



Carly Campbell-Cooper of Omemee, ON, and Capriati captured the Canadian Hunter Derby Championship title at the Royal Horse Show.

CARLY CAMPBELL-COOPER CLAIMS CANADIAN HUNTER DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP

Carly Campbell-Cooper of Omemee, ON, was presented with the Lorna Jean Guthrie Challenge Trophy as the overall 2022 Canadian Hunter Derby Champion on Tuesday evening, November 8, during the Royal Horse Show, held as part of the 100th Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, ON.

Carly Campbell-Cooper and Capriati, owned by Alexia Trapp, earned the Canadian Hunter Derby Championship after finishing second in both the \$15,000 Braeburn Farms Hunter Derby on Sunday, November 6, and the \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby on Tuesday, November 8.

In the \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby, Campbell-Cooper and Capriati were the penultimate combination out of a starting field of 20 competitors to take on the impressive derby track designed by Canada's Meghan Rawlins. Campbell-Cooper received a base score of 79.75 with eight handy points and 10 high option points for an overall score of 97.75 from the judges.

"I thought tonight's course was hard," said Campbell-Cooper, 40, who has been competing at The Royal since she was 12 years old. "I loved the gallop to the last jump. That's one of my favourite things to do. The derby on Sunday was nice and welcoming; it flowed nicely and let the horses get in the ring for a softer first day. Tonight certainly felt like a step up. There were a lot of tests and there were a lot of places you could show your handiness or be a little more conservative depending on the level you and your horse were at."

Campbell-Cooper has been partnered with Capriati, a 14-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding (Carembar de Muze x Continue), for the past two years. Together the pair have checked off many "firsts," including earning the Canadian Hunter Derby Championship title.

"Tonight is my first time being derby champion at The Royal," said Campbell-Cooper, who has competed in the hunter, jumper, and equitation divisions over the years. "We've been here a lot, but it's such a special atmosphere and such a special venue, so I still get the



Carly Campbell-Cooper, pictured aboard Capriati, was presented with the Lorna Jean Guthrie Challenge Trophy as the Canadian Hunter Derby Champions by Jeff Brandmaier and Margaret "Muffie" Guthrie.

butterflies every year I come. It's a special feeling to win.

"The Guthrie family has been such a great sponsor of horse sport for so many years," continued Campbell-Cooper. "I'm really excited that Muffie Guthrie and Jeff Brandmaier are involved in the derby series. It's really important for Canada to keep having these classes and showcasing the hunters."

The overall 2022 Canadian Hunter Derby Reserve Champion was Taylor Brooks, of Ashton, ON, and Spectre, a nine-year-old Zangersheide gelding owned by Taylor Bond. The pair earned fourth place in the \$15,000 Braeburn Farms Hunter Derby on Sunday before winning the \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby on Tuesday. Brooks and her mount earned a high base score of 87 with eight additional handy points and 10 high option bonus points for an impressive total score of 105.



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Taylor Brooks of Ashton, ON, and Spectre won the \$25,000 Knightwood Hunter Derby to claim the Canadian Hunter Derby Reserve Championship title.



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Lauren Esdale and Viandios d'Avril celebrate their U25 National Championship title with a victory lap in the Coca-Cola Coliseum.

LAUREN ESDALE CLAIMS UNDER 25 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

On the final day of the Royal Horse Show, 21-year-old Lauren Esdale of Seagrave, ON, was crowned the \$12,500 'Alfred Rogers' Under 25 National Champion.

The competition consisted of three phases held over two days and, after exceptional performances throughout, Esdale and Viandios d'Avril, a 13-year-old grey Selle Francais gelding (Diamant de Semilly x Fol Avril) owned by Pauline Esdale, were named Canada's U25 champions for 2022.