

Severson Sails to Setters' Run Farm CIC3* Lead at Carolina International

Faudree is on fire in CIC2 and CIC**

Raeford, N.C. - March 23, 2018 - It was Kim Severson in the small, but mighty morning dressage section who took over the lead of the Setters' Run Farm CIC3* division at the 2018 Cloud 11~Gavilan North LLC Carolina International.



Kim Severson and Cooley Cross Border. Photo by Brant Gamma Photography.

She and the Cross Syndicate's Cooley Cross Border sailed to a score of 20.8, a new record here at Carolina International. Her day only improved when she and the 11-year-old Irish Sport Horse cruised carefully to a double clear show jumping round Friday afternoon in the Twin Gates Farm Derby Field.

"I actually have been struggling more in the dressage with Cross, but today he came out really well. He was really nice in the bridle and really settled," Severson commented. "He did jump very well too. He likes to show jump, and it was a lovely course. I thought the horses jumped well out there. Cross sure did!"

The Blenheim Palace International CCI3* winners carry a healthy seven-point lead into Saturday's cross country, giving them a bit of breathing room across a track where time penalties are expected to shuffle the leaderboard.



Liz Halliday-Sharp and Fernhill By Night. Photo by Brant Gamma Photography.

Overnight leader Liz Halliday-Sharp sits in second with Deborah Halliday's Fernhill By Night. The 15-year-old Irish Sport Horse picked up just one time penalty for a two-day score of 28.

"He jumped really really well. I'm sure the time fault was my fault. I tend to look after him and do a little too much organizing, but he jumped really well," she said. "I thought the course was great. [Marc Donovan] always build a really good course and makes the time tight which forces people to ride out of their comfort zone."

Halliday-Sharp also rode Deniro Z, a 10-year-old Dutch Warmblood, into the top 5 with a clear round. The Deniro Syndicate and Ocala Horse Properties' 10-year-old Dutch Warmblood is in fourth with a score of 28.90.

Lynn Symansky leapt from sixth to third after a faultless trip around Marc Donovan's show jumping course with Mary Ann Ghadban's Under Suspicion. A new ride for Symansky, the 14-year-old Holsteiner remains on her dressage score of 28.5.

"This is the first proper track that I have jumped with her. I am still trying to get to know her a bit, but I thought she jumped really well, and I am getting to know her a little more every time I go out with her," she said.

Only 23.2% of the field achieved double clear rounds, and those who could achieve the time of 79 seconds were kindly rewarded. Equiratings reports that Donovan's track at this venue usually produces a 33% clear rate, so this year's course proved more challenging than in past years.

Jennifer Mosing & Sterling Silver Stables' Caeleste was foot perfect in Friday's show jumping, putting her and rider Will Faudree in the lead of the Attwood Equestrian Services CIC2*. After a two-year competition hiatus, the 11-year-old Holsteiner carries 27.4 points into Saturday's cross country phase.

"She's such a fierce competitor. We joke around in the barn and call her Katniss Everdeen because she is a girl on fire," Faudree remarked. "Two years ago she had a bizarre injury that we thought she'd never come back from. She's matured, and I think she's happy to be back. She was jumping everything great today. I don't think she touched anything. She's just so fierce and so happy to be back, and I am ecstatic to have her back."

Courtney Cooper's four-star partner Who's A Star carried her into second place in day two of competition. The 15-year-old Irish Sport Horse/New Zealand Thoroughbred, who is owned by Cooper and Neal Camens, handily produced a clear round, and remains on a score of 30. Hallie Coon and Shannon Baker's Landsdownne moved into third place. This pair sit on 31.3 penalty points.

While the three- and two-star competitors jumped in the Twin Gates Farm Derby Field, the Breezeway Sporthorse and Diagnostic Clinic/Friendship Mobile Veterinary Imaging and Sports Medicine CIC* riders galloped across Ian Stark's formidable cross country.

In this class, Faudree once again found himself at the top of the leaderboard, this time with Sarah Pyne's Quintessential. They jumped fast and clear to remain on their dressage score of 25.6 going into the final day of competition.

Elinor MacPhail O'Neal and Boyd Martin split second place on 25.7 penalty points with Zick Zack and Contestor, respectively. Overnight leaders Leslie Law and QC First Class picked up two time penalties to drop to fourth place with a score of 25.9.

The CIC2* competitors head out on cross country at 9:50 a.m. Saturday, and the CIC3* is set to begin at 1:10 p.m. The top ten of each division will run in reverse order of standing at the end of the class, guaranteeing a thrilling finale. The CIC* will show jump tomorrow in reverse order of standing at 10:00 a.m.

Carolina International is also hosting Training through Advanced level horse trial divisions, which got underway Friday with dressage, and continue the competition Saturday over fences.

[Click here](#) for live scoring.

EQSportsNet is providing live streaming of all of the Settlers' Run CIC3* competition as well as the Attwood Equestrian Services CIC2* show jumping and cross country phases with insights from Nicole Brown and Equiratings. Use the promo code EQUSEA2018 for a 50% discount on subscriptions. To watch the live stream, visit www.eqsports.net.

General admission is free! Join us Saturday and Sunday for a weekend of family fun. Spectators can get up close with world-class riders, enjoy the Kid's Zone, and shop 'till you drop in our sprawling vendor village.

Brant Gamma Photography is the official photographer for this weekend's competition. Brant and her team will be on site all weekend to cover all the action. Riders can visit their tent located beside the Sagmae Competitor's Lounge to purchase photos.

For more information about the event, visit www.carolinainternationalcic.com.

About Carolina International

The Carolina International Organizing Committee was formed to build a world class eventing competition in the Sandhills of North Carolina. Leveraging local and national expertise and leadership, we will deliver an outstanding weekend of horse sport and entertainment for riders, owners, grooms, spectators, patrons and sponsors alike.

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