**The $100,000 Neil S. Hirsch Family Boys and Girls Club Exhibition Stake Class**

This class will be conducted under USEF General Rules and drug testing procedures. Points from this class are not to be counted towards USEF or USHJA HOTY Awards.

Open to up to 15 teams. The top 12 teams will qualify as per specifications below, and three additional teams will be awarded to Wild Card Buy In For Charity\*. Team nominations will be accepted in the horse show office from January 9, 2024 until February 4, 2024. Team Entry Fee for the class will be $2,400/Team. The top 12 nominations will be accepted based on the cumulative point totals of all three horses on a team earned showing in any rated division with jumps set at 3’3” or higher during the ESP Holiday Series and/or the Winter Equestrian Festival up to and including WEF IV. Point totals to be based on the WEF point chart used for WEF Circuit Awards. In the case of a tie for the twelfth position, the top professional point value will break the tie. If necessary to reach the maximum number of 15 teams entered, at Management’s sole discretion, additional entries may be accepted after the close of entries. No nomination fees will be charged for teams that are not ultimately accepted.

Wild Card Buy In For Charity\*- Three additional teams will be awarded entry into the class based on the three top bids. Wild Card Teams are exempt from qualification factors. A silent auction bidding sheet will be placed in the show office. Bidding will close on February 6th @ 4pm. 100% of the top three team bids will go directly to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, a 501(c)3 Charity, and will benefit the Neil S. Hirsch Family Boys & Girls Club in Wellington.

Each team will consist of one professional, one amateur and one junior rider. Teams will be created by the individual team members and entered as teams. To be eligible to compete, all horses and riders on any team must have competed in at least one rated hunter division with jumps 3’3” or higher at any competition held during the ESP Holiday Series, or the Winter Equestrian Festival up to and including WEF IV. Riders will be limited to competing on one team only. Each rider on a team must have a designated trainer and designated groom.

This class will be held over one round. Each of the three riders on a team will compete once. Amateur’s and juniors on each team may compete for their team in the order in which they choose. The professional rider on each team must be the last to compete for their team.

* Judging
  + To be judged on performance and soundness with an emphasis on brilliance.
  + To be judged by three judging panels consisting of two judges each. A minimum of one R judge is required per panel.
  + All judges must be in good standing with the Federation and the USHJA
  + Open numerical scoring system will be utilized.
  + Each of the three judging panels will give every rider a numerical score. The scores from all three judging panels will be averaged together to come up with a final score for each rider.
  + Once all three riders from each team have received their final score the low score from each team will be dropped. The remaining two scores from each team will be added together to come up with a final total score for each team.
  + All scores to be announced.
  + Any ties will be decided by the highest drop score. Any further ties will be decided by the highest score from Panel #1.
* Course
  + The course will consist of a minimum of ten (10) obstacles set at 3’3” with up to 3’ spreads.
  + At least one in and out must be included.
  + Course to simulate riding over hunt country or an old-fashioned hunter stake class with few related distances and suitable opportunities to demonstrate pace, brilliance and classic jumping style.
  + Course to start as a “classic hunter style course”, transition to a “handy style” section mid-course, and then transition back to a “classic hunter style course” to finish.
  + Jumps must simulate those reminiscent of the hunt field and the course must offer a variety of jumps with different appearances such as, but not limited to natural post and rail, split rail, stone wall, white board fence, riviera gate, coop, aiken, hedge, brush, logs, natural foliage, a jump with no standards.
  + A minimum of 2” difference is required for the back element of an obstacle.
  + No ground lines are permissible for appropriate jumps.
  + The jumpable portion of any jump must be a minimum of eight feet on its front face.
  + Flat cups may only be used for obstacles involving logs and/or in accordance with Federation rules.
* Awards and Prize Money
  + $100,000 Prize Money
  + Prize Money presented to the teams
  + Prize Money Breakdown by: 1st-12th-30%, 22%, 13%, 8%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 3%, 2%, 2%, 2%
  + Silver Trophy presented to the winning team
  + Keeper Trophy presented to each member of the winning team
  + Cooler presented to each member of the winning team
  + Bridle ribbons, Neck Sashes, and Silver Plates for places 1-12
  + All riders from each team in the top twelve (or their designated representative if they are not available) must ride for ribbons in order to receive prize money.
  + Additional Awards
    - First Place Team
      * The Trainer of each Rider on the First Place Team will be awarded $5,000.
      * The Groom of each Rider on the First Place Team will be awarded $1,000.
    - Second Place Team
      * The Trainer of each Rider on the Second Place Team will be awarded $2,500.
      * The Groom of each Rider on the Second Place Team will be awarded $500.
    - Third Place Team
      * The Trainer of each Rider on the Third Place Team will be awarded $1,000.
      * The Groom of each Rider on the Third Place Team will be awarded $250.
    - Style Awards
      * First Place $5,000
      * Second Place $2500
      * Third Place $1,000