WINTER EQUESTRIAN FESTIVAL

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WEEK 10 • MARCH 12, 2025

EMILIE CONTER CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WITH WIN

EQUESTRIAN WELLNESS FROM DAILY HARVEST

HORSEWARE IRELAND CELEBRATES PASSION, HERITAGE & INNOVATION



HORSEWARE IRELAND Passion, Heritage, Innovation

his year, Horseware Ireland proudly celebrates 40 years of unwavering dedication to the equestrian world. From humble beginnings to becoming a global leader in equestrian products, the journey has been shaped by a passion for innovation, heritage, and an enduring love for horses. For four decades, Horseware Ireland's commitment to creating the highest-quality products has been at the forefront of everything they do by continually striving to blend innovation with tradition and designing solutions that enhance the connection between horse and rider. Whether

it's through revolutionary blanket designs, advanced technology, or thoughtful craftsmanship, they have always been driven by a mission to improve the equestrian experience.

As Horseware Ireland looks back on a rich history, they are proud of the roots and strong sense of community that defines the company



through support of riders, trainers, and equestrians around the world who have trusted them over the years. It's this shared love of horses and the sport that has allowed Horseware Ireland to thrive and grow.

Horseware Ireland's partnership with the Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) is the perfect way to mark this milestone. WEF embodies the spirit of competition and camaraderie, and offers a chance to celebrate the athletes—both equine and human—who inspire us every day.

As part of Horseware Ireland's 40th-anniversary celebrations, they are thrilled to announce a special giveaway. Visit @horseware on Facebook or Instagram for details.

Here's to 40 years of passion, heritage, and innovation—and to many more to come!



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THE ROLEX US EQUESTRIAN OPEN GRAND PRIX

EQUESTRIAN GARDENS Returns to Winter Equestrian Festival with a Vision for Sustainable Design

s WEF 11 approaches, Wellington International is thrilled to welcome back Equestrian Gardens, led by owner Jess Jones, for another year of innovative landscape integration on the grass derby field. Partnering once again with esteemed course designer Ken Krome, Equestrian Gardens will enhance the USHJA hunter derby courses with natural and living elements, reinforcing the connection between equestrian sport and sustainable design.

"The USHJA hunter derbies are a source of inspiration for our work. It's in this format and on this platform that we are introducing new practices in sustainable landscape design and bringing plant material into the derby format," says Jones.

The timing of this collaboration couldn't be more fitting as Equestrian Gardens continues its commitment to sustainability through its partnership with Green Is the New Blue. Founded by Stephanie Bulger, Green Is the New Blue is an environmental non-profit that strives to reduce the ecological impacts of equine-



related events and activities. The organization encourages others to incorporate green practices into daily operations as well. As a collaborative member of Green Is the New Blue's Green Leader program, Jones will launch a call for ideas from IEA and IHSA students, encouraging young equestrians to rethink how living elements can enhance and benefit equestrian spaces. This initiative draws inspiration from Green Is the New Blue's Living Jump, a project dedicated to incorporating sustainable and biodiverse elements into course design.

Equestrian Gardens has already brought this vision to



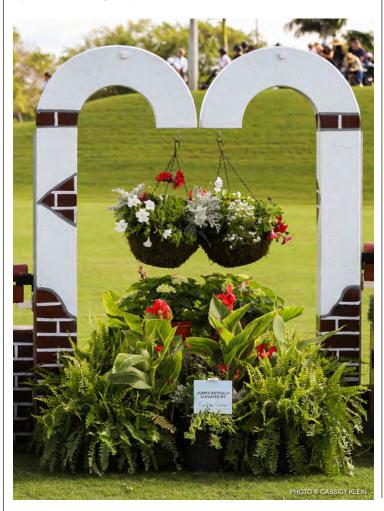


life, having designed and built the Living Jump, which was showcased at the Hampton Classic under the direction of Scot Evans, Creative Director of Green Is the New Blue. For the project, Jones utilized native plants that were replanted at MeadowView owned by Bulger and her mother, Louise Riggio.

