandy Nielsen

// SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS WINNERS

EMMA CATHERINE REICHOW

WINNER OF THE 2019 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS WEST



Photo: Captured Moment Photography

WEST

2019	Emma Catherine Reichow	2000	Anneliese Kannow
2018	Sophie Simpson	1999	Eva Gonda
2017	Halie Robinson	1998	Michelle Yang
2016	Peyton Warren	1997	Elise Haas
2015	Ransome Rombauer	1996	Kirsten Coe
2014	Sydney Hutchins	1995	Kristin Posehn
2013	Olivia Champ	1994	Abigail Dachs
2012	Samantha Harrison	1993	Megan Johnstone
2011	Demi Stiegler	1992	Devon Jackson
2010	Taylor Ann Adams	1991	Emily Esau
2009	Theo Boris	1990	Lauren Kay
2008	Hannah Selleck	1989	Karen Chandler
2007	Natalie Ray Medlock	1988	Richard Spooner
2006	Nick Haness	1987	Lisa Osier
2005	Alex Maida	1986	Meredith Michaels
2004	Kasey Ament	1985	Stacey Eurich
2003	Katie Gardner	1984	Catherine Schwenn
2002	Tedra Bates	1983	Linda Harwood
2001	Jamie Taylor	1982	Joie Gatlin

// QUALIFICATIONS

2019/2020 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH POINT SCALE

Effective September 1, 2019 the following Point System will be used for the 2019/2020 Talent Search qualifying period (Sept 1, 2019 - Aug. 31, 2020):

Talent Search Class Placings	Number of Exhibitors who complete the course				
	3-5 Exhibitors		6+ Exhibitors		
	1*	2*	1*	2*	3*
1	15	20		45	90
2	7	15	15	30	60
3	5	10	10	20	40
4	2	5	5	10	20
5		2		5	10
6					5

*To qualify for the Finals West, a rider must have completed a Talent Search class within the qualifying period

*To qualify for the Finals East, a rider must earn 40 points in Talent Search classes within the qualifying period

- 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, 2020. 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 the West Finals close on September 7, 2020. Entries for the East Finals close on September 21, 2020.. Entries received after the close date 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 7, 2020 - West & September 21, 2020 - East)) 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.

// RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONTINUED)

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. Talent Search horses must remain on competition grounds throughout the duration of the Event. Horses may not leave the grounds without the permission of Management

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 Friday, September 18, 2020 for the West Coast Finals and Friday, October 16, 2020 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 Tryon International Equestrian Center, 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.

// 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 Modified Level or above and Combined Driving Competitions at the Advanced Level, Dressage, Reining and Vaulting Competitions and Endurance Rides. A non-member 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 FR218) 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, Vaulting 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 GR9o8.

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 GR13o1.7

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 GR121o.4.

21. REMINDER - All USEF Life and Senior Active members, as well as participants who have regular contact with minor athletes, are required to comply with the U.S. Center for SafeSport training requirement to be eligible to participate in the competition. All participants must adhere to the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, USEF Safe Sport Policy, and the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies. More information about these can be found at www.usef.org.

// 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 #244 (1.15m) held on the Grand Prix Field on Thursday, September 17. After that, no other schooling is permitted on the Grand Prix Field until the Schooling Class on Friday, September 18. One Schooling Class will be held on the Grass Field on Friday, September 18 at approximately 4p.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 one hour prior to Phase 1.** 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.

At the conclusion of Schooling, prior to the 90 second Schooling Class, only the Junior or Young Rider entered in the Platinum Performance Show Jumping Talent Search Finals West may ride horses entered in the Finals West. Horses may not compete in any other classes at the competition 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, TRYON INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTER, MILL SPRING, NC

STABLING: Permanent 10x12 stalls of wood/metal construction and temporary 10x10 stall of canvas/metal construction with doors. Flooring is rubber mats over stone dust. Stalls will be provided without bedding. Locking tack stalls are also available at the regular stall price. Stalls are not refundable after the closing date. To ensure stabling as well as your initial bedding/feed orders, please complete and submit the online stabling request at www.tryon.com (under the competitor's tab). Stabling will be available starting at 2:00 pm Monday of the show week. Any and all requests for early arrival/late departure must be approved by the Stabling Manager. Early arrivals/late departures will incur a charge of \$40 per stall per day (or any portion thereof).

