

Victoria Colvin Clinches  
Second Consecutive  
\$50,000 USHJA International  
Hunter Derby Title in  
Exciting Finale at  
2019 Deeridge Derby

"It is so beautiful here.  
The Jacobs family really  
put on a first-class  
show..."

*Jennifer Hannan, winner of the \$5,000  
USHJA National Hunter Derby*



Victoria Colvin and El Primero lead the victory gallop. ©Kathy Russell Photography

The magnificent grass arena at Deeridge Farms in Wellington, Florida, featured the nation's most elegant show hunters on February 27–March 3 for the 2019 Deeridge Derby, the third and closing event of the world-class 2019 Palm Beach Masters Series®. The European-style event received glowing reviews from the competitors, trainers, owners, sponsors and spectators for its remarkable world-class facilities – including phenomenal footing and spectacular amenities for both horse and rider – that simply puts the world-class venue into a league of its own.

The third annual Deeridge Derby, a USEF premier-rated show, was highlighted by four derby events—the \$2,500 USHJA International Derby Welcome Stake, \$5,000 USHJA National Derby, \$5,000 USHJA Junior/Amateur Derby, and the week's

featured event, the prestigious \$50,000 USHJA International Hunter Derby. The program also featured three Green Hunter Incentive Stake classes and divisions for young jumpers.

Victoria Colvin put in another spectacular performance to clinch her second straight \$50,000 USHJA International Hunter Derby, this time aboard Meralex Farm's El Primero. The top 25 entries from the original 42 that contested Saturday's Classic Round over the Phil DeVita-designed course returned for Sunday's Handy Round. Judges Linda Hough, Susie Schoellkopf, Walter T. "Timmy" Kees and Chance Arakelian gave El Primero and Colvin the highest two-round total score of 378.75. Tracy Fenney and MTM Farm's MTM Outbid put in an exceptional handy round, moving them up from fourth place into the runner-up



Cristel Weller's Enchanted and Kelley Farmer won the \$2,500 USHJA International Welcome Stake with a stellar performance that produced a score of 88. ©Kathy Russell Photography



Goodwork and Havers Schatt topped the 3-3's Green Incentive with an 88 score. ©Kathy Russell Photography



Uppercut and Jennifer Hannan were best in the \$5,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby. ©Kathy Russell Photography

spot with a total of 377.50 points. Kelley Farmer and Cristel Weller's Enchanted also jumped from original fifth place to take third with a 372.75 total score.

"I think it's so beautiful here," said Colvin, who has ridden to the past two USHJA International Derby Championship titles. "It's amazing with the grass field and the tents—there's a bit of a European vibe. It's really gorgeous."

Farmer and Enchanted claimed victory earlier in the week, winning the \$2,500 USHJA International Welcome Stake.

"This is just an incredible horse show," said Farmer. "How could you not like showing here? We, as exhibitors, are so grateful to the Jacobs family for putting on a show like this. They do a great job with everything. The horses love the change of venue and the ability to show on the grass. It is so special, and the horses respond in a positive way. I am very thankful that there are people like the Jacobs family who put on these types of shows. I wish there were more."

In the \$5,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby, Patricia Fulchino's Uppercut and Jennifer Hannan emerged victorious. The veteran pair held the lead throughout the competition, finishing on a total score of 186 following first and second round scores of 94 and 92, respectively. Havers Schatt rode Caroline Moran's Happy Thought to a round-high score of 96 in the handy to claim runner-up honors.



Victoria Colvin and El Primero stood in for their winner's presentation with Deeridge Derby President, Katie Jacobs Robinson. ©Kathy Russell Photography



Uppercut and Jennifer Hannan were best in the \$5,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby. ©Kathy Russell Photography



Victoria Colvin and El Primo ©Kathy Russell Photography



Stella Propp and Inquisitive topped the \$5,000 USHJA Inkm Hunter Derby ©Kathy Russell Photography



Uppercut and Jennifer Hannan ©Kathy Russell Photography



Uppercut and Jennifer Hannan ©Kathy Russell Photography

"I just love these showgrounds," Hannan said. "It is such a pleasure to ride in this arena. It gives us a totally different venue. It is so beautiful here, and the horses are as into it as we are. The Jacobs family really put on a first-class show."

"It is so wonderful of the Jacobs family to give us this opportunity to compete in a ring and a setting like this," added Schatt. "Thanks to their generosity, we hunter riders get to experience what the jumpers experience every week of the year!"

Sixteen-year-old Stella Propp and Aquitaine Equine's Inquisitive won the \$5,000 USHJA National Junior/Amateur Hunter Derby after producing two consistently brilliant rounds worthy of identical scores of 92. That gave the duo a total score of 184.

"I am so happy right now; you have no idea!" Propp exclaimed post-victory. "I haven't done a Derby since I was in ponies, so going in the ring was very scary for me, especially since I was against such amazing amateur and junior riders, but I had so much fun. I went in for the experience, and it ended up better than I ever could have imagined!"

Deeridge Derby president Katie Jacobs Robinson, who co-founded the Palm Beach Masters Series with her brothers Lou and Charlie Jacobs, expressed pride in how the competition played out.

"Hosting a derby like this has always been a dream of ours," she said. "My father and I have always had a passion for hunters, and it makes us so happy to welcome these hunters and give them a chance to compete in a stand-alone show in a ring like this. We really appreciate their being here."