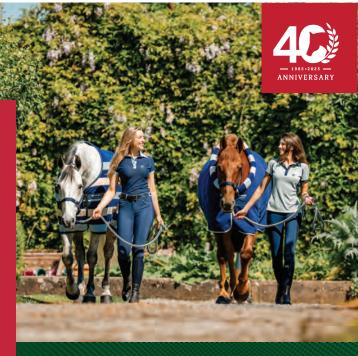
Bulger shares, "The Living Jump was not only a stunning feature, but also a testament to how sustainable design can enhance both the aesthetic and environmental quality of our equestrian spaces."

Equestrian Gardens is a landscape design firm dedicated to crafting dynamic, ecologically responsible landscapes for equestrian properties. From private farms and ranches to world-class horse show venues, the designs integrate native plants with ecological benefits across the Northeast and Southeast. Their work champions the belief that equestrian spaces should not only serve functionally but also contribute to the health of the surrounding environment.

To learn more about Equestrian Gardens or to explore how sustainable landscape design can elevate your equestrian property, contact **sales@** equestriangardens.com.









Celebrating 40 Years of INNOVATION

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FUEL YOUR RECOVERY How to Manage Inflammation for Peak Performance

This article is brought to you by Daily Harvest, official smoothie provider of Wellington International

By Carolina Schneider, MS, RD

questrian athletes focus intensely on training techniques and their horse's well-being, but personal nutrition sometimes takes a backseat, particularly when it comes to managing inflammation, which is the body's natural response to the physical demands of riding. The good news is that what's on your plate after training and competition can be your most powerful recovery tool.

Temporary inflammation is necessary for muscle repair and growth, but chronic inflammation—caused by overtraining, poor recovery, or inadequate nutrition—can lead to muscle fatigue, joint pain, and sluggish recovery. The right foods can help. A diet rich in antioxidants, fiber, and healthy fats reduces inflammation at the cellular level, supporting quicker healing and sustained performance.

After your ride, prioritize whole, minimally processed foods. Colorful fruits and vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats should be the foundation of your recovery meals. Aim for balance with complex carbohydrates like quinoa or sweet potatoes, lean protein from sources like tofu, beans, or fish, and inflammationfighting foods such as blueberries, leafy greens, turmeric, ginger, and omega-3-rich walnuts, chia seeds, and flax seeds. Tart cherry juice is another great addition, known for reducing muscle soreness and promoting recovery.

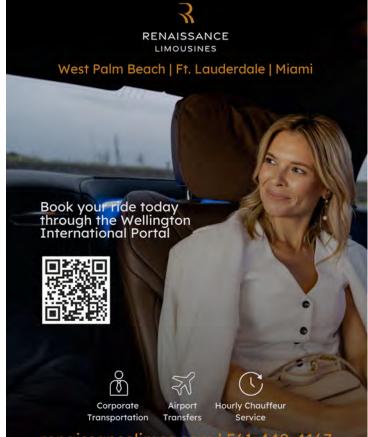
Hydration is just as crucial. Dehydration can contribute to fatigue, muscle cramps, and slower recovery. Aim to drink at least half your body weight in ounces of water daily, and incorporate electrolyte-rich foods like bananas, coconut water, and spinach to maintain muscle function. And don't overlook sleep. This is when muscle repair happens, making 7 to 9 hours of quality rest essential. Limit screen time before bed, reduce caffeine in the evening, and keep a regular sleep schedule to maximize recovery.

By nourishing your body as well as you care for your horse, you'll stay strong and resilient.



Looking for nourishing, quick-to-prep food that fits your busy lifestyle? Check out dailyharvest.com or scan the QR code and use code DHWEF2025 for 20% off your first plan order over \$100. Learn more about Carolina's approach to nutrition at hungryforplants.com.