FOOTING & RING DIMENSIONS: Footing is all-weather. Dimensions of the competition arena are: Tryon Stadium - 310' x 250, Blue Ridge Arena - 135' x 400'.

TIEC GROUNDS ACCESS: All individuals entering competition grounds will be required to be credentialed. Additional credentialing information including links to credentialing forms will be included in athlete acceptance packets.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: The following health documents must be presented with the horse(s) at the gate upon arrival: Negative Coggins test within one year, proof of EHV1 and EHV4 vaccinations within 6 months as per USEF GR845, out-of-state horses must have a 30-day interstate health certificate.

SCHOOLING: One schooling class will be held on Friday, October 16. 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 one hour prior to the start of Phase I. 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 the rules for refusals and falls will be enforced. At the conclusion of schooling, prior to the 90 second schooling class, only the Junior or Young Rider entered in the Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals East may ride horses entered in the Finals East. Horses entered in the Finals East may not compete in any other classes at Tryon Fall 5.

VIDEO SERVICES: ShowNet, www.shownet.biz.

PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES: Kind Media LLC. 215.280.8388, www.kindmediallc.com. Photography request forms should be completed prior to the competition. The form and more information can be found at www.usef.org/talentsearch.

// SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
FINALS WEST	4:00 p.m. Schooling Class (Grand Prix Field) Rider Meeting via Zoom	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 16	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18
FINALS EAST	10:30 a.m. – Schooling Class 3:00 p.m. – Phase I Flat	8:00 a.m. Phase II - Gymnastics	8:00 a.m. Phase III Jumping 12:00 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. Exception: Hackamores may be used in Jumping Phases of the USEF Talent Search Classes and Finals.
- 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 TRYON INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTER

FROM ASHEVILLE NC: Take I-26 E then US 74 E to exit 170. Take a right on to Pea Ridge Rd. At the roundabout, follow signs to TIEC. The showgrounds are on the left.

FROM CHARLOTTE NC: Take I-85 S to US 74 W to exit 170. Take a right on to Pea Ridge Rd. At the roundabout, follow signs to TIEC. The showgrounds are on the left.

// 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

HOTELS

On-Site
Availability lodging@tryon.com
828-863-1015

The Lodge on Lake Lure

361 Charlotte Dr.
Lake Lure, NC 28746
828-625-2789

LOCAL HOSPITALS

Spartanburg Regional Hospital Level 1 Trauma Center

Distance to Show: 38.1 miles
101 E Wood Rd
Spartanburg, SC 29303
864-560-6000

St. Luke's Hospital

Hospital with Emergency Services

Distance to Show: 6.5 miles
101 Hospital Drive Columbus, NC
28722
828-894-3311

AIRPORTS

Asheville Regional Airport 61

Terminal Dr #1
Fletcher, NC 28732
828. 684.2226

Charlotte Douglas Int'l Airport 5501

Josh Birmingham Pkwy
Charlotte, NC 28208
704.359.4013

Greenville-Spartanburg Int'l Airport

2000 GSP Drive
Greer, SC 29651
864 - 877-7426

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 Nielsen 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 Southhampton 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)



// TALENT SEARCH FINALS PERSPECTIVES with Emma Reichow and Ellie Ferrigno

By Kathleen Landwehr

The Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals serve as an excellent stepping stone for junior athletes looking to further their riding careers. The 2019 Finals champions learned much from their experiences and feel they are better prepared to reach their goals. Emma Reichow and Ellie Ferrigno topped the West and East leaderboards, respectively, and shared a look back at the 2019 Finals.

