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2009 Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series Gets Underway In Wellington

Tampa, FL—January 15, 2009—The Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series is officially underway and 2009 is expected to be a great year for the Series and its competitors. The Series will host classes at more than 100 horse shows across the country before culminating in Year-End Championships at the at the Syracuse Invitational Sporthorse Tournament featuring the 126th National Horse Show in Syracuse, NY, in October.

The Series hosts separate divisions for junior and amateur-owner riders in two Conferences—the East Conference and the West Conference. Series standings are used to help determine junior and amateur-owner entries for the National Horse Show.

This year's Series opened at the FTI Winter Equestrian Festival's first week of competition at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center in Wellington, FL.

In the Amateur-Owner division, Addison Phillips successfully navigated the course aboard her horse Tierra. This is the second year in a row that Phillips has won the opening Amateur-Owner class of the Hall of Fame Series. She finished first and second in the 2008 Series opener. Finishing in second was three-time Series Champion Danielle Torano with Ormsby Hill. In third was Javier Berganza with Bronte Primera VDL.

In the Junior division, Reed Kessler soared to first place aboard Flight. Close behind in second was Christina Kelly with Liberty Lady, and in third was Kaitlin Campbell and Sienna.

The first event on the West Conference calendar is scheduled to take place at the Woodside Spring Preview, in Woodside, CA, April 23-26. Participating horse shows are constantly being added to the schedules in both the East and West Conferences. Complete schedule information and updates can be found on the Show Jumping Hall of Fame website at www.showjumpinghalloffame.net.

The 2009 Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series is sponsored by the Lake Placid Horse Show Association, *Practical Horseman*, Langer Equestrian Group, Taylor Harris Insurance Services and Stadium Jumping, Inc.

The Series is designed to give amateur-owner and junior riders an opportunity to compete at higher levels and serves as a proving ground for many riders who aspire to someday represent the United States in international competition.

The Show Jumping Hall of Fame was organized to promote the sport of show jumping and to immortalize the legends of the men, women and horses who have made great contributions to the sport. The Show Jumping Hall of Fame also conducts the Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series, held under Grand Prix rules and specifications. The Show Jumping Hall of Fame has moved from its long-time home at Busch Gardens in Tampa, FL. An announcement about the Museum's new home will be made last this year.

Any horse show offering a class that meets all the criteria set forth in the 2009 Show Jumping Hall of Fame Series specifications and has prize money of at least \$1,000 is eligible to be part of the Series.

The 2009 Show Jumping Hall of Fame Series schedule appears below. For more information about the Jumper Classic Series, please visit the Show Jumping Hall of Fame website at www.showjumpinghalloffame.net.

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