

Vaulting

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the de-facto leader of the group as she was the first-ever Canadian to enter the ring at an FEI Vaulting World Championship for Juniors back in 2017. Although she didn't make it to the second round, the experience provided Cassidy with invaluable lessons moving forward.

"I learned that the experience is the biggest part of the trip," commented Cassidy. "I really recognized that winning is not something that should be prioritized over the love of the sport. My experience being the first Canadian was surreal for me. Representing Canada is an amazing feeling overall and I am ecstatic to be able to do that once again."

Dallyn, 17, also competed at the 2017 Junior Championships alongside Cassidy, as well as in the Pas-de-Deux at the 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG) in North Carolina.

"Participating in WEG helped me gain more experience with competing in front of large crowds with the added pressure of a world championship," said Dallyn. "I have more practice handling nerves, and preparing and focusing on my job - representing Canada to the best of my ability!"

For the 2019 Junior Championships, Dallyn and Cassidy will both be competing on horses borrowed from Rebecca Hewitt of Scotland's Reivers Vaulting Group. The



Talmage Conrad (left) of Lethbridge, AB, will be the first male in history to represent Canada the FEI Vaulting World Championships for Juniors.

Photo Credit: Westwind Vaulters

coach, lunger, and family, I feel great responsibility to do my absolute best job for Canada. I am extremely driven to be a part of the growth and journey of vaulting in Canada."

Averill continued, "It's an incredible atmosphere to be compet-

put in the hours and will be able to make Canada proud. It has been amazing to see the sport of vaulting grow as it has in the past few years, and I am super excited to be a part of it along with this group of vaulters. I'm excited to see how we will grow



Also representing the maple leaf at the 2019 Junior Championships will be Averill Saunders (far right) of Sundre, AB, who vaults alongside Dallyn Shields (second from the right) with the Meadow Creek Vaulting Club, pictured at the 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games Test Event. L to R: Karin Schmidt, Emily Stevenson, Jeanine van der Sluijs, Ryan Bracken, Avery Malone, Angelique Vick, Dallyn Shields, Averill Saunders.

Photo Credit: Courtesy of Joanne Littlejohn

two will travel to Scotland and train there together prior to competition to get acquainted with their new mounts.

Averill has also had an impressive amount of high performance experience at just 15 years old. She competed at the FEI World Championships for Seniors in 2016 and also went to WEG 2018 as a squad reserve. The 2019 Junior Championships, however, will be Averill's first championships competing in the Individual division. She will be supported by lunger, Jessica Bentzen of West Coast Vaulters in Parksville, BC, and paired with a borrowed horse from Germany.

"I have been preparing and training for this moment for a very long time, and to finally be here and qualified is a beyond amazing feeling," said Averill. "I feel great honour and thrill to finally have the chance to represent my country as an individual. With all of the amazing support and guidance from my

ing alongside some of the best in the world, and the championships will be a wonderful experience to watch and learn from all of them. Vaulting has given me so many great experiences and friendships, and I'm looking forward to seeing all of my friends and making new ones. But the part I'm most excited about is being inspired and to come home with new goals to build on for the future."

Rounding out the Canadian contingent is 17-year-old Talmage, who will compete in the Individual Male 2* division with the 15-year-old Hanoverian gelding, Don Zeno (Dressage Royal x Nurzeus), owned and lunged by Klaus Haidacher of Austria.

"My goal for this championship is to vault cleanly and calmly, and make a name for the very few male vaulters in Canada," said Talmage. "Along with representing my country, I will be the first male from Canada to attend a junior world championships, which adds a little stress, but I am confident that I have

together as Canadians throughout this experience."

Speaking to the Canadian Vaulting Team that will be traveling to Ermelo, Dallyn concluded, "Even in the past two years, Canadian vaulting has leapt forward in ability, it's insane! We have also become much more of a community where everyone supports each other and has their backs. I am good friends with the other Canadians who have qualified and am looking forward to representing Canada with them; I think we have a strong, experienced team. Vaulting in Alberta has a close community, so it allows us to get to know each other and build friendships with everyone."

To support the Canadian Vaulting Team on their way to the 2019 FEI World Championships for Juniors, visit www.equestrian.ca/donate and select "Vaulting".

