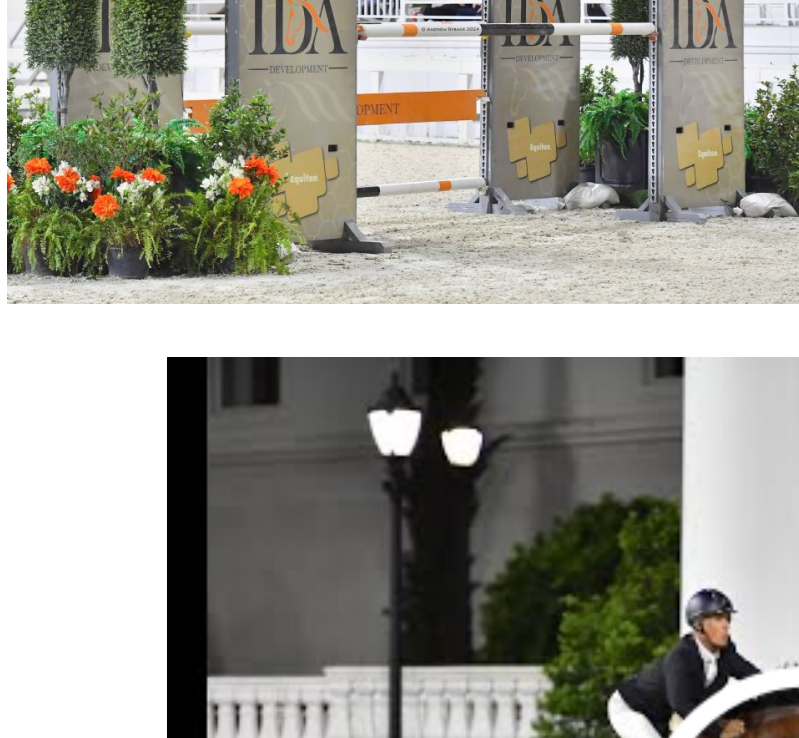




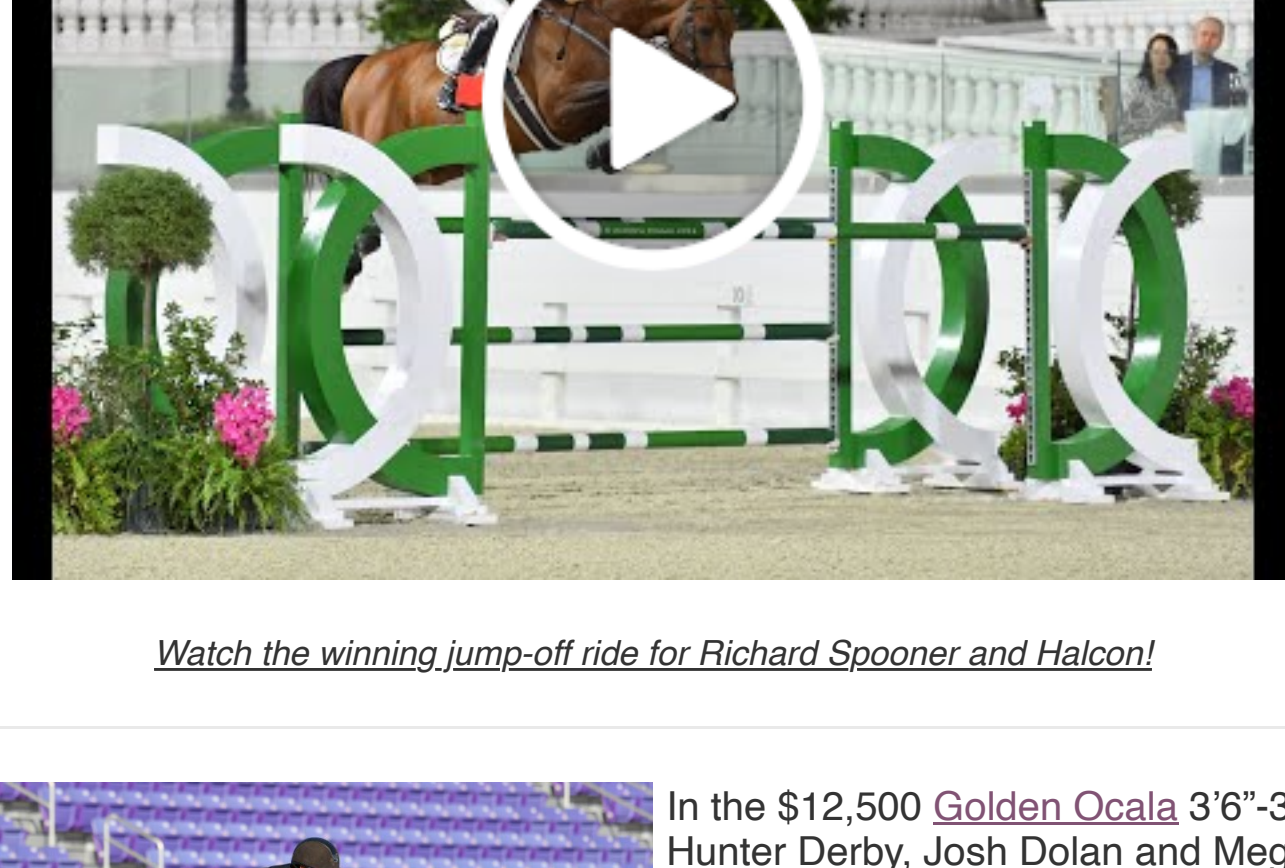
## World Equestrian Center Highlights

### Ocala November II



A thrilling seven-horse jump-off in the \$75,000 [Barnwalkers](#) Grand Prix had the crowd on the edge of their seats, culminating in a dramatic finish when last-to-go Richard Spooner (USA) clinched the win aboard Molly Ohrstrom's Halcon.

"I'm elated. To feel an animal get dialed in and fight as hard as they can to jump clean, all while you're saying, 'Go faster, go faster, go faster,' and they just do it — it's pretty invigorating."

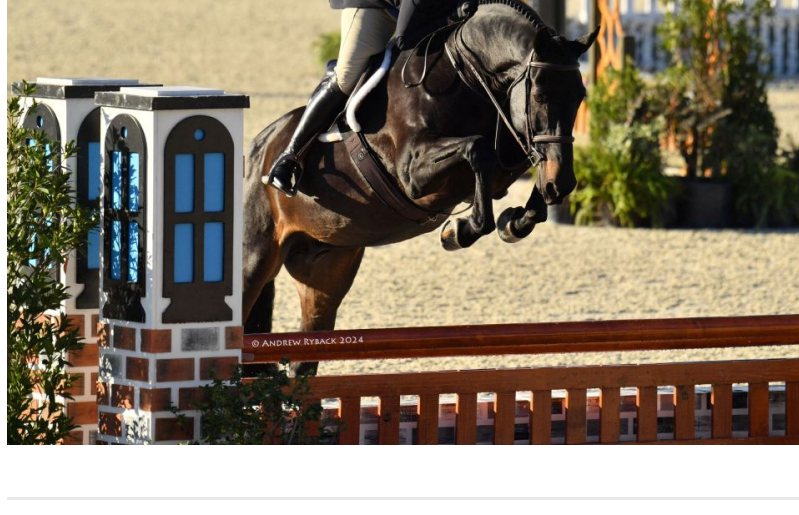


*Watch the winning jump-off ride for Richard Spooner and Halcon!*



In the \$12,500 [Golden Ocala](#) 3'6"-3'9" Hunter Derby, Josh Dolan and Meg Robinson's Something Blue made a triumphant return to the WEC Stadium. The 10-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding showcased his brilliance with a flawless first round, earning an impressive score of 92.

"It's just amazing to ride the horse now. Yesterday, when I was flattening him at home, I told his owner, 'He is just a dream to ride.' He can handle lines so well. He just walks down, then explodes over the fence to really show off. He does all the tricks. That's why I could take the inside turn to the oxer that no one else did."



Crystal Young and MTM Nonchalant claimed victory in the \$10,000 [UF Veterinary Hospital](#) USHJA National 3' Open Hunter Derby. The nine-year-old Warmblood gelding is owned by Adelle Alletto. The victory was even sweeter given their shared journey back to competition.

"This was our first horse show since my fall in July. Coming back and winning our first derby together was incredibly special. He was a superstar and gave me so much confidence for what's ahead."



Fresh off her one-two finish during last week's Hunter Derby Friday, Hayley Waters Wear once again claimed the top spot, this time aboard Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Waters' Genuine in the \$10,000 USHJA National 3' Jr/Am Hunter Derby.

"I plan on continuing to show him in derbies. I would love to do the \$75,000 Jr/Am Derby here at the end of the winter circuit! I would love for him to keep doing what he's been doing. He has been such a dependable guy for me."

