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Celebrating **53** Years

## Amy Millar Banks a Win in \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix at Wesley Clover Parks

Ottawa, Ontario – Canadian Olympian Amy Millar of Perth, ON, topped a five-horse jump-off to win the \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix on Saturday, July 8, 2023, at Wesley Clover Parks in Ottawa, ON.

The \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix highlighted the first of two consecutive weeks comprising the Ottawa Summer Tournaments



Canadian Olympian Amy Millar won the \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix riding GCS Athena on Saturday, July 8, 2023, at Wesley Clover Parks in Ottawa, ON. Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography

jump-off round in a time of 38.67 seconds to move into the lead riding GSC Athena, owned by Brookstreet Stables Corporation.

Riding with a poise that belied her age, 13-year-old Mathilde Candele of Orangeville, ON, produced the fastest jump-off time of 36.66 seconds but at the expense of one rail for four faults. While she would settle for third place on this occasion riding Disco de Pleville, her 10-year-old Selle Francais gelding (Contendro x Dollar de la Pierre), there is little doubt that the talented daughter of Canadian Olympian Yann Candele and his wife, Jennifer, will lead many victory gallops in the future.

With two left to go, Vanessa Robert of St. Bruno, QC, was out of the running after trouble at the double combination forced her to circle with Miss Peggy-Sue PS, a nine-year-old mare sired by Messenger and owned by Ecuries La Montee.

As the final challenge by producing a clear



2023 AQHA Youth Team Cup  
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in the Nation's Capital. FEI course designer Steffen Buhling of Germany set a welcoming track for the 25 entries competing on the grass grand prix field. Five would produce a clear round and advance to the jump-off while one entry, Frank Hendriks of Carleton Place, ON, left all the rails in place riding

Chapeau but incurred one time fault for exceeding the 80-second time allowed. A frequent winner at the Ottawa Summer Tournaments, François Lamontagne of Saint-Eustache, QC, opened the jump-off riding his long-time partner Chanel du Calvaire, his 15-year-old Belgian Sport

Continued on Page 3.

## Provincial Foundations Officials Course – Here Comes the Judge!

Guelph, ON July 4, 2023. It's official! Five provincial equestrian associations have partnered with Equine Guelph to offer online training for those interested in becoming horse show judges in grass roots circuits. Entry level judges are a vital part of equestrian sport and beginning this spring the opportunity to train to become a recognized provincial official will be offered on TheHorsePortal.ca through the new Provincial Foundations Officials Course.

Provinces partnering with Equine Guelph to develop this new

online training program include: Alberta Equestrian Federation, Equestrian Nova Scotia, Island Horse Council, Manitoba Horse Council and Newfoundland & Labrador Equestrian Association. The course content is based on an innovative online training model provided by Equestrian Nova Scotia on TheHorsePortal.ca for the past two years.

"It is very exciting for us to have developed this innovative course, led by our Director of Technical Development Sheila Currie and her cast of volunteer experts", said Heather Myrer,

Executive Director, Equestrian Nova Scotia. "Taking it to the next level as a training course offered in several provinces across Canada is amazing and we can't wait to get started with our provincial colleagues and Equine Guelph on this important officials' development partnership."

This course will be self-paced and there is a full year granted to complete this 25 – 30 hour prerequisite training to work towards becoming a Foundations Judge. Candidates will be learning the responsibilities of

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Material for the August 2023 Issue must be in our office by July 28th, 2023. Copy arriving after that date will be used in the September 2023 Issue.  
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## Amy Millar

Continued from Page 1

lenger, it was all up to Mac Cone of King City, ON. Riding Con Couleur, a 12-year-old Mecklenburg gelding (Conthargos x Couleur Rubin) owned by Chadburn Holdings Inc. and Southern Ways Equestrian Ltd., the Canadian Olympian jumped clear, but the clock told the final tale, stopping more than a second slower than Millar's pace in 39.82 seconds.

While Cone would settle for second, victory belonged to Millar, who had also claimed Thursday's \$15,000 Open Welcome riding GCS Athena, a nine-year-old Irish Sport Horse mare sired by former world champion, Vigo d'Arrouilles.

"I was definitely a bit worried about François, but he went ahead of me and had a rail," said Millar, 46, of her jump-off strategy. "My daughter's 13-year-old friend, Mathilde, was a big concern. She's a fast girl! I had the plan, and I have a fast horse. I did just enough not to be insane and let them come to me a bit.

"She is a fiery little mare," continued Millar of the horse she has been partnered with for almost two years since scouting her in Ireland. "She's really kind, she's careful, and she's naturally fast. It's a real treat when you get in these jump-offs because it's so much

easier, you simply don't pull on the reins as opposed to making them go fast. It's a real pleasure to ride her. Athena has been jumping fantastic all week, so it's been a good week!"

As a high-performance athlete who travels the globe for competition, the Ottawa Summer Tournaments is one of Millar's favourite venues to compete at, not least of all because she can commute from her home and training base at Millar Brooke Farm in Perth, ON.

"I love this horse show," praised the Olympic and World Championship veteran. "It's so nice to come here. The venue is beautiful, and the footing is fantastic. I would like to thank the entire organizing committee at Wesley Clover for hosting us and treating everyone so well."

For more information on the Ottawa Equestrian Tournaments, visit [www.OttawaEquestrianTournaments.com](http://www.OttawaEquestrianTournaments.com). All competitor information is available at [www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/calendar-2023](http://www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/calendar-2023) and full results can be found at [www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/results-2023](http://www.ottawaequestriantournaments.com/results-2023). Get the latest updates, news, and photos by following Ottawa Equestrian Tournaments on Facebook here and Instagram and Twitter @TheWCParks. Share your Ottawa Equestrian Tournaments experience by tagging @TheWCParks and #RideTheParks!



Canadian Olympian Mac Cone took second place riding Con Couleur in the \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix. Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography

Thirteen-year-old Mathilde Candele of Orangeville, ON, placed third with Disco de Pleville in the \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix. Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography



Amy Millar and GCS Athena are presented as the winners of the \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix by (from left to right) Karen Sparks, Brecon Sparks, and Ann Matthews. Photo by Ben Radvanyi Photography

### \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix - / 58.91

Saturday, July 8, 2023

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Amy Millar / Perth, ON / GCS Athena / 0:0 / 38.67                           | 6. Frank Hendriks / Carleton Place, ON / Chapeau / 1             |
| 2. Mac Cone / King City, ON / Con Couleur / 0:0 / 39.82                        | 7. David Arcand / Boisbriand, QC / Phil v/d Wezelse Heihoeve / 4 |
| 3. Mathilde Candele / Orangeville, ON / Disco de Pleville / 0:4 / 36.66        | 8. Jay Hayes / Mono, ON / Hope VA / 4                            |
| 4. François Lamontagne / Saint-Eustache, QC / Chanel du Calvaire / 0:4 / 40.06 | 9. Sarah Johnstone / Collingwood, ON / Katorose HV / 4           |
| 5. Vanessa Robert / St. Bruno, QC / Miss Peggy-Sue PS / 0:18                   | 10. Jade Lalonde / Candiac, QC / Kapital Creation Z / 4          |

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