



For Immediate Release

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**CORRECTION: Inaugural Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill Kicks Off
with First Horse Inspection**
Over 100 Horses Presented and Passed During Wednesday's Jog

Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland – Oct. 13, 2021 – Athletes participating in the inaugural Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill woke up to foggy weather on Wednesday, but the clouds did not detract from the stylish outfits and world-class horses presented in the event's first horse inspection.



Oliver Townend (GBR), World No. 1 on the FEI Eventing World Athlete Rankings, with his accomplished gelding, Cooley Master Class © Shannon Brinkman

Over 100 horses (52 in the CCI5*-L, 76 in the CCI3*-L) were presented to their respective Ground Juries along a new jog strip recently put in by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). All horses but one – Sharon White's (USA) 5 Star entry, Cooley On Show – passed the inspection.



Zara Tindall (GBR) and Class Affair © Shannon Brinkman

The Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill, one of only two 5 Star level events in the United States and just the seventh worldwide, runs October 14-17 at the newly constructed Fair Hill Special Event Zone in Elkton, Maryland (Cecil County). The event's prestigious 5 Star (CCI5*-L) designation is the pinnacle of the Olympic sport of Eventing, often described as an equestrian triathlon.

In addition to the 5 Star competition (CCI5*-L), the event also features a 3 Star competition (CCI3*-L), which is serving as the USEF CCI3*-L Eventing National Championship, and The Dutta Corp. USEA Young Event Horse East Coast Championships Presented by Dubarry of Ireland. The four days of Eventing competition features Dressage (Thu-Fri), Cross-Country (Sat) showcasing the new Ian Stark designed courses, and Show Jumping (Sun).

Hound & Hare sponsored the horse inspections' Best Dressed Awards, which were presented to three riders for their magnificent looks. Astier Nicolas (FRA) was named the Best Dressed Male of the 5 Star entries, with Lauren Nicholson (USA) the Best Dressed Female. Meghan Pellegrini (USA) took home the award for the 3 Star athletes.



Hound & Hare owners Eric and Amy Nicholas presented the Best Dressed Award Sponsored by Hound & Hare to CCI3 winner, Meghan Pellegrini. © Shannon Brinkman*

Photos from the event are available [via Dropbox](#). Credit to Shannon Brinkman.

The entire CCI5* is available via livestream **presented by MARS Equestrian**. It can be accessed through **USEF Network** in North America and through **Horse & Country** outside North America. USEF Network is also providing exclusive coverage of the CCI3*. A link to the livestream is available on the [event's website](#) via the USEF Network player. Additionally, press conferences are being livestreamed through the [event's Facebook page](#).

About the Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill:

One of only two 5 Star events in the United States, and just the seventh worldwide, the Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill continues the storied legacy of Eventing at the new Fair Hill Special Event Zone in Elkton, Maryland, located in Cecil County. The prestigious 5 Star (CCI5*-L) designation is the pinnacle of the Olympic sport of Eventing, best described as an equestrian triathlon. The Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill is produced by The Fair Hill Organizing Committee, an affiliate of the Sport and Entertainment Corporation of Maryland, and in partnership with Fair Hill International. The Maryland Food Bank serves as an event beneficiary.

Discover Cecil County, Maryland!:

Located between Philadelphia and Baltimore on I-95, Cecil County, Maryland boasts vibrant small towns, 200 miles of waterfront, foodie destinations, and scenic countryside providing the perfect backdrop for the Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill. Experience fabulous local food with a Chesapeake Bay flair, local beer and wine, outdoor recreation, family-friendly attractions, and specialty shops, plus discover 80 miles of trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding. Destination Cecil County... Just a Daydream Away!