*All photos by [Andrew Ryback Photography](#)*

### Wilmington Midwest Indoors II



It was a historic day for Luke Rinehart (USA) as he marked his first career grand prix win with Captain America 10 in the \$30,000 Grand Prix. The day was not only special because of his win, but he was one second quicker than his father, Richard Rinehart (USA), and aboard a special family-owned horse to climb the ranks.

"It feels amazing. It is something I have dreamed about doing since my pony days. Especially with my dad being second, outrunning him was another dream, so I killed two birds with one stone. We have shown in a few grands prix against each other, but today I knew he had a pretty decent shot at it with that horse. It was the first time that we have ever been in the jump-off against each other, so I knew I was going to go for it. I was glad that I got to watch him, or I don't think I would have been able to beat him!"



In the \$10,000 Voltaire Futures Prix, Stephen Foran (USA) piloted Freedom Woods' Colour Your Day to the top of the leaderboard.

"This is my third time doing this class. I really didn't think I was going to win! The last horse looked so fast when they went in, so I wasn't expecting it. It is a really great feeling."



Riders qualified throughout the year in Wilmington for the highly anticipated WEC Medal Final in two sections: the WEC Medal Final 3'-3'3" and the WEC Medal Final 2'-2'6". Winners of the class were crowned after their equitation and rideability was tested over a track designed by Scott Alder and a flat phase. Each winning rider rode away with a brand new Gotrax Scooter and \$500 Trainer Bonus.

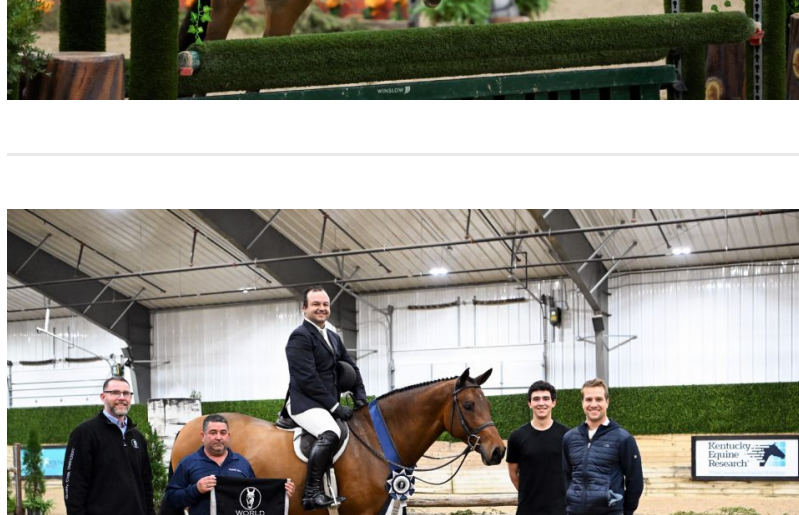
In the 3'-3'3" section, Emily Kowalchik came out on top aboard her own equitation mount, Fundamental after an exemplary jumping phase and flat phase.

"I bought Flynn [Fundamental] last September. He was my first big adult purchase! He is so wonderful, and I knew right away that I liked him. He makes me brave and has taken me onto the big stages already in the past year. I love him, and I say he is a barn favorite. He is easy, simple and very dependable."



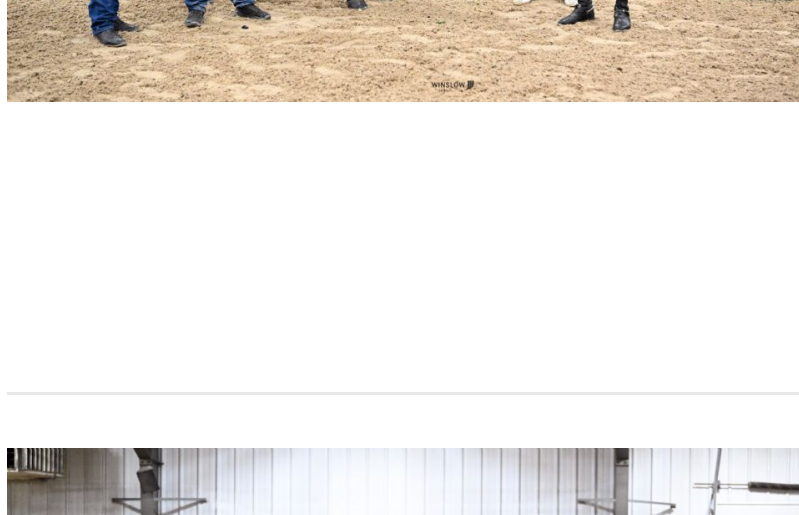
Brooke Barket rode to the win in the 2'-2'6" section aboard Land's End Electra.