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AROUND THE GROUNDS from the Wellington International Photography Collective





PHOTO @ SHELBY PHILLIPS









WEF YOUNG JUMPER FINALS Top 10 Qualifiers

MANESTREAM FIVE-YEAR-OLD YOUNG JUMPER FINAL

- 1. June Solstice ODF & Haylie Rolfe
- 2. Proposition B & Patricia Griffith
- 3. Carlova ODF & Andrew Barone
- 4. Piha & Mia Bagnato
- 5. Rockcandy Z & Daniel Zetterman
- 6. Uintah & Senan Hayes
- 7. Patrizia Rfb & Gigi Moynihan
- 8. Rimac & Liubov Kochetova
- 9. Paisley & Senan Hayes
- 10. Aries ODF & Maggie Jayne

LÖVSTA FUTURE CHALLENGE SEVEN-YEAR-OLD YOUNG JUMPER FINAL

- 1. Ninja Bf & Kevin Gallagher
- 2. Noa Cerise-Linn & Victoria Birdsall
- 3. Nina VC & Victoria Colvin
- 4. Tangilo Wi Ro Z & Molly Hay
- 5. Nadia Hx & Thaisa Erwin
- 6. Arezzo Z & Juan Manuel Bolanos Barrios
- 7. Asconos Girl Z & Luis Fernando Larrazabal
- 8. Napardi & Michael Tokaruk
- 9. Nina Simone W & Julie Welles
- 10. A Kind Of Blue PS & Ansgar Holtgers Jr.

NORTH STAR SIX-YEAR-OLD YOUNG JUMPER FINAL

- 1. Oceana & Alexis Bodo
- 2. Amira Van't Molenzicht Z & Diego Perez Bilbao
- 3. Titaness P Vd Donkhoeve & Madison Myro
- 4. Liberty & Charlie Jayne
- 5. Nikki Sixx & Ali Wolff
- 6. Valtini & Diego Perez Bilbao
- 7. Orange & Ty Simpson
- 8. Orfeo & Benjamin Meredith
- 9. Twizel & Kamille Marcussen
- 10. Ordinary & Brian Moggre



Winners of the 2024 \$25,000 Lövsta Future Challenge Seven-Year-Old Young Jumper Final, Philip McGuane & My Lady Van de Krekel.

WEF STANDINGS





1.50M CHAMPIONSHIP JUMPER SERIES

- 1. Nicola Philippaerts BEL 234 pts
- 2. Spencer Smith USA 212 pts
- 3. Cian O'Connor IRL 199 pts
- 4. Luis Fernando Larrazabal VEN 196 pts
- 5. Mark Bluman COL 179 pts

WEF STANDINGS

DON LITTLE MASTERS HORSE & RIDER COMBINATIONS presented by RUSHY MARSH

FARM

- 1. Lauren Brody riding Nutou 161 pts
- 2. Jeanne Reid riding Atalante d'Uhart 150 pts
- 3. Nora Keefe riding Case-Tout Z 129 pts
- MARSH 4. Camille Pacheco Cesarski riding Flint T.S. ET 128 pts
 - 5. Michael Smith riding Quality Time 4 117 pts



BRAINJUICE UNDER 25 GRAND PRIX SERIES

- 1. Hallie Grimes USA 310.5 pts
- 2. Tim Brennan IRL 298 pts
- 2. Emily Dehoff USA 259 pts
- 4. Isabelle Ehman USA 236.5 pts
- 5. Taylor Cawley USA 218 pts

\$5,000 LEADING HUNTER HORSE & RIDER BONUS

	presented by Th	LINGATE AS OF M	VEF 9: 3.9.25
1	SANDORI	GEOFFREY HESSLINK	436 PTS
2	VALOR	JACOB POPE	418 PTS
3	AVENTUS	GEOFFREY HESSLINK	385 PTS
4	CATENDER PS	JACOB POPE	376 PTS
5	TRADEMARK	GEOFFREY HESSLINK	326 PTS





INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Lugano Kiton NetJets Business Centre Weatherly Stroh Artist LAURACEA Wellington Lifestyle Partners

TIKI TERRACE

WEF Store Hermès Karina Brez Jewelry KAVAL DandyLion (WEF 1-6) Equestrian Stockholm (WEF 7-10) Julie Keyes Art (WEF 11-12) Serenella

BRIDGE DECK AT TIKI TERRACE

Dada Sport Michel McNabb (WEF P-2) Helgstrand Jewellery (WEF 3-4) Carol Morano Equine Art (WEF 5-6) Equisite Elements of Style (WEF 7-12) Alexander Academic Access (WEF P-1) DELGÉ (WEF 2) J Wilder Imports (WEF 3-5) The Calvert Collection (WEF 6-10) Maya Delorez (WEF 11-12)

