

*Ireland's Jordan Coyle and Ariso Clinch \$213,300 Upperville Jumper Classic CSI4**



The luck of the Irish once again prevailed at America's oldest running horse show, the Upperville Colt & Horse Show (UCHS). Sunday afternoon's \$213,300 Upperville Jumper Classic CSI4*, co-sponsored by Ethel M. Chocolates and Lugano Diamonds, belonged to Ireland's Jordan Coyle and Elan Farm's Ariso after they bested a three-horse jump-off with the fastest double-clear effort in front of a packed crowd. Upperville's own Alison Robitaille placed second with Lima 47, while Samuel Parot of Chile and Dubai completed the podium.



Thirty-two international athletes challenged Marina Azevedo's (BRA) first round track in the B&D Builders Grand Prix Ring, and the field was eventually narrowed down to just three combinations who returned for the jump-off. A triple bar to a careful plank vertical followed by a line with an oxer and double verticals away from the gate proved difficult enough to separate the best of the best ahead of the final tie-breaker.

Parot was the first rider to return for the jump-off with his own Holsteiner gelding, Dubai, setting the pace to beat at 42.78 seconds in an effort to leave the rails in their cups. Thursday's Welcome Stakes winners Coyle and Ariso knew they could lay down a faster track by turning inside to a steady vertical and leaving a stride out to the last fence. Coyle's plan with the 10-year-old Hanoverian gelding paid off, resulting in a flawless performance that clocked in at 39.78 seconds to take over the lead.



The crowd roared when Robitaille entered the ring with Lima 47, a 10-year-old Oldenburg stallion owned by Alison Firestone LLC. Robitaille was aiming for the win, but this marked the pair's first grand prix at the CSI4* level, so a slightly more conservative track with an extra stride in the final line took over the second place after breaking the beams in 41.17 seconds. Coyle took home the biggest win of the week at the UCHS, while Parot would claim the third place prize.

Coyle admitted that his partnership with Ariso has been a work in progress, commenting that despite Ariso's incredible jump, he often had no steering or control after five jumps when he first began riding him. Coyle worked with World Champion, Dermont Lennon, who explained he just had to let Ariso be Ariso, and Coyle has learned to follow that plan which has proven to work having won Sunday's highlight event as well as the HITS Million in Ocala in March. The pair will head to the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival next where they hope to continue their winning ways.



Receiving rave reviews from exhibitors and spectators, the 168th Upperville Colt & Horse Show came to a close Sunday in front of a packed audience and featured an exciting finale. The entire team will be working hard as they prepare to continue to host both international and local athletes at the prestigious and historic event in 2022.



The President's Trophy
was awarded to Mildred
"Bucky" Fletcher Slater



The Randolph Award
was presented to -
Jimmy and Gail Wofford
by UCHS Second Vice
President Shelby Bonnie



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Mimi Gochman Captures Co-Grand Junior Hunter Champion With Catch Me & Commentary at Upperville Colt & Horse Show



On the final day of the 2021 Upperville Colt & Horse Show (UCHS), Junior Hunter competition concluded as riders vied for their division's top prizes. Mimi Gochman and her two mounts, Catch Me and Commentary, were ultimately crowned Co-Grand Champion Junior Hunter, receiving the Marianna Challenge Trophy donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Payne. Gochman also claimed the title of Leading Rider on a Junior Horse.

Gochman and Bikoff Equestrian LLC's 10-year-old gelding, Commentary, showcased beautiful style in the Small Junior 16-17 Hunter division. Winning three over fence classes and the under saddle, the pair earned the division championship with 30 points. Following that was the Large Junior 16-17 Hunter division, where Gochman and Gochman Sport Horse LLC's 14-year-old gelding, Catch Me, garnered the division championship. Winning three over fence classes and the under saddle, the pair finished with 30 points as well.

Catch Me and Commentary are no strangers to the winner's circle. Winning numerous championships with Scott Stewart and Becky Gochman, Catch Me has become a top Junior Hunter for Mimi. Gochman and her new mount Commentary have started off their first week of partnership well and she gives the horse lots of credit for keeping his cool in this very unique environment.

The award for the Leading Rider on a Junior Horse went to Gochman for her outstanding performances throughout the Junior Hunter divisions. She also showed Bikoff Equestrian LLC's Critic's Choice in the Large Junior 16-17 Hunter division and Sara Hogan's Hamilton in the Small Junior 16-17 Hunter division.

Alexander Alston was awarded the Best Junior Hunter Rider Award Sunday. Alston was reserve champion with his 13-year-old mount, *Cash* owned by Alston Alliance LLC, in the Large Junior 16-17 Hunter division. He impressed the judges with his smooth and classic style, which earned him Best Junior Hunter Rider honors.

Sunday marked the conclusion of the 2021 Upperville Colt & Horse Show, with hunter riders being recognized throughout the week for their efforts Under the Oaks. The entire team will be working hard as they prepare to continue to host both international and local athletes at the prestigious and historic event in 2022.





M. Michael Meller Style Award
Presented to Brianne Goutal
in memory of Mason Phelps



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For nearly 170 years, UCHS has been held at the historic Grafton Farm Show Grounds- a local event with international appeal!

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7th Annual Upperville Colt & Horse Show Horse and Horse Power Car Show. This event is held in honor of David Mullins and features eclectic cars from local community members



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