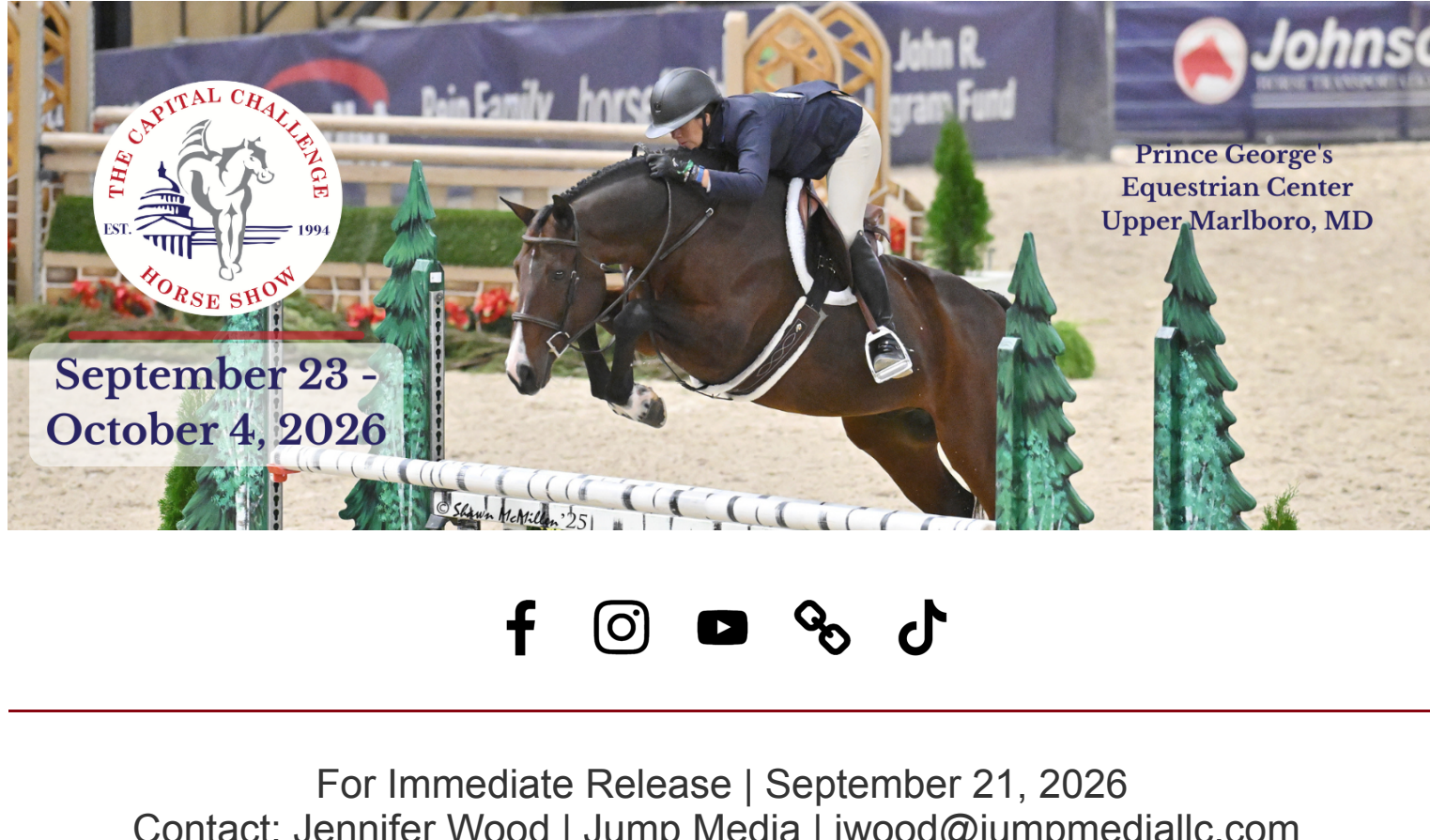




For Immediate Release | September 21, 2026
Contact: Jennifer Wood | JumpMedia | jwood@jumpmediallc.com

Upper Marlboro, MD – Are you ready? The 33rd Capital Challenge Horse Show (CCHS) starts this week with the Equitation Showcase, presented by BIGEQ.com, from Wednesday, September 23, through Sunday, September 27. The show continues with hunter, jumper, and equitation competition from Monday, September 28, to Sunday, October 4, 2026, at Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, MD.

