

Vermont Summer Festival

BY TERISÉ COLE

» A HORSE SHOW THAT ORIGINALLY STARTED IN THE PARKING lot of the Killington Ski Resort in Killington, VT, the Vermont Summer Festival is now held at Harold Beebe Farm in East Dorset, VT, and will be celebrating its 25th year in 2018.



» The Festival is considered New England's largest hunter/jumper competition and the richest sporting event based on purse in the state of Vermont, with more than \$750,000 in prize money.

» The event is part of the East Conference of the Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series. John Ammerman, the Festival's manager, is also a member of the Show Jumping Hall of Fame and was inducted in 2011.

» Originally only five weeks long, 2007 was the first year the Festival expanded to six weeks.

» In 2017, Matt Mettall of Wellington, FL, won his first grand prix aboard Donchalant in the \$30,000 Vermont Summer Special Grand Prix, and then went on to win two more during the second and final weeks.

» A group of the world's top course designers have been invited to set the tracks for this year's event, including 2018 World Equestrian Games Course Designer Alan Wade, Paul Jewell, Manuel Esparza, Michel Vaillancourt, Ken Krome, and Gerry Briggs.

Sources: Vermont Summer Festival - vt-summerfestival.com

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