

Kelley Robinson Wins Season Opener at Wesley Clover Parks



Kelley Robinson of Russell, ON, was double-clear riding Foolproof to win the \$15,000 Julia MacAngus Memorial Grand Prix held on May 27, 2023, at Wesley Clover Parks in Ottawa, ON. Photo by Sunkist Media

prefer that than everyone going clean!" said Robinson, 39, who operates Cimarron Show Stables and had 19 horses competing at the Ottawa Welcome between herself and students. "Shane did a really good job with the course. I had to go first in the jump-off, so I tried to go semi-fast. My horse is only eight so doesn't quite know what she's doing yet. She was clean and she was the only one to jump double-clear.

"My friend, Robin Hannah, bred her and I've had the ride on her since she was five," continued Robinson of the grey mare sired by Conquest. "She's a pretty special gal; a bit of a hot mamma. She's traffic shy and strange, but she's quick and she tries really hard. She's really a special creature."

The \$15,000 Julia MacAngus Grand Prix was the featured event of the Ottawa Welcome tournament running May 25 to 28, 2023. The \$15,000 Grand Prix was held in memory of

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combinations jump clear in the first round and advance to the all-deciding jump-off. Robinson was the first to go and laid down another clear round riding Foolproof in a time of 36.10 seconds, setting the standard for the two riders still to come.

Frank Hendriks of

Carleton Place, ON, was next to challenge and while he had the time in 33.71 seconds, a rail down would eventually leave him runner-up riding Chapeau. As the last to go, Robert Carey of Bolton, ON, had the final say riding Don't Worry

Brooke Farm & DK USA Sporthorses. Despite stopping the timers in 35.15 seconds to also be faster on the clock, Carey dropped a rail midway through the course, handing the victory to Robinson.

"It was a great class with three clear. I would

Cynthia Neale-Ishoy receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Cynthia Neale-Ishoy of Hannon, ON has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for her unwavering commitment to horses, sport and the community and industry over many decades. This award is given to an individual whose contributions to the Canadian equestrian community are considered exceptional by their peers, and whose long-term service and dedication have contributed directly to the ongoing growth and development of Canadian equestrian sport and industry.

Neale-Ishoy, one of Canada's

most successful dressage athletes of all time, was born in Edmonton, Alberta and will turn 71 in June 2023. She began her sports career as a swimmer, but then started riding when she was 12 years old, while her father was stationed on an Air Force base in Germany. Only a few short years later, her international equestrian success was ignited as part of the gold medal team at the 1971 Pan American Games.

A six-time Olympian, Neale-Ishoy was the youngest equestrian at the 1972 Munich Games at just 20 years old and became the first Cana-

dian to win an international dressage Grand Prix in 1979 in Goodwood, England. She then placed seventh at the 1986 World Championships and reached the podium with a second-place finish at the 1988 World Cup in the Netherlands. She then took fourth in the individual class and went on to win a team bronze (with Eva-Maria Pracht, Ashley Nicoll-Holzer and Gina Smith) at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul. In October of 1993, just three months after giving birth to her second child, she made a remarkable return to

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Second Class postage paid in Toronto, Ontario. Mailed under Canadian Publications Mail Product Sales Agreement #40051707. Serial Number 1209-3955. Address correction requested.

Cynthia Neale-Ishoy

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competition, winning two gold medals at the prestigious Dressage at Devon in Pennsylvania, USA. During her competitive years, she had several prominent horses, but none as special as her partner Dynasty (Darling x Marmor), that she won major medals with in 1988. Her beloved dark bay Hanoverian gelding was acquired by her long-time supporters and sponsors Charles and Janet Burns in 1981. Still in the peak of his career, he unfortunately passed away fol-

lowing colic surgery in 1989 at 11 years old, a devastating loss for her and for Canada.

Neale-Ishoy went on to find two other exceptional partners in Dakar, who she was aboard at the 1992 Barcelona Games and Proton who she partnered with in Athens in 2004. In 2010, she was named Canada's Owner of the year for her accomplishments operating Ishoy Enterprises, with her late husband Neil and was named to the Hamilton Sports Hall of

Fame in 2017.