2019 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS-WEST WITH EMMA REICHOW

Reichow's third appearance was the charm at the 2019 Finals-West. Unlike her two previous appearances, Reichow rode Campitello 5, a Hanoverian gelding owned by Highpoint Farm, LLC, who was a catch ride. The pair got to know each other by competing in a few classes the week before the Finals-West. Leading up to the event, Reichow also practiced at home to prepare herself with the help of her trainers Harley and Olivia Brown.

"I had been riding my [equitation] horse as usual, and my trainers were letting me school other horses to practice if I made it to the final four," Reichow explained. "We were doing a lot of flat work on my horse and a lot of gymnastic work on the other horses. My trainers would let me get on and jump a course to try to let me get a feel for riding other horses, and they let me show some other horses to kind of prepare them for their riders."

When the time for the 2019 Finals-West came, Reichow had a solid start in the first two phases to sit in sixth place going into

Phase III, the jumping phase. "I knew I had to lay it all out in the final round to make it into the top four," Reichow said. She did just that to clinch a spot in Phase IV.

"When they announced the final four, I was really excited. I knew I just had to stay calm and stick to my instincts when riding the other horses," Reichow noted. Her preparation and skills paid off as she claimed top honors.

From her Finals experiences, Reichow learned how "the effectiveness of the flat and gymnastics are important and how your results in the stadium phase are altered by that. If you don't have a good foundation in the flat or if you don't have your horse responsive and listening in the gymnastics, you are not going to be as successful in the ring." She added that having a great partnership starts with a horse with a solid foundation who is listening and supple.

For riders aiming for the Finals this year or in the future, Reichow pointed out that it will be hard work as riders prepare, but the hard work will pay off in the end. "Stay positive and, honestly, just enjoy it," she said. "The results are going to follow if you have a good mindset and preparation."

Reichow said that the skills tested in the Finals will help those with aspirations for their equestrian careers. She hopes to represent the U.S. on the world stage at international competitions, such as the Olympic Games, Nations Cups, and FEI World Cup Finals, and feels better prepared having competed in the Finals.

“The Talent Search Finals are an amazing step on the pathway to the top, as it encourages forward and effective riding, and it highlights the basics of preparing the horse to succeed in the ring,” Reichow said. “I think that with everything I have learned in the Finals—the pressure and not letting it affect you too much, having a good basis—that will help me move up in the jumpers and be successful and, hopefully, ride for the U.S.”

In the meantime, Reichow is looking forward to starting college in the fall and riding on the National Collegiate Equestrian Association team at the University of Georgia, where she will test the adaptability of her skills yet again as she rides unfamiliar horses in competition. “I am just excited to try something new with being on a team and experiencing that,” Reichow said.

2019 PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USEF SHOW JUMPING TALENT SEARCH FINALS-EAST WITH ELLIE FERRIGNO

After having made one previous Finals appearance at the age of 12, Ferrigno was able to shine at the 2019 Finals-East and take home the win. Leading up to the 2019 Finals, Ferrigno and her trainers, Val Renihan and her mother Abby Ferrigno, decided she would ride Discovery-O, a Dutch Warmblood gelding she leased from Derbydown as her junior jumper. Discovery-O's polite nature and talent allowed him to fill in as an equitation mount for the Finals.

For her preparations, Ferrigno explained that “we did a lot—a lot—of flatwork, because one of the most important things there is the flat phase. And also jumping lines and changing numbers, just a lot of stuff you see in the first two phases to get [Discovery-O] more accustomed to the equitation style.”

The 2019 Finals-East began with Phase I's flat work without stirrups, which was no problem for Ferrigno, who has gone through several growth spurts over the years and has regularly ridden without stirrups to help reestablish her balance and strength. Phase II was slightly concerning for Ferrigno, as her junior jumper would have to hold the counter canter twice during the gymnastics course, a skill he was capable of but not accustomed to doing in the show ring.