In this newsletter, read about trainer Abby Blankenship, downloading the EventPass app for your horse health documents before you arrive, making your reservations now for the Taylor Harris Club ringside tables, and entering your North American-bred horse for a special award.



Trainer Feature: Abby Blankenship

Abby Blankenship has more than 25 years of experience in the hunter/jumper industry. After winning the 1994 USET Talent Search Final – East, she went on to work with top industry leaders including Mindy Darst and Polly Howard. In 2019, Blankenship opened her own business, Three Ships LLC, to pursue her passion of helping clients grow into successful riders at all levels. Additionally, Blankenship is a USEF "R" judge and was selected to judge an ASPCA MacLay Regional Championship in 2020.

Abby Blankenship of Three Ships trained Rachel Boggus to victory in the 2014 Ariat National Adult Medal Final. *Photo by Jump Media*

When did you first come to Capital Challenge Horse Show?

I have been coming to CCHS for about 30 years.

What is your fondest memory of being at the show?

It's hard to pick my fondest memory from Capital Challenge because I have a lot of good ones! We've been fortunate to have had a lot of success there, so I'd say winning there is a good memory because every class presentation is important.

What is special about Capital Challenge to you?

Capital Challenge provides a unique atmosphere for showing. Every class feels important, even if it's not one you had to qualify for to compete. It is the first event of the fall indoor tour, and they do a fantastic job of making it stand out and feel special.



Blankenship's student, Taylor Landstrom, won the 2024 NAL Medium Junior/Amateur Jumper Classic at CCHS. *Photo by Shawn McMillen Photography*

How is Capital Challenge beneficial to you as a trainer?

As a trainer, I think Capital Challenge is beneficial because it brings together so many different groups of competitors at the same show. It opens the door to competing against different people, observing training techniques that you may not have encountered before, and creating buying and selling opportunities that are harder to find at other indoor shows.

Why do you return every year?

Anyone who knows me would say it's for the French toast casserole breakfast on the second Saturday of the show every year! But really, I come back every year because I love competing there. The management, gate people, hospitality, awards people, course designers, and announcers are all at the top level and that makes for a great show (with the casserole as a bonus 😊).



EventPass

Powered By EquiTrace®

New for Capital Challenge Horse Show

Capital Challenge is now using EventPass for all horse health documents. Here is how you sign up:

- Create a Free Account**
Download the EventPass (EventPass by EquiTrace) app and sign up directly through the app by scanning the QR code and choosing EventPass Lite (free)
- Add Your Horses**
On the app select +Horse from the main home screen. Add your horses by their USEF number. *Please add horse barn/pet name to their profile if included on health paperwork*
- Upload Your Health Documents and Record Temps**
Select **Upload** from the main home screen on the app to upload your coggins, vaccines and health certificates. Record temps under **Temperatures**.
- Create Your EventPass**
Select the + button on the bottom of screen and then EventPass to create your EventPass for your show(s).
- Scan your pass on arrival**
Find your completed EventPass by selecting EventPass from the main home screen of the app.

