



Demonstration Rider Information

Demonstration Riders Needed for Fall Symposium with Charlotte Dujardin

October 13 & 14, 2018

By Beth Beukema, Fall Symposium Organizer

Is it your dream to ride in front of Charlotte Dujardin and be part of a once-in-a-lifetime educational event? Well now is your chance to apply.

Charlotte Dujardin will be the featured clinician at the NEDA Fall symposium on October 13 & 14, 2018. The event will be held at the picturesque Equestrian Center at Mount Holyoke College, in South Hadley, MA. Charlotte Dujardin has the impressive record of five Olympic medals, on the infamous *Valegro*. Charlotte gained super star status as a member of the British Dressage Team at the 2012 London Olympic Games where the team won the nation's first-ever Gold medal in Dressage and Charlotte lead the team with the individual gold medal. In the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, Dujardin won a Team Silver medal and the individual gold medal with *Valegro*. They became the first-ever duo to hold Olympic, World, European and World Cup championship titles simultaneously, in addition to holding the world records in all three Grand Prix tests.

The focus of the Fall Symposium with Charlotte Dujardin will be the progression of training through the levels from young horse to the Grand Prix. Across the two-day event, auditors will view 10-12 horses work under the direction of Charlotte. Demonstration riders and their horses will be highlighted in six, 45-60 minute sessions. Some sessions will have two horses in the ring simultaneously, allowing Ms. Dujardin to compare different horses with respect to gaits and training methods.

As this is a symposium, demonstration riders will be asked to perform in front of a large audience of 900 auditors, so calm and cool nerves are required. The focus of a symposium is the education of the audience rather than completion of any certain criteria on a rider's agenda. Riders should be comfortable riding in front of a crowd and open to the clinician's techniques with a willing attitude and a sense of humor. An integral part of the symposium, the demonstration riders and horses are key to the success of the event. We are in search of horses at various levels of training from young sports horses through the Grand Prix level. Ms. Dujardin will be involved in the final selection process.

In search of the following horses:

We need four, young 4, 5 or 6-year-old horses capable of showing the qualities to look for in dressage prospects and that have been started in their training along the lines of the young horse classes. The young horses need not have competed in the FEI Young Horse classes but should have equivalent competency level and have some competitive experience. These horses will be shown **one day each** to allow the audience to see a variety of horses over the two-day symposium.

The additional horses (third level through Grand Prix) required must all have competitive experience at the level they are applying for and show harmony of horse and rider in their training approach. A video of a **complete test** must be up-loaded to You Tube and a link provided to cumulative competition scores. The mature horses will be grouped as we highlight schooling from third level horses through Grand Prix.

Horse and rider combinations will receive: 2 auditor passes (one for rider and second for groom/guest): 1 or 2 demonstration rides under Charlotte Dujardin with no fee; 2 lunch passes each day; 2 tickets to the Wine and Cheese reception Friday late afternoon; and an experience of a lifetime.

Here are the details on applying:

1. Applications will be accepted online ONLY between June 13th and midnight, July 7th.
www.neda.org
2. Incomplete and late applications will NOT be accepted.
3. Rider must be a NEDA member at the time of application.
4. Only rider and groom receive passes to symposium. Rider applicants are encouraged to purchase tickets to the symposium and if they are selected NEDA will refund the purchase price. This is sure to be a sold-out event and we do not want you to miss out on attending.
5. Owners need not be a NEDA member but if their horse is selected; tickets may be sold out. Potential owners are advised to purchase tickets on May 30 when auditor ticketing opens.
6. Rider must submit video link of a **test ride** at the level they are applying for. Test may be at a competition or at home. Videos longer than 8 minutes will be discarded. Young horse applicants (4,5 & 6 year-olds) may submit test of choice. Other horses must be from **third level through Grand Prix**. Video must be submitted on line to YouTube or similar site.
7. Video link must open; check it before sending
8. Submit link to cumulative competition scores for horse applying from USDF.org or Centerline Scores with horse registration number. Check that the link works.
9. Submit equestrian biographical information on rider (250-400 words)
10. Submit horse breeding: sire, dam, dam's sire
11. Horse information and history (250 words)
12. Stabling costs will be borne by the rider and paid to Mount Holyoke College (\$100 for the duration). Horses are encouraged to arrive Thursday to acclimate to the venue.
13. Attach a photo suitable for the program of horse and rider with photo credit, preferably a competition photo.
14. Potential riders are encouraged to book hotels now as it is a busy weekend in the five-college area. A very limited number are blocked for NEDA and Mt Holyoke but these will run out early. Potential hotels :

The Homewood Suites, Holyoke , MA

We have a block of 28 rooms at a special rate, Queen suites at 189.00 a night, and king suites at 179.00 a night : attached booking link

http://homewoodsuites.hilton.com/en/hw/groups/personalized/H/HOLHWHW-MHC-20181012/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

The Residence Inn , in Chicopee MA

We have availability of the King Suites at 149.00 a night : attached booking link

[Book your group rate for NEDA](#)

The Tru Hotel , Chicopee MA

Available are standard queen bed rooms at 129.00 a night : attached booking link

<http://group.trubyhilton.com/neda>

The selection criteria will include competition record, gaits, and harmony of horse and rider. Please make sure your video is high quality with horse easily visible and shot with a steady camera. We do not recommend cell phone hand held videos. Poor quality video could adversely affect your selection. The final selection of horses and riders will be by Charlotte Dujardin. Preliminary selection will be by a panel of two - "S" judges and one "R" judge. The selection process is set to be completed by early September with riders announced mid-September.

For further information contact Beth Beukema, Fall Symposium Organizer. fallsym@neda.org

Good luck with your application and remember, this will be a highly sought-after spot.