“I jumped the beginning of the course and when I got around the first turn with the counter canter and I had held it, I was like, ‘Okay, I am locked in now. I am good. I know I will be able to hold the second one.’ It was the moment that I felt like I really could win, once I got past that first counter canter,” she said with a laugh.

Ferrigno had an excellent round in Phase III to put her into Phase IV. “I wasn't nervous to ride everyone else's horses, but I was nervous about the process,” she explained. “I kind of went in there and was like, ‘I just have to do what I do.’ I do a lot of catch-riding, so once I jumped the first round on Discovery and I started to get on the other horses, I realized that I was very comfortable in that position, just getting on other horses.”

Ferrigno excelled in the final phase to be crowned champion, but the atmosphere of the four different barns during the Finals' climax was almost as rewarding. “It was so nice, and we were all helping each other. I was wearing a pair of spurs and I would give it to the next person who got on my horse, and we all would give each other tips,” she shared. “We were all just having fun standing together, and it was a really nice atmosphere that we had going during the final four. I feel like it was that good atmosphere that helped me come out on top.”

The Finals have a long history of highlighting up-and-coming talent, and Ferrigno agreed that it is a sight to see. “I think the Talent Search Finals is an excellent final to showcase real, true riding and true talent, because to get to the final four is so difficult in itself, then once you are there, you get to really see who has the natural feel once they get on each horse and really do a great job,” she said.

For young athletes hoping to compete in the Finals, Ferrigno suggested, “Take it one phase at a time. Start with the flat phase; make sure you have practiced and feel ready for that. As you go through each phase, take it as a learning experience. You are definitely going to learn something just from doing all of the phases there.”

Ferrigno has big goals for her future, including riding at international finals, such as the Olympic Games, and becoming a trainer. For this year, she is eyeing top results in the other equitation finals. “My ultimate goal for junior career when I was 12, I said I wanted to win the four big equitation finals,” Ferrigno said. “It seems like a big thing, and I would be happy just with good ribbons at all the finals this year, but if I am really saying what I really hope for, I really hope I could win the Maclay Final, the Medal Final, and the Washington Final.”

Ferrigno thinks her experience at the 2019 Finals-East put her one step closer to her short-term goals. “I just felt like the atmosphere was really nice [at the 2019 Finals-East], and hopefully at some of the other finals I can match that feeling this year,” Ferrigno said.

Top Left: Emma Reichow piloted Campitello 5 to top honors in the 2019 Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals-West.

Top Right: Ellie Ferrigno guided Discovery-O to the champion title in the 2019 Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals-East.



WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. dba US Equestrian ("USEF") allowing me, the undersigned, to participate in any capacity (including as a rider, driver, handler, vaulter, longeur, lessee, owner, agent, coach, official, trainer or volunteer) in a USEF sanctioned, licensed or approved event or activity, including but not limited to equestrian clinics, practices, shows, competitions and related or incidental activities and _____ ("USEF Event" or "USEF Events"); I, for myself, and on behalf of my spouse, children, heirs and next of kin, and any legal and personal representatives, executors, administrators, successors,, and assigns, hereby agree to and make the following contractual representations pursuant to this Agreement (the "Agreement"):

A. RULES AND REGULATIONS: I hereby agree to be bound and abide by the rules, regulations, and policies of USEF as published in the USEF Rule Book and on the website at www.usef.org, as amended from time to time.

B. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK: I knowingly, willingly, and voluntarily acknowledge the inherent risks associated with the sport of equestrian and know that horseback riding and related equestrian activities are inherently dangerous, and that participation in any USEF Event involves risks and dangers including, without limitation, the potential for serious bodily injury (including broken bones, head or neck injuries), sickness and disease (including communicable diseases), trauma, pain & suffering, permanent disability, paralysis and death; loss of or damage to personal property (including my mount & equipment) arising out of the unpredictable behavior of horses; exposure to extreme conditions and circumstances; accidents involving other participants, event staff, volunteers or spectators; contact or collision with other participants and horses, natural or manmade objects; adverse weather conditions; facilities issues and premises conditions; failure of protective equipment (including helmets); inadequate safety measures; participants of varying skill levels; situations beyond the immediate control of the USEF Event organizers and competition management; and other undefined, not readily foreseeable and presently unknown risks and dangers ("Risks").