THE BARN AT HUNTER HILL

LeMieux

HUNTER HILL

Ola' Mair Boutique Vanner House Ryde Equestrian (WEF 5-6) Lash LaRue (WEF 7-12)

INTERNATIONAL RING WARM UP

Prestige Italia Equitan Bruno Delgrange Maître Sellier Barnwalkers IDA Development

RING 6

Antarès Sellier Voltaire Design THEAULT

OASIS

Charles Ancona La Enovesé Designs Devoucoux 70 Degrees

VENDOR VILLAGE SOUTHSIDE

Danny & Ron's Dog Rescue Equestrian Team Apparel **Optic Nirvana** Fab Finds by Sarah JODS Sofie's Boutique Der Dau Human Touch (WEF P-4) Gladiator Equine (WEF 5-8) Shop Cou (WEF 9-12) Equiline Turner & Co Running Fox **Kocher Tack Shop Tony Hanley Supplements** Stephex CWD Tack n Rider Personalized Products **Equine Tack & Nutrition CM Hadfields**

VENDOR VILLAGE NORTHSIDE

Loopy's Crepes The In Gate Ride EquiSafe Miki Saddlery Hunt LTD Parlanti Fratelli Fabbri EQUIS Vogel NYC Harry's Lemonade

PONY ISLAND

Farm Stand Silvia's Tacos Palm Beach Int'l Academy Florida Snow Hunter's Landing

THE BARNS

Dandy Products FarmVet Josey's Laundry Anonymous Coffee Paddock Paws Veterinary Clinic

RING 9

Arion Sellier Forestier Sellier Sportfot Muddy Paws Ice Cream Nathalie's Café

RING 10

Ringside Health Clinic McGuinn Farms Magdalena's Mexican

SOUTH BARNS

Rider's Boutique Zest KP Concessions

PLACES TO EAT Anonymous Coffee..... Barn 4 Florida Snow Pony Island Harry's Lemonade..... Vendor Village Loopy's Crepes.... Vendor Village Magdalena's Mexican Ring 10 Muddy Paws..... Ring 9 Nathalie's Café Ring 9

Oasis Cafe	Vendor Village
BrainJuice Tiki Hut	International Arena
Toasties	Vendor Row
Farm Stand	Pony Island
Silva's Tacos	Pony Island
KP Concessions	South Barns

NO HOOF, NO HORSE:

The event is a testament to the character, professionalism and heartfelt warmth and gratitude the equestrian community has towards Kappy... a legendary horseman and farrier who made a profound impact on the industry.

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/ellington International played host to a special group of equestrian professionals during week 9 of the Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF). Without this group of dedicated individuals, horse sport would not be possible. The Kappy Kaplan Farrier Appreciation Event, presented by W.F. Young, the makers of Absorbine[®] products and Back on Track[®] USA, honored the legacy of Herman 'Kappy' Kaplan and the dedication that farriers have to their craft. The event is a testament to the character, professionalism and heart-felt warmth and gratitude the equestrian

community has towards Kappy, who was a legendary horseman and farrier and made a profound impact on the industry. His years of riding and training horses gave him an uncanny ability to analyze gait faults and develop solutions to enhance a horse's way of going. He taught shoeing and basic forging skills and became known as "the professor" by all who sought his knowledge.

Kaplan was also a close friend of Gene Mische, founder of WEF. He became the official farrier of Mische's Stadium Jumping shows, including WEF, and one of the original stakeholders in the iconic Wellington show series.

Highlighting the evening, the winners of the \$500,000 Bainbridge Companies CSI5* Grand Prix—Emilie Conter and Portobella van de Fruitkorf were presented with the Herman 'Kappy' Kaplan Perpetual Memorial Trophy.

"The genesis of this night is the memory of Kappy Kaplan, who is a special man to all of us whether we knew him or not," said Lenore Brown, Director of Sponsorship at Wellington International and integral organizer of the Kappy Kaplan Farrier Appreciation Event. "On behalf of everyone at Wellington International, I



Farriers posing with 'Saturday Night Lights' winner Emilie Conter and Portobella van de Fruitkorf, recipients of the Herman 'Kappy' Kaplan Perpetual Memorial Trophy.

