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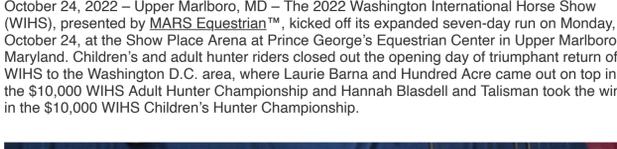
Monday, October 24, 2022

SCHEDULE

RESULTS

LIVE STREAM

WEBSITE



October 24, 2022 – Upper Marlboro, MD – The 2022 Washington International Horse Show (WIHS), presented by MARS Equestrian™, kicked off its expanded seven-day run on Monday, October 24, at the Show Place Arena at Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Children's and adult hunter riders closed out the opening day of triumphant return of WIHS to the Washington D.C. area, where Laurie Barna and Hundred Acre came out on top in the \$10,000 WIHS Adult Hunter Championship and Hannah Blasdell and Talisman took the win in the \$10,000 WIHS Children's Hunter Championship.



Laurie Barna and Hundred Acre won the \$10,000 WIHS Adult Hunter Championship. Photo by Shawn McMillen Photography.

Barna, of Dallas, Pennsylvania, was not sure she would be competing during the indoor season at all. Just 10 weeks ago, she had an unfortunate fall and fractured her hip, resulting in emergency surgery and her hip being pinned. Though she feels physically comfortable, Barna is not quite back to 100 percent and is riding through the lingering challenges. Despite the setback, when it counted most, she knew she could rely on Hundred Acre to be there for her.

"That is just another facet of being so grateful for my horses, because I felt like he knew and he took extra good care of me at this show because I'm just getting back to riding now," related Barna of her 15-year-old Westphalian gelding. "Milo" has such a great personality. In the barn, he's a real character. He loves to show off, and he loves to win. He really put his best foot forward tonight."



Laurie Barna and Hundred Acre in their winning presentation with WIHS President Vicki Lowell, ringmaster Steve Rector, groom Alisa Kozhukhov, Laurie Bain, and trainer Liz Perry. Photo by Shawn McMillen Photography.

Milo has been with Barna for four years, and their partnership was on full display when she scored a 90 in the first round from judges Linda Andrisani and Peter Lombardo. With the top 12 being called back to return for the second round in reverse order, Barna was last to go. In a competitive group, she could feel the pressure but kept her composure, scoring a 91 for an overall score of 181.

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In the children's class, Blasdell was awarded an 84.5 for her first trip aboard Talisman around the decorated indoor. When the top 12 were called back for the second round, Blasdell was sitting in fourth place. An impressive second round score of 87 shot her up the leaderboard and straight into the winner's circle with a total score of 171.5.

"In the first round, [Talisman] was so good," reflected Blasdell. "I felt like for some of my distances I sort of gave him mixed signals, but he was really super throughout the whole thing. The second round was even better. He was just perfect going around. He listens to everything I tell him to do, and I love him so much."



First place in the \$10,000 WIHS Children's Hunter Championship went to Hannah Blasdell and Talisman. Photo by Shawn McMillen Photography.

Blasdell inherited the ride on Talisman about two years ago from her sister. She has since built a strong relationship with the personable 11-year-old chestnut Danish Warmblood gelding by Toulouse. Even still, the 15-year-old rider from Portsmouth, Virginia, didn't expect the day's outcome.

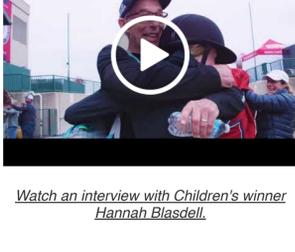
"I never would have ever thought I would be riding here at WIHS," said Blasdell. "It's really awesome. I'm feeling really great. I can't believe I just won. It means everything just to be here. The top riders come here, so the fact that I just won is really crazy to me."



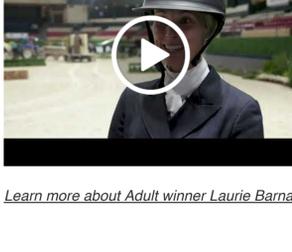
Hannah Blasdell and Talisman in their winning presentation with ringmaster Steve Rector, WIHS President Vicki Lowell, and Bradley Bowns. Photo by Shawn McMillen Photography.

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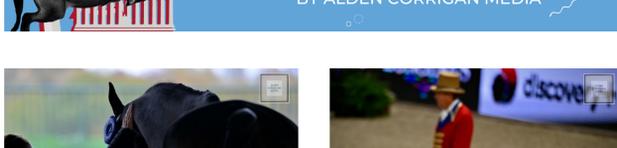
Scott Stewart took top trophy with Nottingham, owned by Betsee Parker, and was presented with the Robotax Challenge Trophy for the Best Green Hunter Round. The Fairfax Hunt Race Association Challenge Trophy for the Best Green Handy Hunter round went to Scott Stewart on For Always, owned by Betsee Parker.



Watch an interview with Children's winner Hannah Blasdell.



Learn more about Adult winner Laurie Barna.



The Second Annual Hollow Brook Sportsmanship Award will recognize a junior rider who best personifies the highest standards of integrity, sportsmanship, honor, kindness, and generosity during the 2022 Washington International Horse Show. The top five junior riders nominated will be in contention to receive this award with stewards and horse show officials making the final decision in awarding the winner.

Nominate Riders

WIHS 2022 Tickets and Hospitality:

- WIHS ticket information available here: <https://wihs.org/tickets/>
- Daytime admission is free for children 12 and under
- Adults: Daytime admission is \$2 on Tuesday, \$5 on Wednesday and Thursday, and \$10 on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
- WIHS Military Night, Friday, Oct. 28: Special pricing for military with ID (up to four tickets per ID). Available at the box office only. Save \$20 (adults) and \$15 (children) for select seats closest to the action, while supplies last. WIHS respectfully requests all serving military members wear appropriate uniform to the Friday night event.
- Daytime events for military members: Members of the military will receive four free tickets with military ID for any daytime event (Monday-Sunday, Oct. 24-30)
- Tables seating eight on VIP Platform available here: <https://wihs.org/vip-tables/>
- ETHOS Award Champagne Brunch will honor the contributions of African Americans to the horse world. Buy tickets here: <https://wihs.org/ethosaward/>

Purchase Tickets

For more information about WIHS, visit www.wihs.org, join WIHS on Facebook, follow on Instagram, TikTok, and Twitter, and subscribe on YouTube. Tag using #WIHS2022, #FEIWorldCup, #TimeToBeat and #Longines.

About Washington International Horse Show

Established in 1958, the Washington International Horse Show is one of North America's most prestigious, competitive, and entertaining equestrian events with competition for international, professional, amateur, junior, and child riders. Highlights include the \$406,000 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Washington for the President's Cup presented by Experience Prince George's, and the WIHS Equestrian Finals and Children's and Adult Hunter and Jumper Championships, plus popular community and charity events, including Kids' Day and Barn Night. WIHS, an official USEF Heritage Competition, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. For more information, visit wihs.org.