"I think the WEC Medal is a really fun class. We do it almost every time we show here. It has taught my pony a lot and made her better in the equitation. I like how it is two phases so I can practice a little bit of everything."



Trevor Hawthorne secured the highest scores of the day with the rising star Due North to win the \$15,000 [Kentucky Equine Research](#) USHJA National Open Hunter Derby.

"The course was great. I thought the first trip was a little bit of an equitation-type track. The first part of the course started with an S turn, and you don't really see that too often in hunter courses. WEC has great jumps and the signature swoopy arches at the end of the ring, so to start with that was different, but the horses jumped it great. The rest of the course really fell into place through the bending lines. You were really able to show off the horse."



The \$15,000 USHJA National Non-Pro Hunter Derby was the 23rd featured-and-rider pairs entered in the class. Lauren Theil ultimately came out on top, earning her first-ever hunter derby win with her own Cantarello.

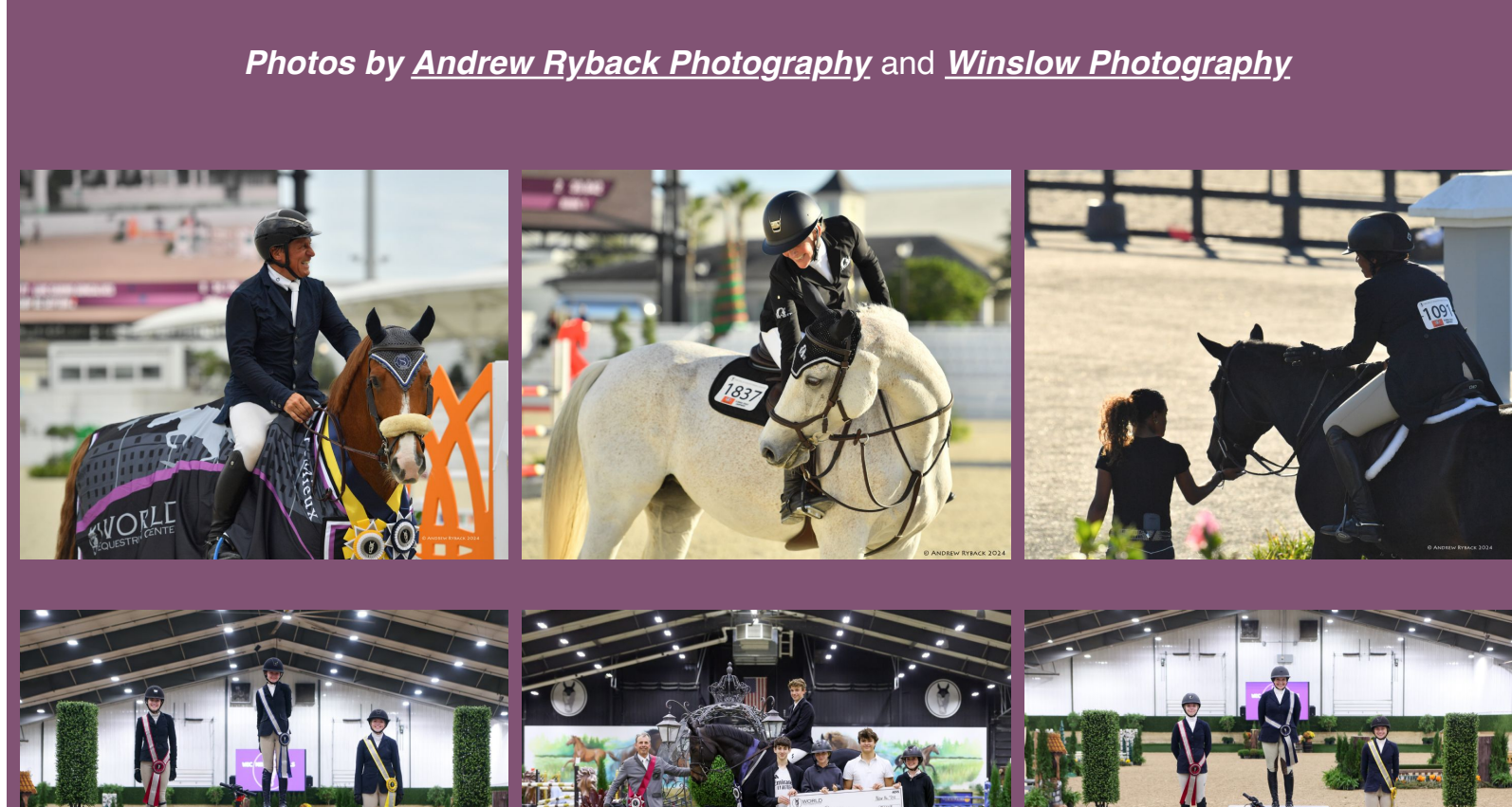
"I really liked the track. It was super fun to ride. It was very doable, but it wasn't too easy. I was really thinking about my outside aids for the track to the one stride so that I could keep him straight and moving through the one-stride combination."