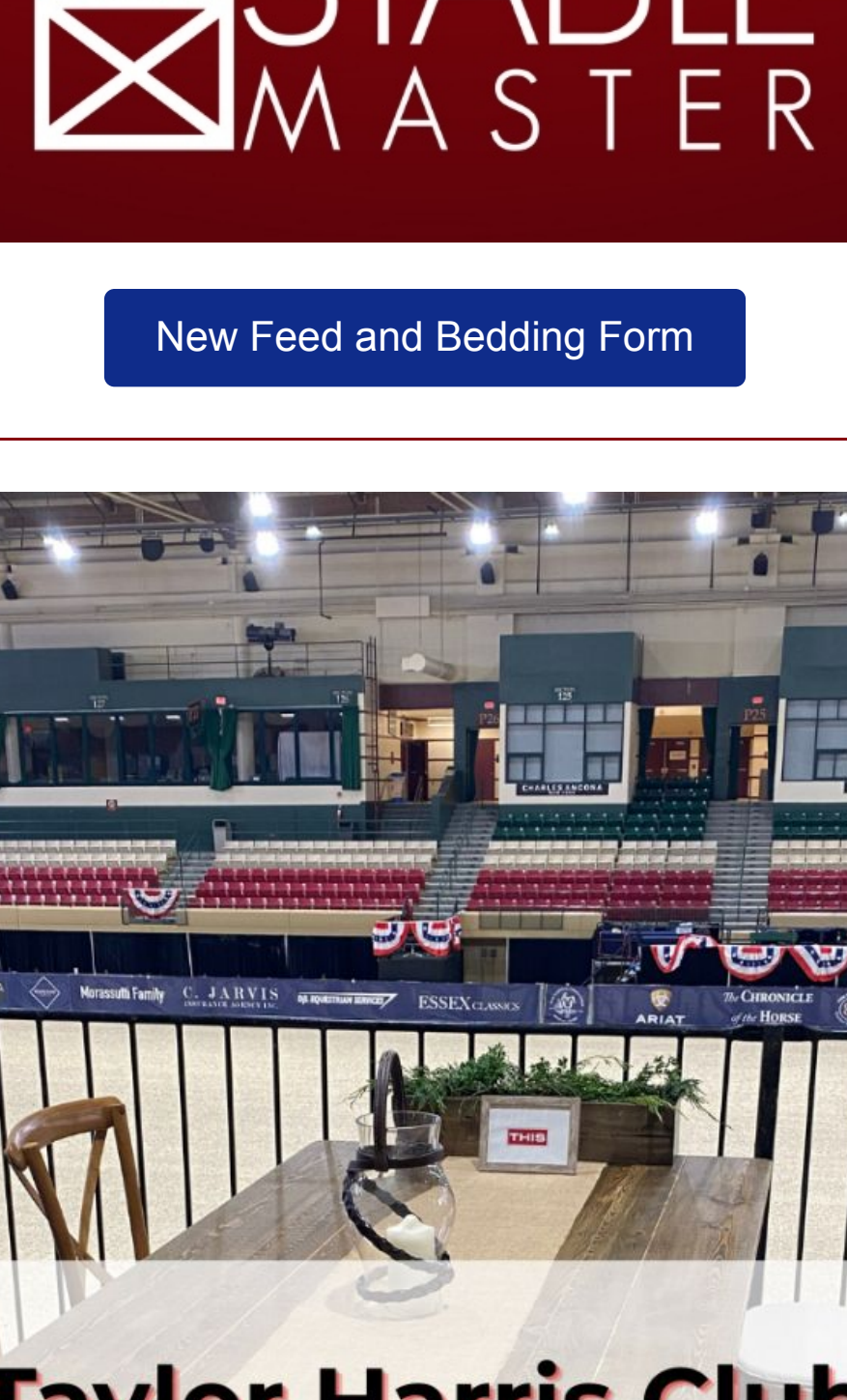
Requirements for this show:
Coggins: Required for all horses
Vaccines: Flu/Rhinovirus within 6 months
Health Cert: All horses CVI, EECV or CVI Statement of Health within 30 days
TX and NM horses: CVI within 3 days
Temps: AM/PM 7 days prior to arrival
*All documents must be valid through October 4th

Message us on the in-app message system monitored and available 24/7

Do you need support?
Customer Support line 7-days/week: Call only: +1(352)-759-1220 (Mon 9am-5pm EST, Tues-Wed 7am-5pm EST, Thur-Sun 9am-5pm EST)
Text support: 888-891-4020
support@equitrace.app