The Road to The Royal is Headed for Toronto

Loyal Royal Pre-Sale Tickets Now Available

Toronto, Ontario - Anticipation is starting to build as the world-renowned Royal Horse Show prepares to return to downtown Toronto, Canada, from November 1 to 10, 2019. Part of the 97th Annual Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, the Royal Horse Show is held at the Coca-Cola Coliseum at Exhibition Place.

Showcasing the very best in horse sport and entertainment, the Royal Horse Shows hosts more than 1,000 horses, offers more than \$980,000 in prize money, and welcomes visitors from all corners of the world during its 10-day run.

again close out the Royal Horse Show on Saturday evening, November 9.

International show jumping competition will officially open on Wednesday, November 6. The spectator-favourite \$85,000 "Big Ben" Challenge highlights international competition on Thursday, November 7, followed by the \$50,000 Weston Canadian Open on Friday, November 8.

In addition to international competition, national pride will abound on opening weekend with the \$125,000 Canadian Show Jumping Championship. Top-ranked Canadian riders will go head to head over two evenings on November 1 and 2, with the winner being crowned the Canadian Show Jumping Champion. The



McLain Ward of the United States and HH Gigi's Girl claimed a stunning victory in the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Toronto during the 2018 Royal Horse Show in Toronto, ON. Advance tickets for the 2019 Royal Horse Show went on sale on June 6. Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography

Sign Up To Become A Loyal Royal

Pre-sale tickets for the Royal Horse Show are available starting June 6, and there are numerous ways to get in on the action. To be the first to know what this year's Royal Horse Show has to offer, become part of the "Loyal Royal" ticket program. In addition to having first dibs on tickets, Loyal Royals also get to pick the best seats in the house!

Reserve VIP Seating

Royal Horse Show fans are also encouraged to take advantage of the VIP experiences available. Premium seating, full access to the Tanbark Club and horse show after-parties, underground parking, subscriber-only special events, and exclusive concierge services are available as part of three- to six-night Platinum and Gold VIP subscriptions. Interested in fine dining with a bird's eye view of the competition? The Royal Terrace offers tables of eight with catering by award-winning restaurateurs Oliver & Bonacini, a curated selection of wine, beer and spirits, concierge service and valet parking. Even better? One lucky Royal VIP subscriber will hear their name called as the winner of a Longines timepiece when a draw is held on Closing Night. Enhance your Royal Horse Show experience with a VIP subscription today!

Reserve A Sky Suite

Finally, even more opportunities to enjoy the Royal Horse Show from a private Sky Suite will be available in 2019. Suites accommodating 12 to 30 guests are selling out fast for all performances. Hurry and book a Coca-Cola Coliseum Sky Suite to cheer on your favorite rider by June 13 and save 10%.

In 2018, the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Toronto moved to the final Saturday evening, resulting in a packed house of more than 7,000 show jumping fans in the Coca-Cola Coliseum. Based on the overwhelming popularity and positive feedback, the \$210,000 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Toronto will once

\$20,000 Horseware Indoor Eventing Challenge, which combines the exhilaration of jumping natural cross-country obstacles as well as traditional show jumping fences against the clock in an indoor setting, takes place on the same evenings.

Hunter and dressage riders will share the spotlight in a double-header of horse sport on Tuesday, November 5, when the \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby and the innovative Dressage Derby featuring Canada's best dressage riders take place.

The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair also offers fabulous entertainment, including the iconic Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Musical Ride and the mesmerizing Grande Liberté performances of horsewoman Sylvia Zerbin.

Follow the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair on Facebook and YouTube, @royalhorseshow on Twitter, and @theroyalfair on Instagram for a behind-the-scenes look at the Royal Horse Show. Please use hashtags: #RAWF19, #RoadToTheRoyal #RoyalFever, #RoyalHorseShow, #FEIWorldCup, and #Longines if you plan to write about the Royal Horse Show and the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Toronto on your outlet's social media channels.

For more information on the Royal Horse Show, the marquee event of The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, please visit www.royalfair.org/horse-show.

Funding support for The Royal has been provided by the Government of Canada and the City of Toronto.

About The Royal:

The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is the world's largest combined indoor agricultural and equestrian event. The 97th Royal Agricultural Winter Fair runs November 1-10, 2019, at Exhibition Place, Toronto, Canada. For competition schedules, live webcasting, results and to purchase tickets, please visit www.royalfair.org.