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Contact: Marty Bauman, 508-698-6810; marty@classic-communications.com

**Pessoa Earns Second Consecutive Win in the \$10,000 UBS Open Jumper
at the 2023 Hampton Classic Horse Show**

Signorino Takes Victory in the \$3,000 Maria Mendelsohn Medium Junior Jumper

Bridgehampton, NY – August 30, 2023 – Six-time Brazilian Olympian Rodrigo Pessoa returned to the Hampton Classic Grand Prix Arena on Wednesday for another blue-ribbon finish in the **\$10,000 UBS Open Jumper**. Piloting his winning mount from Tuesday’s featured class, *Dhalida Diamant VD Krekebeke Z*, he had the fastest double-clear time of 25.691 seconds.

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.

Thirty-four entries braved the rain to tackle Alan Wade’s 14-effort, 1.40m two-phase course in the \$10,000 UBS Open Jumper. Although this was only Pessoa’s second time competing with *Dhalida Diamant VD Krekebeke Z*, he and Artemis Equestrian Farm LLC’s 9-year-old Zangersheide mare proved they are a pair to watch out for.



Rodrigo Pessoa (BRA) and Dhalida Diamant VD Krekebeke Z won Wednesday's \$10,000 UBS Open Jumper. Shown here aboard fourth-place mount Chili. © KindMedia

“We are finding out that she is deceptively fast without looking to go crazy,” Pessoa said. “We’re still finding out more about each other and our new partnership. We’re really happy with her performance these last two days. She’s won enough for the week; she can go home!”

Pessoa also earned fourth place aboard *Chili*, Artemis Equestrian Farm LLC’s 11-year-old Westphalian mare, with a faultless time of 27 seconds flat. “She was well on target today,” he said. “She’s here for the 2* this week, so it was nice to get a round under her belt before that starts.”

Americans Charlise Casas and Kelli Cruciotti Vanderveen rounded out the top three. Casas rode to second-place honors aboard *Chaccolina D*, Always Faithful Equine LLC’s 10-year-old Hanoverian mare, in a time of 26.122 seconds. Cruciotti Vanderveen took third with *Far West De Hus*, an 8-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding owned by Serenity Farm and Woodhaven Stables, for her time of 26.961 seconds.



Pessoa presenting with Chili © KindMedia

Pessoa maintains his lead in the **\$30,000 Longines Rider Challenge** with 170 points. Cruciotti Vanderveen has moved into second place with 115 points. Carly Anthony (USA) and Christian Coyle (IRL) remain tied for third with 100 points each. The Challenge, which awards \$30,000 and a Longines watch to the rider accumulating the most points in the week's Open Jumper classes, will be awarded Sunday following the \$425,000 Longines Hampton Classic 5* Grand Prix.

Opening the Grand Prix Arena's morning competition were 43 entries in the **\$5,000 Open Jumper 1.35m**. Rebecca Conway of Wellington, FL, took top honors over Alan Wade's looping two-phase course featuring 12 numbered jumps, riding Hilington Farm's *Jersey Girl* to a faultless time of 31.645 seconds. Zayna Rizvi of Greenwich, CT, earned second aboard North Run Inc.'s *Exit of Ice Z*, stopping the timers on a double-clear score of 31.758 seconds. Third went to Jimmy Torano of Wellington, FL, and Skymaster LLC's *Igor E* for their double-clear time of 32.776 seconds.



Rebecca Conway and Jersey Girl won Wednesday's \$5,000 Open Jumper 1.35m © KindMedia

In the afternoon, 27 horse-and-rider combinations contested the **\$3,000 Maria Mendelsohn Medium Junior Jumper** 1.30m course to wrap up the day's jumper competition. Bringing home the blue was Caroline Signorino of Basking Ridge, NJ, who piloted Signorino Family Farm LLC's *Hocus Pocus Van De Lucashoeve* to a fault-free score of 27.808 seconds. Alexa Elle Lignelli of New York, NY, took second place for her time of 29.284 seconds aboard Skyline Sporthorses LLC's *Billy Kiara*. Finishing third in 29.962 seconds was Taylor Cawley of Wellington, FL, aboard Helena Stormans' *Quiz*.

For live show results, visit TheHamptonClassic.com.

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 begins 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 includes 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 culminating 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. Admission is free on Monday; seniors and military are also admitted free on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. 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.

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