

**\$87,550
AMERICAN GOLD
CUP QUALIFIER
North Salem, N.Y.—Sept. 11**

HORSE/RIDER	FAULTS	TIME	PURSE
1. Viva Colombia/ Conor Swail	0-0	44.59	\$28,050
2. Casall/Ali Wolff	0-0	45.17	17,000
3. Robin de Ponthual/ Peter Lutz	0-0	45.18	12,750
4. California 62/ Kirsten Coe	0-0	46.28	8,500
5. Amaretto D'Arco/ Katherine Dinan	0-0	48.50	5,100
6. SF Ariantha/ Andres Rodriguez	0-4	42.08	3,825
7. Deauville S/ Laura Kraut	0-4	45.10	2,550
8. Vasco/ Adam Prudent	0-4	45.67	2,125
9. Entre Nous/ Lauren Tisbo	0-4	46.12	1,700
10. Arkos des Rosiers Z/ Roberto Teran	0-4	46.14	1,700
11. Cat Ballou/ Molly Ashe- Cawley	0-4	46.43	850
12. Binkie/ David Blake	0-4	48.48	850
13. Carrabis Z/ Richie Moloney	0-4	54.98	850
14. MTM Reve du Paradis/ Tracy Fenney	0-8	47.94	850

Also competed: 15. Conthendrix/A. Thieme, 4; 16. Free Style VH Polderhof/C. Tyree, 4; 17. S & L Elite/D. Douglas, 4; 18. Aldine/J. MacPherson, 4; 19. Andretti S/L. Kraut, 4; 20. Veyron/L. Kochetova, 4; 21. Ammeretto/D. Beisel, 4; 22. Antares/P. Barrios, 4; 23. Flaming Star/C. Jacobs, 4; 24. Enjoy Louis/C. Tyree, 4; 25. Calvin Klein/J. Millar, 4; 26. Chaqui Z/S. Sweetnam, 5; 27. Gentille van Spievelde/L. Howard, 8; 28. HH Quatuor/Q. Judge, 8; 29. HH Ciske van Overis/M. McAlary, 8; 30. Cade/A. McArdle, 8; 31. Zander/B. Mandli, 8; 32. Doma Sue/L. Porter, 8; 33. Conconcreto Sancha LS/D. Bluman, 8; 34. Grand Cru VD Uijf Eiken/V. Mannix, 8; 35. Easy Contact Humlan/S. Sweetnam, 8; 36. Chill R Z/C. Jayne, 8; 37. Darling/A. Vince, 8; 38. Cannavaro BH/A. Derbyshire, 9; 39. Quattro Queen/J. Torres, 9; 40. Warrant/K. Coe, 9; 41. Bugatti VDL/C. King, 10; 42. Royce/M. Engle, 12; Call Me Hannes/D. Beisel, 12; 44. Win For Life/C. McCrea, 12; 45. Verdi/A. Rodriguez, 12; 46. Bijou de Balou/K. Dinan, 13; 47. Call Me Number One/R. Moloney, 14; Special Lux/J. McCrea, 16; 49. Ramona de Flobeque/A. Thieme, 16; 50. Q-7/S. Riley, 17; 51. RMF Bella Baloubet/K. Prince, 19; 52. Raia D'Helby/A. Sternlicht, 23; 53. Air Force One/K. Godek, 24; 54. Bull Run's Testify/K. Vanderveen, 24; 55. Quidam Blue/J. Henselwood, 24; Qui Vive des Songes Z/H. Caristo-Williams, VW; Tamara 296/B. Walker, VW; Woklahoma/R. Teran, VW.

“Viva,” a 10-year-old Oldenburg mare (Couleur-Rubin—Lando Lady, Landor S).

“She’s not the fastest over a jump—she’s a bit slow in the air because she’s got a lot of scope—so it worked in my favor that I was able to land and run and cover as much ground as quickly as possible,” he said.

Swail, an Irishman based in Canada, took over the ride on Viva in March. U.S. rider Kirsten Coe had been campaigning her, but Coe’s partner and Viva’s owner, dealer Ilan Ferder, asked Swail to take the reins. “I think she’s a bit more of a man’s ride; you have to be strong at times. She’s a little heavy and downhill,” Swail said.

“I’m always working on trying to keep her a little more upright, but she always wants to be careful,” he said.

“She has a lot of scope and power. For example, I made a big mistake. I went to go for six [strides] to the last jump and changed my mind and did seven at the last minute. She was very good to me there and got it done. She also has a lot of quality like that, which is so important.”

Swail showed a student’s horse, Grand Cru VD Vijf Eiken, to third in the Longines Grand Prix of Dublin this summer, but he’s given the ride back to owner Vanessa Mannix, so Viva is his top horse at the moment. At the Dublin CSIO, she was fifth in two international speed classes.

After her win in the qualifier, Viva Colombia finished out of the money in the \$215,000 American Gold Cup CSI-W with 12 faults in Round 1. 🍀



Conor Swail’s new partnership with Viva Colombia brought them the win in the \$85,000 American Gold Cup Grand Prix Qualifier.