Visit for equitrace.app/eventpass more information

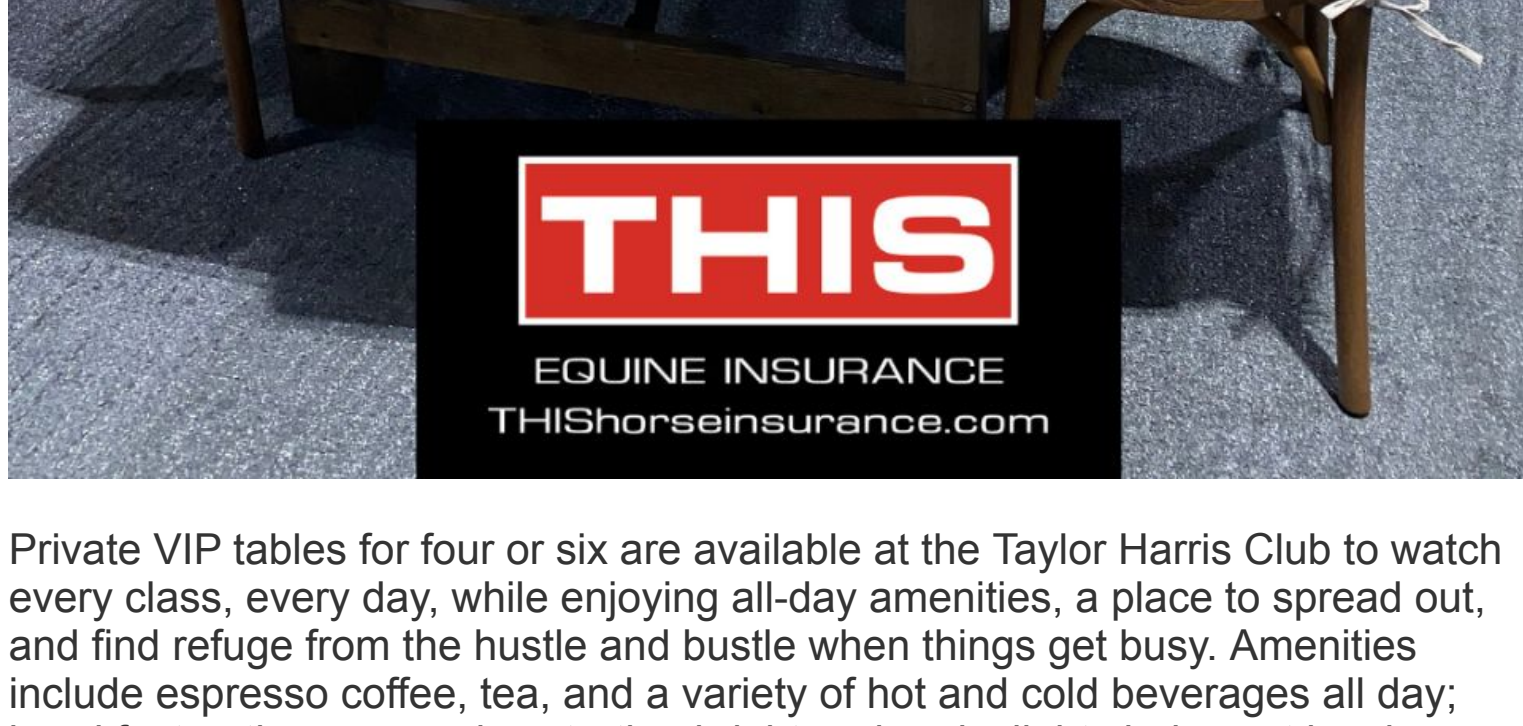
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CAPITAL CHALLENGE

STABLE MASTER

[New Feed and Bedding Form](#)



Taylor Harris Club Ringside VIP Tables

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Private VIP tables for four or six are available at the Taylor Harris Club to watch every class, every day, while enjoying all-day amenities, a place to spread out, and find refuge from the hustle and bustle when things get busy. Amenities include espresso coffee, tea, and a variety of hot and cold beverages all day; breakfast options every day starting bright and early; light choices at lunch, small bites in the evenings, and all-day snacks; evening beer and wine from 5 to 7 p.m.; plus, Wi-Fi internet access.

Tables are limited, and reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, so book your table today from the "Ringside Tables" tab at www.CapitalChallenge.org.

For further information or to reserve directly, call or text Lisa Rossi at 202-255-8805 or email LisaRossi@CapitalChallenge.org.

[Ringside Tables](#)



HIGH POINT NORTH AMERICAN-BRED HORSE AWARD

**DON'T FORGET
TO ENTER!**

[2026 CCHS Schedule](#)



RIDER REEL AVAILABLE

[Sign Up for Reels](#)

For more information on the 2026 Capital Challenge Horse Show, please visit www.CapitalChallenge.org. Additional information, photos, and coverage can be found on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#). For winning rounds and rider interviews, check out the Capital Challenge Horse Show [YouTube](#) channel.



US EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION HERITAGE COMPETITION

About the Capital Challenge Horse Show

The Capital Challenge Horse Show, an official USEF Heritage Competition, has a distinct and unique focus on preeminent hunter and equitation competition. The 2026 edition of the Capital Challenge Horse Show will take place from September 23-October 4. The 12 days of competition include prestigious equitation events, jumper divisions, the World Championship Hunter Rider (WCHR) Finals, the Green Hunter North American Championships, and more, with many of the country's best horses and riders competing in junior, amateur, and professional divisions.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