Kappy Kaplan Farrier Appreciation Event Returns to Wellington International





Amy Cairy, W.F. Young Vice President of Marketing, presents Bryan Quinsey with the "Friend of the Farrier" Award.

want to say how profoundly proud and grateful we are to have the Kappy Kaplan Perpetual Memorial Trophy live with us and be presented during the WEF 9 five-star grand prix. I hope that all of us can live in the way that Kappy did and carry on the memory in this very important profession."

Amy Cairy, W.F. Young Vice President of Marketing, presented the annual recognition of the evening the "Friend of the Farrier" Award—to Bryan Quinsey as an individual who has advocated for or served the farrier and hoof care industry.

Quinsey is an Ontario, Canada, native and Former Executive Director at the International Association of Professional Farriers. He also founded the Hoofcare Essentials Foundation, which promotes the integrity of the farrier industry by supporting educational and charitable needs.

"This is the surprise of a lifetime," said Quinsey after accepting the award. "We started the Hoofcare Essentials Foundation in 2018 to support the farrier industry through continuing education. In 2025, we are prepared to offer grants to farriers for educational opportunities, support for clinics, and sponsorships of national events.

"I am also proud to officially announce a name change to the organization to the Farrier Education Fund," continued Quinsey. "This name spells out exactly what we are all about; supporting farriers and their education."

Cairy concluded the evening by introducing two new awards: the "Apprentice Achievement Award," presented to aspiring farriers who have dedicated themselves to learning the trade through hard work and passion for craft and horsemanship, as well as the "Kappy Kaplan Farrier Achievement Award," presented to a farrier who boasts a passion for the craft, respect for other professionals and a love for the horse.

These two new awards will be presented for the first time at the at the 2026 Kappy Kaplan Farrier Appreciation Event at Wellington International.



Lenore Brown, Director of Sponsorship at Wellington International, is honored with a custom Weatherly Stroh painting for her hard work in planning the Kappy Kaplan Farrier Appreciation Event.

EMILIE CONTER SHATTERS COMPETITION in Bainbridge Companies CSI5* Grand Prix

n a finish befitting of International Women's Day, Belgium's Emilie Conter stormed to a win in the \$500,000 Bainbridge Companies CSI5* Grand Prix during WEF 9.

In the irons of Portobella van de Fruitkorf, Conter bested a seven-horse jump-off over the Alan Wade (IRL) built course. From a field that included six of the world's top ten ranked riders, the 24-year-old claimed the first five-star victory of her career.

"It hasn't sunk in yet; I'm super happy with my horse and my team for making this happen," said a beaming Conter at the evening's press conference. "I saw a long [distance] to the last oxer and I heard Helena [Stormanns] scream 'go get it!', so I took it. I didn't think it was going to be enough to beat these other riders, but I looked up and saw that I was in first."

Stopping the clock a second off the winning pace, Olympic team gold medalist Harry Charles (GBR) settled for runner-up aboard Sherlock, a 2013 Belgian Warmblood gelding (Bisquet Balou C x Malito de Reve) owned by Peter Charles & Stall Zet. World no. 1 and reigning FEI World Cup[™] Champion Henrik von Eckermann (SWE) took third on his Olympic partner King Edward, a 15-yearold Belgian Warmblood gelding (Edward 28 x FEO) owned by Dufour Stables AG.

Conter has had the ride on Portobella van de Fruitkorf (Bamako de Muze x Nabab De Reve)—a 10-year-old Belgian Warmblood—since the mare was seven.

"We've come a long way," she said about the mare owned by Stephex Stables and Paul Swinnen. "We took it very slow in the beginning because I always knew she was special. There are no words for her. When I first

> started riding her, she was a bit colder always had massive scope. When she was younger, she was not so impressed with the small jumps but now the bigger the fences, the better she jumps." With several previous connections

of Portobella van de Fruitkorf watching along with Conter's visiting grandparents from a sold-out crowd, the victory was made extra sweet for Conter. Capping the night, her groom Lisa Sorg earned the Double H Farm Grooms Award and \$500 prize for her care and preparation of Portobella van de Fruitkorf. After taking second with Sherlock, Charles noted how the up-and-coming mount impressed in the Wellington

International atmosphere. "It's nearly as good an atmosphere as anywhere in the world," said Charles, who came to Wellington for the first time in 2024 and spent the season there this year. "I didn't plan on jumping Sherlock in too many of the bigger classes under the lights; he's still quite green at night, but tonight he jumped better than I could have hoped. I thought the course builder did a great job—you saw the perfect amount in the jump-off. I'm very happy with second place."

