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Contact: Marty Bauman, 508-698-6810; [marty@classic-communications.com](mailto:marty@classic-communications.com)

**Rego Claims Top Honors in the \$10,000 Hermès Equitation  
Championship at the 2023 Hampton Classic Horse Show**  
*Additional Champions Crowned in Hunter and Jumper Rings*

*Bridgehampton, NY – September 2, 2023* – Hampton Classic course designer Alan Wade challenged 21 equitation riders with an impressive 15-effort, 1.10-1.20m track for Saturday morning’s **\$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship**. After the top 15 entries returned over the second-round course featuring 14 efforts, Cody Rego of Devonshire, Bermuda, brought home the blue with his combined score of 180 points aboard North Run Inc.’s *Ironman*.

The **Hampton Classic**, August 27-September 3, is one of the world’s most prestigious horse shows, featuring competitors at every level from young children in leadline to Olympic, World, and World Cup Champions. The Classic also has competitions for riders with disabilities.

Carrying the top score from the first round, Rego was last to return to the ring with the 10-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding and focused on putting in a smooth course within the time allowed.

“This class is a great opportunity for us younger kids to get in the Grand Prix Ring and really show out there with the big guys,” Rego said. “The course was a bit longer than a normal equitation course, so it really tested us riders to make the time. Of course, there was a bit more pressure on the second round, which was tighter on time. I tried to pick up all the time that I could around my turns, and I just felt really comfortable out there.”



*Cody Rego and Ironman won Saturday's \$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship* © KindMedia

“The courses were terrific,” judge Ralph Caristo said. “The ride-off was nice as it separated the riders a bit with the way it was set up. There were so many good riders, and it was a close competition today. Cody nailed it from Fence #1 right to the end in both rounds, riding a very nice and smooth round just as an equitation class should be ridden. The class was very, very competitive; there were so many great riders it could have gone a lot of different ways. Today was Cody’s day, and we are very happy he did so well.”

Rego and *Ironman* added the \$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship title to their victory in Friday’s **Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search 3\***, which further proved their partnership in the equitation ring.

“Cody is a great kid and has been our working student,” said North Run’s Missy Clark, who shared the **\$10,000 Trainer’s Award** with John Brennan. “I bought *Ironman* for him at the beginning of the year with the plan that they would show together. I’ve known this horse for a while. He can be a little quirky, but Cody has done a great job bonding and forming their relationship. It’s such a great match, and the horse goes beautifully for him.

“Cody rides *Ironman* just the way the horse wants to be ridden, with a nice pace and connection, which sets up a gorgeous look,” Clark added. “In this division, Cody’s position was just a beautiful picture – all the angles correct, the timing quite nice. It really is a great match between horse and rider.”



*Cody Rego and Ironman* © KindMedia

A student of Katie Kappler, Elianna Kirson of Barrington Hills, IL, earned second place with her score of 172 points aboard Skyler Fields' 14-year-old Holsteiner gelding *Commentator*. Third went to Rego's barnmate Eleanor Rudnicki of Conroe, TX, who piloted The Lucky Four Group's 11-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding *Favorite Edition Z* to a combined score of 171.75 points.

The week's top hunters and jumpers continued earning championship titles in their respective divisions. Among them was Danielle Devincentis of Kings Park, NY, and DND Equine Enterprises Inc.'s *Goalgetter De La Trange*, who claimed the **High Adult Amateur Jumper Championship**. Agatha Lignelli of New York, NY, secured the **High Children's Jumper Championship** aboard Abigail Gordon's *Toy Soldier*.

In the Amateur-Owner Hunter divisions, Katie Robinson of Buffalo, NY, brought home the **Hunt Ltd. 3'6" Amateur-Owner 36+ Championship** with Robinson Ridge LLC's *MTM Plus One*; she also secured the **Patty Raynes Award** as the Amateur-Owner Hunter with the most points of each section.

*Hemingway*, owned and ridden by Stephanie Bulger of New York, NY, claimed top honors in the **Human Touch 3'3" Amateur-Owner 36+ Championship**. Earning the Brietling Trophy and the **3'3" Amateur-Owner Hunter 18-35 Championship** was Aquitaine Equine's *Lifestyle*, ridden by Stella Propp of New York, NY. Kelly Tropin of New Canaan, CT, won the **3'6" Amateur-Owner Hunter 36+ Championship** with Libertas Farm LLC's *Chablis*.



*Katie Robinson won the Hunt Ltd. 3'6" Amateur-Owner Hunter 36+ Championship (left) and the Patty Raynes Award (right) with her MTM Plus One © KindMedia*

Grace Steinbeck-Werner of New York, NY, walked away with both the **Small and Large Pony Hunter championships**, riding Eva Mackenzie's *Farmore State Of The Art* and Swede Ventures LLC's *Prestige* to top honors in those respective divisions. Joining them in the winner's circle was **Medium Pony Hunter Champion** *Lady Desmond*, owned by Dr. Betsee Parker and ridden by Kenzie Smith of Shoreham, NY.

For live show results, visit [TheHamptonClassic.com](http://TheHamptonClassic.com). Photos from the event are [available via Dropbox](#) with credits to KindMedia (unless otherwise noted in the folder name).

Each year approximately 50,000 people – including many A-list celebrities – come to watch the nation's best equestrian athletes compete at the Hampton Classic. Rated **USEF 'Premier-6'** for hunters and jumpers with designated **FEI 2\* and 5\*** classes, the Hampton Classic features more than 200 competitions in six spectacular show rings, the Agnetta Currey Boutique Garden with more than 70 vendors, and a wide selection of dining options, all on its world-class 60-acre showgrounds.

The Hampton Classic's FEI competition began Thursday, August 31, with the **\$10,000 Citarella Open Jumper CSI2\*** and **\$39,000 Flecha Azul 5\* Speed Stake** and continues throughout the weekend with eight 2\*/5\* classes featuring courses designed by Ireland's Alan Wade. FEI competition also included Friday's **\$39,000 Wölffer Estate 2\* Jumper Classic**, **\$78,000 Douglas Elliman 5\* Grand Prix Qualifier**, Saturday's **\$39,000 Open Speed Class CSI2\***, and the **\$78,000 The Agency 5\* Speed Stake**, and culminates with the **\$78,000 Hampton Classic 2\* Grand Prix** and **\$425,000 Longines Hampton Classic 5\* Grand Prix** on Sunday, September 3.

Outside the show rings, families can enjoy unique shopping; hands-on activities, pony rides and petting zoo animals at the Kids Exhibition Tent; and many more fun activities during News 12 Long Island Kids Day (Saturday, September 2).

Daily admission to the Classic is \$20 per carload. Grandstand tickets for the \$425,000 Longines Hampton Classic Grand Prix on Sunday, September 3, are \$55 per person for reserved bucket seating. Grandstand tickets are electronic only; E-Tickets are provided thanks to support from Green is the New Blue.

For those who can't make it to the show grounds, complimentary live webcasts of all Grand Prix and Aspinall Ring competitions air on the Hampton Classic website. Produced by ClipMyHorse.TV, the Grand Prix Ring livestreams are sponsored by Longines and the Aspinall Ring livestreams are sponsored by ClipMyHorse.TV. In addition, WVVH-TV, Hamptons Television, broadcasts up to five hours of competition and highlights each day during the Classic. These broadcasts can also be seen online at [www.wvvh.tv](http://www.wvvh.tv).

For more information on the Hampton Classic Horse Show, please visit the Hampton Classic website at [www.hamptonclassic.com](http://www.hamptonclassic.com) or call 631-537-3177. Hampton Classic Horse Show, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation.