



One-Two Canada Finish in \$25,000 MJS Dealerships WEF Challenge Cup

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Wellington, FL - February 23, 2006 - The strong and talented Canadian contingent continued to pour it on Thursday at the 2006 Winter Equestrian Festival, notching another one-two finish in the WEF Challenge Cup Series. A crowd of 5,875 show jumping fans, toasting in the hot South Florida sun, watched a huge starting field in the first round and then saw Eric Lamaze beat fifteen riders in the jump-off to post Team Canada's third win in five weeks in Challenge Cup series action.

Eighty-two starters gathered for the 1 p.m. lift off for the \$25,000 MJS Dealerships WEF Challenge Cup Round V of the series. Scoring was FEI Art. 238.2.2. Time First Jump-off. Leopoldo Palacios-Jugo of Venezuela is the Internationale Arena Course Designer.

Of the eighty-two that started, eighteen horse and rider combinations produced clear rounds over the course that consisted of seventeen jumping efforts, including a double and triple combination and a water jump. Four riders were clear, but picked up a single time fault. Another eighteen riders had a single knockdown, while seventeen collected two rails down. Twelve had twelve or more and nine were either eliminated or retired.

The first two riders to return for the encounter against the clock, Anne Kursinski and Chris Kappler, each had a knockdown.

The youngest rider in the class, sixteen year old Aimee Aron, then produced the first clear ride of the tiebreaker, riding out of the third spot in the order. On Ostara, owned by the Kinloch Enterprises, Aron was clear and broke the beams in 39.23 seconds.

Then it was a round of twelve for Katie Prudent, and immediately following that, a four fault go for both Schuyler Riley and Nicole Simpson. Leslie Howard and Rodrigo Pessoa followed with eight faults each before the lead in the class finally changed hands.

Riding eighth in the speed phase, Frankie Chelser Ortiz grabbed the lead from Aron with the second clear go in the jump-off. Aboard the Sher Al Farm's Picolien Zeldenrust, Chesler Ortiz trimmed a healthy 1.91 seconds off of the top time, clocking in at 37.32 seconds.