"The Lifetime Achievement Award is a meaningful recognition of a lifetime of memories. I am very proud to have represented Canada internationally on multiple teams and am grateful to have had the opportunity to stand on podiums around the world," said Neale-Ishoy.

"Hearing the Canadian national anthem playing was always an emotional reminder of my love of this sport," said Neale-Ishoy. "Being honoured with this award not only recognizes my dedication and passion for Dressage, but also shines

light on the incredible dance partners that I've had over the years."

Her nominees for this year's award, of which she received many, cited not only her accomplishments in competition, but her dedication to students and to the future of the sport. "Cindy gives her heart and soul to the sport of Dressage in Canada. She has brought multiple horses to the Olympics, as well as riders. She trains and helps all who need it," one said.

"Cindy is coaching our next generation to success, and I bet our next team medal will have at least one

of her students on it! Cindy is an inspiration to all Canadian equestrians," they continued. "Her determination and dedication to the sport is unprecedented. She is a fantastic person and is always willing to share her knowledge with anyone. She is generous, caring and is always willing to go the extra mile to help people."

When asked for remarks, she was quick to ensure she thanked the many people who have supported her throughout her Dressage journey. "My late husband Neil, my daughter Kahla and my son Zachary, for their encouragement, in-



volvement and understanding," she shared. "My dad, who never stopped believing in me and supported me in every way possible, his unwavering faith in me helped me whenever I started doubting myself."

Neale-Ishoy's appreciation also extended to the Bums' family, training partners and Dressage legends Siegfried 'Bimbo' Peilicke and Willi Schultheis, and all the incredible horses that came into her life. "Lastly," she said, "To Dynasty: thank you for being the partner of a lifetime, thank you for your trust in me and for always giving me 150% and for being my best friend," she concluded.

Neale-Ishoy's involvement with horses has continued long after she stopped competing and continues coaching and offering her talent and knowledge through clinics, inspiring the grassroots to develop and in mentoring athletes of all ages to succeed.

Another nominator spoke specifically of her talents in this regard. "Few coaches have the transient

quality which Cindy possesses to allow her to become a true mentor," they shared. "Cindy has worked tirelessly on the success of her students. She is an amazing coach and goes above and beyond to ensure each rider leaves with the feeling they learned something. She will spend all the time that it takes." Another sang her praises for her dedication to the future. "She's brilliant, she's generous, and she cares about growing and developing riders and horses here in Canada."

For wisdom to share with others, she passed on some sage guidance from a lifetime of dedication to equestrian sport. "My best advice would be to keep your head down, develop a strong work ethic and love your horses. Be willing to make incredible sacrifices and learn from your experiences," she added. "Stay focused, don't let the noise around you make you lose sight of your goals. Dressage is a sport of patience, ebbs, flows and slow progress."

Ontario Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association News

The Ontario Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (OCMSA) has five shoots scheduled this year. Here are the dates:

June 24, 25, 2023 – Willoughby Ranch (Niagara Falls, ON) Shoots I & II

August 12, 13, 2023 – Ontario East (Lombardy, ON) Shoots I & II

October 28, 2023 – REACH Huron Halloween (Clinton, ON) Shoot

You need to renew your OCMSA membership ahead of the first shoot if you are planning on attending. It helps the association plan for numbers and makes registration the morning of the shoot much faster.

The OCMSA is looking forward to shooting with you in 2023!

For more information visit <https://www.facebook.com/ontariocmsa>



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Kelly Robinson

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Julia MacAngus, a promising local equestrian who tragically lost her battle with terminal illness at the age of 22. As the niece of Canadian Olympic team silver medalist Jill Henselwood, MacAngus had hopes of following in her aunt's footsteps and becoming a grand prix level rider and trainer.

"I was really honoured to win the first Memorial Grand Prix for Julia," said Robinson following an emotional prize giving ceremony where she was presented as the winner by Julia MacAngus's parents, Shirley Fleming and John MacAngus. "I did know Julia, and winning it was a nice thing to have happen. I'm happy that they had the class in her honour."

Exhibitors were invited to watch the Grand Prix from Wes-



Kelley Robinson is presented as the winner of the \$15,000 Julia MacAngus Memorial Grand Prix by Julia MacAngus's parents, Shirley Fleming and John MacAngus. Photo by Sunkist Media

ley Clover Parks' expansive hospitality tent while enjoying food from local partner, Lil Z's Pizza, and complimentary cider cour-

tesy of long-time Ottawa Equestrian Tournaments supporter, Pommies Ciders Co.

