

## 2014 New England Equitation Championships

by Melody Taylor-Scott

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### 2014 NEW ENGLAND EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA

The third week in October is highlighted by one of the most prestigious Finals in our country....the New England Equitation Championships. A full schedule of medals classes for junior and adult riders alike, the coveted Katie Battison Horsemanship Award, the exciting Challenge of the States team competition, a celebration of Juniors in their last year and numerous special awards. Judges this year were Horsemanship; Dr. Kate Chope, Megan

MacCallum, and Katrina Weinig, Equitation; Jenny Fischer, Pat Boyle, Scott Fitton, Julie Winkel, Scott Hoffstetter, and Patrick Rhodes also the course designer.



NEHC 2014 Adult 46+ Medal Mindy Whitman

The Olders battled it out to the end with **Mindy Whitman** rising to the top from second in the first round to win the **NEHC 2014 Adult 46 and over Medal** sponsored by Herring Brook Farm and **Robin Harkins**, Placing in Reserve.

The competition in the **Adult 23-45 NEHC Medal** was tight right to the final round with **Mariele Saccucci** called back second but in the final round Mariele's strong score of 89 put her on top with **Sophie Allen** as Reserve.



Adult 23-45 NEHC Medal Mariele Saccucci

Abby Bertelson marched to the top of the first round of Younger Adults with an 89 and Alexandra Carlton in



2014 NEHC Adult 18-22 Medal Abby Bertelson

second, however Alexandra's score of 91.33 reversed them. Judges tested both, requiring a change of horses and re-ride the second round. When the counting was done, your **2014 NEHC Adult 18-22 Medal Champion is Abby Bertelson** and Reserve Champion **Alexandra Carlton**.



Abby Bertelson rides the Test

The teams for the State Challenge Invitational are determined, by the Junior's scores in their Open Eq classes and their home state. Each team is allowed 4 riders to show over one round with the low score dropped and the average 3 scores totaled to determine the winning team. Vermont Team#1 won the Gold. Thanks to an anonymous donor this year, team riders competed for money to donate to a charity of their choice of; Gold – "52 Kids" \$750, Silver- "K-9's for Cops" \$ 500, and Bronze - "Danny and Ron's Rescue" \$250 !



Sunday dawned bright and chilly with 206 ready to ride for the NEHC Junior Medal sponsored by Woodridge Farm. Concurrent with the Medal's first round, a new class was offered this year for **Juniors Never Having Competed in a 3'6" Medal Final** and based on their first round score only. Competition was close with only .30 of a point separating winner **Ivy Watson** and second place **Abigail Brayman**.

**McKayla Langmeier**, receiving the rider high score, rode to the top spot in both **2014 NEHC JUNIOR Medal**



rounds with **Ali Tritschler** in close second all the way. After the test the final decision brought **McKayla Langmeier**

to the winners circle making McKayla at just 13 years old, with Mom Linda the first Mother/Daughter combination to have both won the NEHC Junior Medal! She trains with her Mom and the crew at Kelianda Farm along with, and



2014 NEHC JUNIOR Medal McKayla Langmeier

Kudos to, trainer Missy Clark and North Run, whose students won 6 of the top 10 ribbons in the Jr Medal.

For more information visit NEHC on the web, [www.NewEnglandEquitation.com](http://www.NewEnglandEquitation.com) and on FaceBook.