EQUINE ACTIVITY LIABILITY ACT WARNING:

CAUTION: HORSEBACK RIDING AND EQUINE ACTIVITIES CAN BE DANGEROUS. RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Under the laws of most States, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for any injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.

C. ASSUMPTION OF RISK: I understand that the aforementioned Risks may be caused in whole or in part or result directly or indirectly from the negligence of my own actions or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the USEF Events, or the negligent acts or omissions of the Released Parties defined below, and I hereby voluntarily and knowingly assume all such Risks and responsibility for any damages, liabilities, losses, or expenses that I incur as a result of my participation in any USEF Events. I also agree to be responsible for any injury or damage caused by me, my horse, my employees or contractors under my direction and control at any USEF Event.

D. WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNITY: In conjunction with my participation in any USEF Event, I hereby release, waive and covenant not to sue, and further agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the following parties: USEF, USEF Recognized Affiliate Associations, the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), USEF clubs, members, Event participants (including athletes/riders, coaches, trainers, judges/officials, and other personnel), the Event owner, licensee, and competition managers; the promoters, sponsors, or advertisers of any USEF Event; any charity or other beneficiary which may benefit from the USEF Event; the owners, managers, or lessors of any facilities or premises where a USEF Event may be held; and all directors, officers, employees, agents, contractors, and volunteers of any of the aforementioned parties (**Individually and Collectively, the "Released Parties" or "Event Organizers"**), with respect to any liability, claim(s), demand(s), cause(s) of action, damage(s), loss, or expense (including court costs and reasonable attorney fees) of any kind or nature ("**Liability**") which may arise out of, result from, or relate in any way to my participation in the USEF Events, including claims for Liability caused in whole or in part by the negligent acts or omissions of the Released Parties.

E. COMPLETE AGREEMENT AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: This Agreement represents the complete understanding between the parties regarding these issues and no oral representations, statements or inducements have been made apart from this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be unlawful, void, or for any reason unenforceable, then that provision shall be deemed severable from this Agreement and shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provisions.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS DOCUMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY, UNDERSTAND ALL OF ITS TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND KNOW IT CONTAINS AN ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER FROM LIABILITY, AS WELL AS A HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION OBLIGATIONS.

By signing below, I (as the participant or as the Parent/Legal Guardian of the minor identified below) hereby accept and agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement in connection with my (or the minor's) participation in any USEF Event. If, despite this Agreement, I, or anyone on my behalf or the minor's behalf, makes a claim for Liability against any of the Released Parties, I will indemnify, defend and hold harmless each of the Released Parties from any such Liabilities as the result of such claim.

The parties agree that this agreement may be electronically signed. The parties agree that the electronic signatures appearing on this agreement are the same as handwritten signatures for the purposes of validity, enforceability, and admissibility.

RIDER/DRIVER/HANDLER/VAULTER/LONGEUR OWNER TRAINER OFFICIAL STAFF VOLUNTEER COACH (IF APPLICABLE)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: (Required if Rider/Driver/Handler/Vaulter/Longeur is a minor) _____ Date: _____

Print Parent//Guardian Name: _____ Emergency Contact Phone No. _____

Emma Catherine Reichow and Campitello 5
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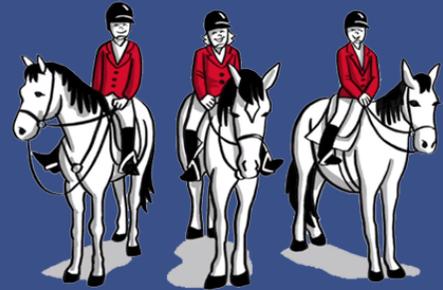
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Jessica Springsteen

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Jessica Springsteen is a sponsored endorser and actual client.