Robinson plans to compete at the upcoming Ottawa Equestrian Tournaments, now in their ninth season, including the Ottawa Summer Tournament I from July 5-9; the Ottawa Summer Tournament II from July 12-16; and the Ottawa National from September 14-17.

"It's the best!" said Robinson of competing at Wesley Clover Parks. "It's my favourite venue, and I'm always happy to be here. I can't wait for the shows in July and the Major League. I love riding on the grass field."

Major League Show Jumping competition returns to Wesley Clover Parks from August 23 to 27, offering CSI⁵® and CSI²® divisions sanctioned by the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI). Attracting some of the

highest-ranked show jumping athletes in the world to the Nation's Capital, Major League Show Jumping Ottawa features a unique jumpers-only format offering more than \$800,000 in prize money in team and individual events.

Adding to the excitement of Major League Show Jumping Ottawa, the Spurs & Sparkles Gala will kick off the week of world-class show jumping on Monday, August 21. Spurs & Sparkles offers one-of-a-kind entertainment, incredible prizes, and local craft beverages paired with delectable food from some of the city's best restaurants and vendors. Proceeds from the 2023 event will benefit the Queensway Carleton Hospital Foundation. Tickets are available at <https://www.spursandsparkles.com>.

With her win, Robinson puts herself in contention for the Ottawa Circuit Awards, presented by Ride Every Stride. Competitors earn points at all Ottawa Equestrian Tournament shows hosted at Wesley Clover Parks. The Under 25 MarBill Hill Farm Jumper Bonus and Circuit Award are also back for 2023, with \$10,000 in bonuses up for grabs. For more information and to register, visit www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/special-awards.

With a thrilling season of show jumping competition ahead, Wesley Clover Parks welcomes spectators to enjoy its hospitality tent for a one-of-a-kind VIP experience. Tables of six and individual weekly passes are available for purchase at <https://www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/hospitality>.

Spectator tickets will also be available for the Ottawa Summer Tournaments in July and MLSJ Ottawa in August. Sign up to receive email updates when tickets are available as well as exclusive deals at <https://www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/spectators>.

For more information on the Ottawa Equestrian Tournaments, visit www.OttawaEquestrianTournaments.com. All competitor information is available at www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/calendar-2023 and full results can be found at www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/results-2023. Get the latest updates, news, and photos by following Ottawa Equestrian Tournaments on Facebook here and Instagram and Twitter @TheWCParks. Share your Ottawa Equestrian Tournaments experience by tagging @TheWCParks and #RideTheParks!

\$15,000 Julia MacAngus Memorial Grand Prix

Saturday, May 27, 2023

Rider / Hometown / Horse / Faults / Time

1. Kelley Robinson / Russell, ON / Foolproof / 0:0 / 36.10
2. Frank Hendriks / Carleton Place, ON / Chapeau / 0:4 / 33.71
3. Robert Carey / Bolton, ON / Don't Worry Farmer / 0:4 / 35.15
4. Karen Sparks / Nepean, ON / Lugano / 4
5. Mackenzie Nadeau / Stittsville, ON / HHS Fairy Fort / 4
6. Kaila Robert / St. Bruno, QC / Hesmee / 4
7. François Lamontagne / Saint-Eustache, QC / Tinka's Soldier / 4
8. Julia Wiggins / Kanata, ON / Lynnford AS / 4
9. Vanessa Robert / St. Bruno, QC / Miss Peggy-Sue PS / 4
10. Beatrice Daviault / St. Damase, QC / Levaro Z / 8



Frank Hendriks of Carleton Place, ON, finished runner-up riding Chapeau in the \$15,000 Julia MacAngus Memorial Grand Prix held at Ottawa's Wesley Clover Parks. Photo by Sunkist Media



Robert Carey of Bolton, ON, rounded out the top three riding Don't Worry Farmer in the \$15,000 Julia MacAngus Memorial Grand Prix held at Ottawa's Wesley Clover Parks. Photo by Sunkist Media