

François Lamontagne Claims \$50,000 Steel-Craft Grand Prix



François Lamontagne won the \$50,000 Steel-Craft Grand Prix on Saturday, July 17, during the Ottawa Summer Tournaments at Wesley Clover Parks in Ottawa, ON.
Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography

Ottawa, Ontario – François Lamontagne made a triumphant return to Wesley Clover Parks, winning the \$50,000 Steel-Craft Grand Prix held Saturday, July 17, in Ottawa, ON.

The highlight event of the first of two weeks comprising the Ottawa Summer Tournaments, the \$50,000 Steel-Craft Grand Prix saw a total of seven riders produce clear performances in the opening round over the track set by Canadian course designer, Mike Pegg of Uxbridge, ON.

As the third rider to return for the tie-breaking jump-off on the expansive grass grand prix field at Wesley Clover Parks, Lamontagne of Saint-Eustache, QC, set the time to beat at 47.26 seconds with the first double-clear riding Chanel du Calvaire.

Ali Ramsay of Victoria, BC, followed suit with a clear jump-off round riding Lutz, a 12-year-old Westphalian gelding (Lordanos x Pilot) owned by Ramsay Equestrian Inc.,



Ali Ramsay of Victoria, BC, riding Lutz placed second in the \$50,000 Steel-Craft Grand Prix at the Ottawa Summer Tournaments. Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography

but fell short of the target time when stopping the clock in 49.39 seconds.

As the last rider back for the jump-off, Mac Cone of King City, ON, had the final say. Having qualified two horses for the jump-off, the Canadian Olympian had the advantage of having already ridden the shortened track once, but a time of 51.09 seconds left him third in the final standings with Con Couleur, a 10-year-old Mecklenburger gelding (Conthargos x Couleur Rubin) owned by Chadburn Holdings Inc.

The win went to Lamontagne, who had also claimed major victories on his previous two trips to Wesley Clover Parks in 2016 and 2017 with Chanel du Calvaire, his 13-year-old Belgian Sport Horse mare (Luccianno x Kashmir van Schuttershof). This year, the pair also qualified for the jump-off in Thursday's \$20,000 Open Welcome, where they had four faults to place fifth.

"I made a mistake in the jump-off and I felt really bad about it; I didn't sleep well, and was really hungry for today!" said Lamontagne, 37.

On his jump-off strategy for the \$50,000 Steel-Craft Grand Prix, Lamontagne said, "I didn't want to go crazy. First, it was important to jump it clear, and I wasn't expecting the people coming after me to go crazy. I wanted to go fast enough to put some pressure on, but I didn't want to lose my head."

The strategy worked, giving Lamontagne yet another win at Wesley Clover Parks.

"She has always been good on this field; she likes the size of this ring and she likes the grass," said Lamontagne in praise



Canadian Olympian Mac Cone of King City, ON, was double clear to take third place in the \$50,000 Steel-Craft Grand Prix riding Con Couleur for owner Chadburn Holdings Inc. Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography

of his mare. "With maturity, she's smarter and she's better. She doesn't need to do so much to be efficient and do her job.

"It's great to have such a nice horse show; they do such a good job here. Everyone is excited to be here!" concluded Lamontagne.



**POWERFUL
COMFORTABLE
AND BEST OF ALL
AFFORDABLE.**



When it comes to hay and cattle farming, there's never a moment's rest. But there can be a lot more comfort. The Kubota M6S series was built to be easier on its operator, with a fully loaded cold climate cab, more manoeuvrability in tight spaces and a more ergonomical design. It was also built with the power and performance you come to expect from Kubota and a little something you didn't expect: an affordable price tag.

kubota.ca

For subscription
or advertising
information please
contact

(905) 387-1900

or email

barry@therider.com

Visit our website
at **www.therider.com**

Durham Kubota
4179 Simcoe St. N.,
Oshawa, ON L1H 7K4
(905) 655-3291,
www.durhamkubota.ca
wstefler@durhamkubota.ca

Galer Farm Equipment
557 Hwy 5,
Dundas, ON L9H 5E2
(905) 628-0551
www.galerequipment-kubota.ca

Ross Dobie Inc.
100 Hwy 7 & 12,
Sunderland, ON L0H 1C0
(705) 357-3123,
larry@rossdobleinc.com
www.rossdobleinc.com