

Great American Insurance Group / United States Dressage Federation
REGION 8 DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIP
Recognized by US Equestrian Federation
at
New England Dressage Association
FALL FESTIVAL OF DRESSAGE
for benefit of
United States Para-Equestrian Association
(USEF national affiliate for para-equestrian)
\$49,000 Purse

Thursday through Sunday ~ September 20 / 21 / 22 / 23, 2018 ~ HITS on the Hudson, Saugerties NY

The Festival consists of four competitions, featuring 700 horses competing in classes from Training Level, the first step on the dressage ladder, to Grand Prix, the pinnacle of the sport as seen at the Olympic Games.

Within this event are the New England **Region 8 Regional Championships** sponsored by the Great American Insurance Group and United States Dressage Federation, and recognized by US Equestrian Federation. Championship classes will be held Thursday through Sunday, featuring freestyle championships on Saturday and Sunday. Winners are eligible to compete at the National Dressage Finals at the Kentucky Horse Park in November.

Secondly, this event is one of the few internationally recognized American competitions (**CDI-W Y/J Saugerties**) recognized by the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI). International competitors earn scores toward representing their countries at competitions such as the World Games or the Olympics. On Thursday afternoon this **International Competition** begins with the formal inspection of the horses by FEI Officials, certifying their identity and their fitness to compete. Riders from Denmark, Israel, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Canada and other countries will compete. Classes are held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday with the **Grand Prix de Dressage** on Friday morning, the Grand Prix Freestyle on Saturday, and the Grand Prix special on Sunday morning.

Third, Thursday and Friday in the **Sport Horse Breed Show** horses (from weanlings to stallions) are shown "in hand". There are special classes for Amateur Handlers, IBC classes for specific breeds of horses, and classes for ponies. The \$5,400 **New England Sport Horse Breeder's Futurity** is awarded late Thursday afternoon, at a Competitor's Party, open to all. This competition is a both a qualifier for and regional finals for the **USDF Breeders Championship New England Series** also sponsored by Great American; finals classes will be held Friday morning.

Finally, Thursday through Sunday a **National Competition** features hundreds of local competitors, amateurs and professionals, as well as riders who have competed international events. Within this competition, NEDA sponsors the **NEDA Adult Amateur Championships** and the **NEDA Junior/Young Rider Championships**.

Freestyles will be held both Saturday and Sunday, competitors riding their horses to music in specially choreographed programs reminiscent of the famous "dancing" Lipizzan horses of the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. Because there are very few competitions in this country featuring world class horses and musical rides, ringside will be packed with excited spectators. Everyone loves to watch!

A large **Equestrian Trade Fair** will be held, featuring artists, horse supplies, boutiques, trailers. **VIP Hospitality and Reserved Seating**, featuring morning and afternoon refreshments, is available duration of Dressage Show.

Admission: No admission / \$5 Program

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Directions:

Take Mass Pike to end and NY Thruway south to Exit 20.

After toll turn right onto Route 32 North and go 1 mile. Turn right onto Peoples Road and go 9/10 mile. Turn left after RR tracks onto Canoe Hill Road and go 5/10 mile. Canoe Hill becomes Mike Krout Road, 8/10 mile. Grounds will be 1 8/10 miles on right.

Website:

www.neda.org for detailed show information.

Release 3/26/2018