*All photos by [Winslow Photography](#)*

[Read All Horse Show Coverage](#)

## Memorable Moments From World Equestrian Center

*Photos by [Andrew Ryback Photography](#) and [Winslow Photography](#)*



### Wilmington Midwest Indoors II Sunday Spotlight



*Maeve Sheldon and Snapdragon. Photo by [Winslow Photography](#)*

This week's Wilmington Sunday Spotlight shines on the passionate young rider Maeve Sheldon. The 14-year-old rider from Cincinnati, OH, is a familiar face at WEC – Wilmington, competing in the Children's Pony Hunter division with her pony, Snapdragon, and is a loyal friend to many exhibitors. We caught up with Maeve to learn more about her riding journey, her favorite things about WEC and her special bond with her pony!

[Read More](#)

### Upcoming Events

#### World Equestrian Center – Ocala

##### [2024 November and December Show Series Dates](#)

December I: December 3-8  
December II: December 11-15

##### [2025 Winter Spectacular Show Series Dates](#)

Winter Spectacular I: January 1-5  
Winter Spectacular II: January 7-12  
Winter Spectacular III: January 14-19  
Winter Spectacular IV: January 21-26  
Winter Spectacular V: January 28-February 2: World Champion Hunter Rider Week  
Winter Spectacular VI: February 4-9: WEC Premier Equitation Cup Championship on February 8  
Winter Spectacular VII: February 11-16: CSI5\*-W  
Winter Spectacular VIII: February 18-23  
Winter Spectacular IX: February 25-March 2: World Champion Hunter Rider Week  
Winter Spectacular X: March 4-9  
Winter Spectacular XI: March 12-16  
Winter Spectacular XII: March 18-23: CSIO5\* Longines League of Nations™

##### [2025 Spring Series Dates](#)

Ocala Spring I: March 26-30  
Ocala Spring II: April 1-6

#### World Equestrian Center – Wilmington

##### [2024 Show Dates](#)

Thanksgiving in the Midwest: November 20-24

Winter Classic 3: December 4-8, 2024  
Winter Classic 2: December 11-15, 2024  
*WEC Christmas: December 18-22, 2024\**

##### [2025 Winter in the Midwest Dates](#)

USEF Premier/Level 4 Jumpers  
USEF National/Level 4 Jumpers\*

Winter Classic 5: January 15-19  
Winter Classic 6: January 19-23  
*Winter Classic 7: January 22-26\**

*Winter Classic 8: January 29-February 2\**  
Winter Classic 9: February 5-9  
Winter Classic 10: February 12-16  
Winter Classic 11: February 19-23  
*Winter Classic 12: February 26-March 2\**

Winter Spring Forward: March 5-9  
Winter Classic 14: March 12-16  
Winter Classic 15: March 19-23  
Winter Classic 16: March 26-30  
Winter Classic 17: April 2-6

[See Full Event Schedule](#)

### About World Equestrian Center

Named one of *TIME's* 2024 World's Greatest Places, World Equestrian Center features two premier equestrian and multidisciplinary venues in Ocala, Florida, and Wilmington, Ohio.

These exclusive facilities comprise state-of-the-art arenas, expansive stadiums, versatile outdoor space, sporting fields and well-appointed exposition centers. An abundance of lodging options and luxury accommodations are conveniently located on-site, along with shopping and dining throughout each property.

Dedicated to offering great sport and good fun in a family-friendly environment, World Equestrian Center promises an unparalleled experience for exhibitors, spectators, vendors, sponsors and retailers built on three core values: Quality. Class. Distinction.

Learn more at [wec.net](#).

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