This season, Von Eckermann is focused on building back some lost confidence with his famed mount King Edward. "He iumped fantastic," exclaimed Von Eckermann. "He jumped a very good indoor season but in the jump-offs that were full speed, I'm a guy who wants to win and pushed a little too much and we lost a little confidence. He feels good and is jumping better and better with every show. These Saturday nights are fantastic and I'm looking forward to the [Rolex Finale] WEF 12."

Von Eckermann himself suffered a hand injury from a fall earlier in the WEF season and wore a brace on Saturday night as he continues to recover, concluding, "It's always the same; in the ring adrenaline is going and you want to do it and then afterwards you feel it, but it could have been worse and I'm happy that I'm able to continue riding. Emilie did a fantastic job tonight and I'm very happy for her."



nly three weeks after their memorable win in the \$150,000 WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular under the lights on the International Arena, Liza Towell Boyd and Ondine d'Orleans were back in action, this time on the grass derby in the \$25,000 USHJA International Hunter Derby, presented by Bainbridge Companies.

Among a very competitive field of international derby contenders, Boyd had two rides in the hunt-and-go format, taking on a course designed by Ken Smith. Still building up the partnership with Ondine d'Orleans, owned by Finally Farm and Neill Sites, Boyd ultimately closed the day on a one-two finish.

"This is her first time on this grass field," Boyd, who resides in Camden, SC, said of Ondine. "I wasn't too worried. She flatted great this morning. The footing is amazing for this late in the circuit."

Taking to the ring earlier in the order with MTM Crossed

LIZA TOWELL BOYD & **ONDINE D'ORLEANS** Continue Win Streak

My Mind, owned by Addy Grace Anderson, Boyd grabbed the high scores to that point of 88.5 and 97 for the classic and handy portions, respectively. Returning with Ondine, she didn't take every risk there was, but it turned out to be their lucky day.

"I did opt to do one small option with her," Boyd said of her chosen track. "The swoop jump was a tricky obstacle; it's tall and the ride to it was a little funny. I thought, 'I am winning on the other horse, so if I'm second or third with her I'm okay with that.' She's had a great season, and even jumping the small option she jumped so well that we gained points elsewhere."

The scores to follow were a pair of 95s, for a two-round total of 190. In second at the close of the class was MTM Crossed My Mind with a score of 185.5. Emily Williams and Autumn Janesky's Damas de Tennerre, who won the first International Derby of the WEF season in January, finished third.

"We're still working," said Boyd. "Andrew Lustig helps me with the flat on her. Even if we win, we still have things we can do better. I think that's the beauty of this sport; we're always learning. After the night class, we did a lot of working hunter trot transitions, counter canter, haunches in, haunches fore. We're always striving to work on her flatwork."

PHOTOS @ SPORTFOT

Now 11 years old, Ondine is starting to become the superstar Boyd knew she'd be. Still ahead of them is the \$50,000 USHJA International Hunter Derby on the grass during WEF 11.

"We've been lucky down here at Wellington as hunter riders this season," concluded Boyd. "They've highlighted hunters and given us a lot of opportunities. I'm really grateful to the horse show for that."

CHAMPIONS GALLERY



Gladiator jumped to a champion ribbon in the Low Child/Adult Amateur Jumper division with Kelly Kennedy in the irons.



Ines Marteau impressed for a champion ribbon in the Walk/Trot division with Love Me Too.



Winsom's Prada and Lennon Bourke celebrate a WEF Crossrail championship.



Incredibly Happy carried Adeline Kezirian to a tri-color in the Younger Crossrail hunters.



Zara McGuigan and Hulst Summer raced to a championship finish in the Pony Jumper division.

Lisa Sorg accepts the Double H Farm Grooms Award after Portobella van de Fruitkorf won the Bainbridge Companies CSI5* Grand Prix with Emilie Conter.



PHOTO © SPORTFOT

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