## **OKTOBERFEST HIGHLIGHTS:**



Phillip Dutton and Z Photo by Eventing Nation

The weather was perfect all weekend for the duration of Oktoberfest. Phillip Dutton and his Olympic partner, Z held the lead in the CCI4\*-S from the beginning. He added 7.2 time penalties on cross country to his dressage score to finish on a 35.3 and win with a five-point lead. Lucienne Bellissimo and Dyri finished the weekend in second. Aiken local, Sarah Kuhn and Mr. Cash van de Start finished in third with a successful run before heading to the Maryland Five Star. Alexander O'Neal had the biggest climb of the weekend. After starting in 22nd place post-dressage, he finished in seventh after delivering the fastest cross country round of the day.

In the CCI3\*-S, Allison Springer took top honors with Nancy's Winter's No Way Moon. Out of the large division of thirty-nine combinations, Allison was the only rider to go double clear in both show jumping and cross country to finish on their dressage score of 29.8. Jenny Caras and Sher Schwartz's Beaulieu's Cecelia moved up to second after starting their weekend in seventh. Alex O'Neal rounded out the podium with Sally Crane Cox's Miss MoneyPenny V.

In the CCI2\*-S, Elisa Wallace and Lissavorra Quality held onto their dressage lead. Rory Frangos and Victor B Z moved up to second to finish on their dressage score. Alexandra Knowles and September Venture finished in third only adding a rail to their dressage score.

Allison Springer and Monbeg Zebedee and Alexandra Knowles P.S. I Love You took top honors in the Two and Three-Star Young Horse Championships.

In addition to the FEI Divisions, the National Divisions were very competitive.

Arden Wildasin and Sunday Times took the lead of the Advanced after inching their way up the podium with each phase. Andrew McConnon and Wakita 54 were the only Intermediate pair to finish on their dressage score which allowed them to win with a 2.6 margin. Allie Knowles successes continued from the FEI Divisions as she came in second and third with Morswood and Leo Santos.

Canadian Karl Slezak and FE Cheerio won the Open Preliminary on a 29.7. Breeana Robinette and Cape Kimberly won the Preliminary Rider Division. Alyssa Phillips and her own Carrigshawn HFS won the competitive Open Modified Division while USC-Aiken student, Carson Langenberg and Monterrey la Silla swept the Modified Rider Division.

Candance Elizabeth Bell and her ten-year-old mare Promise the Moon came out on top of Open Training A while Sarah Kuhn added another podium finish to her weekend with Ringfort K Special to win the Open Training B. Kate Bell and her Oldenburg gelding FE Velvet Black kept their lead for the entirety of the Training Rider A Division. Meanwhile, Finley Habenicht and Zick Zack, previously campaigned by Elinor O'Neal, topped the podium in Training Rider B.

Ashley Allison and Sophie's Story won Novice Rider A. April Hays and her six-year-old gelding Anteros HSH won Novice Rider B. Sheila Wiese and her own Cooley Greystones won Novice Rider C by a 6.7 margin. Logan Harris and Ton of Gold won the Open Novice A. Werner Geven and Ameristan won Open Novice B on a 27.6.

Sarah Forster and her own seven-year-old gelding Caillou swept the Beginner Novice Rider Division on their dressage score of 23.2. Aiken based trainer, Morgan Batton and Pandora held their lead to finish on the top of the podium in the Open Beginner Novice.

Check this <u>link</u> to find out how all your favorite riders finished the weekend.