



restrictions can be found in the prize list.

Last year the challenge class was a big success and was won by Megan Edrick of Ocala, FL. Because of the class's popularity, the Emerging Pro division has been enhanced with \$1,500 in bonus prize money. This money will be awarded to the top Emerging Pro riders competing in the Future Hunter division.

Since its inception, the Capital Challenge Horse Show has been built on innovation. Each year management strives to build a better horse show and to provide exhibitors with what they need. They have created classes to give junior riders indoor ring time before finals or young horses valuable ring experience. Management has always strived to offer substantial prize money, and creating an exhibitor-friendly time schedule has always been a high priority.

This year's new additions to the schedule include the Amateur Owner 3'3" division, which will be held in the outdoor arena on Wednesday, September 30, and a \$5,000 Handy Hunter Challenge Class, which will be held in the Show Place Arena on Saturday, October 3. The Handy Hunter Challenge is open to the top four riders in each of the handy hunter classes at the Capital Challenge. The class will be judged and scored numerically by three teams of two judges. The qualified rider may show any horse over the obstacles that will simulate those found in trappy hunting country.

This year's Capital Challenge Horse

Photo: Kenneth Kous/
PhotoSports.com

Pablo Barrios and La Gran take first place in the \$40,000 Kentucky Classic Grand Prix at the Kentucky Summer Classic.

Show will run from September 26 through October 4 at the Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, MD. The horse show is conveniently located off of Route 4, just seven miles east of the Capital Beltway.

For more information about the Capital Challenge Horse Show, including photos, news, and results, visit the official web site at www.capitalchallenge.org.

Third Grand Prix Win

On August 1, Pablo Barrios of Caracas, Venezuela, captured his third grand prix victory in two weeks at the Kentucky Summer Classic. He and his mount La Gran were unstoppable, taking first place honors in the \$40,000 Kentucky Classic Grand Prix sponsored by Air 51 and Audi of Lexington. The week before Barrios and La Gran were victorious in the \$25,000 Hagyard Lexington Classic and the \$40,000 Kentucky Summer Grand Prix.

After his win, Barrios discussed



his strategy going into the jump-off. "I didn't see Kent [Farrington] go, but I know my horse can be faster than his because his horse takes more time in the air," he revealed. "I heard that the rider after him beat his time, but had the first jump down. So, I knew that the time was beatable. I had the luck to see Aaron [Vale] go. Probably, if Aaron went after me, he would have beaten my time. That's part of the game," he explained. "But I got a lucky spot in the jump-off again, like the other day. My horse feels amazing. He's a very good horse, and I'm very pleased to have him."

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