



Issue 17  
FALL/WINTER 2022

**KWPN**  
NORTH AMERICA

## HARNESS HORSE NEWS

**Hello!** We are finally stepping into the fall about ready for the winter months. We are excited here to report on some of the top activity that we saw over the previous year — and even look ahead into 2023! We wish you a wonderful year-end and a prosperous start to the new year. Best of luck, stay safe and be blessed. With thanks,

KWPN-NA Harness Committee



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## THE STATE OF THE BREED



2022 saw the return of our KWPN-NA Keurings after a two-year hiatus. It was an exciting opportunity for breeders and trainers to showcase what they've been doing for the last two years and get some feedback on how we do when we are left to our own devices for a little while! It was great to see Viggon van Beest and Lammert Tel back in the US, and get their invaluable feedback on our breeding programs compared to the standards of the KWPN.

The overall impression from the judges was very positive. There were several foals they saw that were of the same quality as the national level foals in the Netherlands, with 14 out of 16 foals presented earning first premium. For Ster inspection, two mares in Indiana [Nicki (Hermanus x Crescendo HBC) and Mijona (Hermanus x Patijn)] and two mares in Pennsylvania [Miss Donder T (Hiro T x Dondersteen) and Onda (Waldemar x Talos)] passed the requirements and earned the Ster predicate. After performing both the regular and alternative IBOP tests, there are two new Keur mares in the registry as well, with one mare in Indiana (Mijona) and one mare in Pennsylvania (Miss Donder T) meeting the requirements. Two out of the three stallions presented for licensing



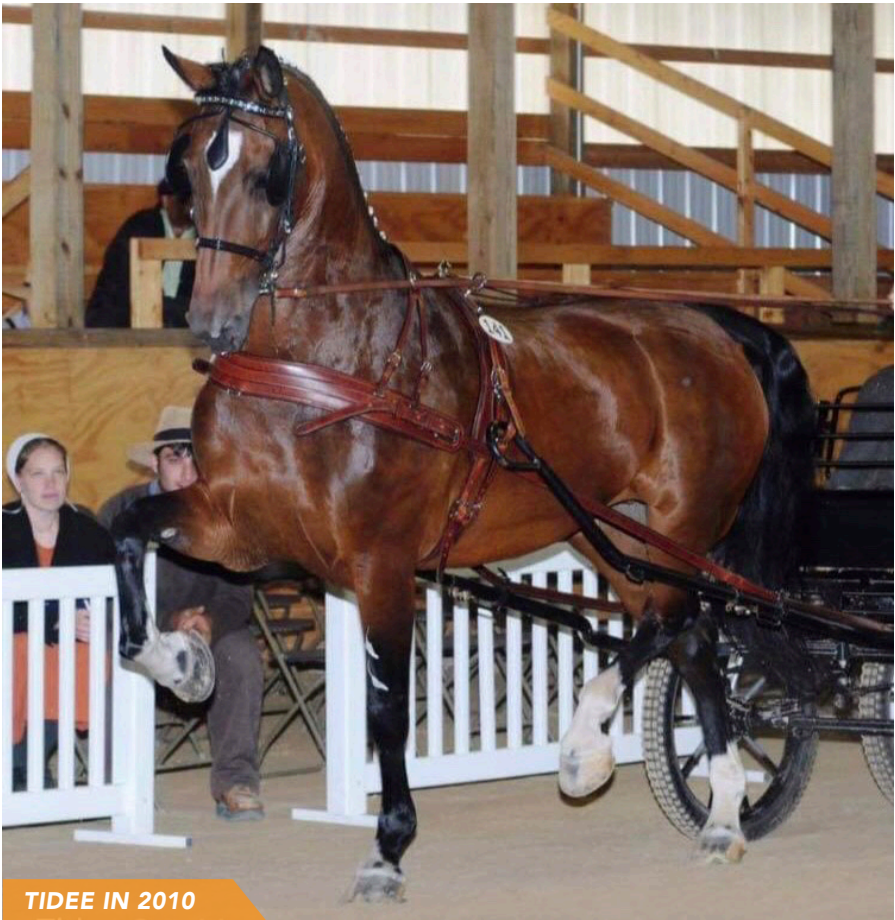
passed their IBOP requirements as well, and upon meeting the veterinary requirements, will be licensed for breeding with the KWPN-NA. These stallions are the Nel-Mar Hummer x Jonker son Melody Acres My-Quest, and Nova Zembla, and Idol son out of a Nando daughter.

Looking at the bloodlines, it is interesting to note that there are no real dominant pedigree trends among the top entries. Success was seen from proven sires such as Graaf Kelly, Globetrotter and Atleet, but also from new sires such as Melody Acres My-Quest. The quality of offspring from new, young stallions is especially exciting to see.

In the recent past, there was a strong influx of top-quality mares into the US from The Netherlands, but these mares are now reaching an age where they are either no longer able to breed, or they simply pass away. With these mares now so limited, and so many of their offspring the result of being bred to non-harness stallions for other purposes, pure KWPN Harness type mares are now at a premium. Having a larger pool of high quality KWPN Harness stallions to breed

them to, whether it's fresh semen from stallions standing in the US, or frozen semen from top quality stallions still in the Netherlands, will be an asset for the registry and the breed.

It does seem as if the harness horse has gained popularity in the US, but often they are aimed more toward road horses or for sport, whether it's combined driving, dressage, or jumping. Understanding that it is a business for a lot of people and breeding for what sells is important, we as breeders need to pay attention to the longevity of the breed we love so much and continue breeding with that in mind. The cross of a full Dutch harness mare to an outside stallion is working great in a lot of cases, but we won't be able to continue to produce those crosses if we don't have the full Dutch mares available. Given the kinship problem within the breed, the use of outcrosses certainly has its place, but we need to keep in mind the purpose for which we are breeding. If you want to crossbreed your mare to produce a road horse, or a dressage horse, that's great, however, those offspring are understandably going to



deviate from the KWPN harness breed standard. If we do not focus on preserving the quality of pure KWPN Harness type mares, the breed as we know it is going to cease to exist in North America. While I think we can all appreciate the versatility of the harness horses, it would truly be a shame to get away from breeding them for what they are so wonderful at- fine harness showing. There is nothing quite like seeing a KWPN harness horse shine in that show ring, doing what it was born to do. We may not have the highest numbers of horses and breeders compared to other disciplines, but what we do have is dedication by those who are passionate about the breed and preserving it wholly. More interest and involvement in breeding and promoting these amazing show horses would be wonderful, and the keurings were a great reminder of what it's all about.

An additional asset for the breed is the new Dutch Harness Show Association. Akin to the KWPN, it has never been the KWPN-NA's responsibility to put on shows for their fine harness horses, so the DHSA was created to offer fine harness enthusiasts an opportunity to showcase

their horses and show by the standards of the KWPN. The DHSA offers several shows throughout the season, with locations ranging from New England to Pennsylvania and out to the Midwest, for any KWPN or ADHHA registered horse that wishes to present. (More information on these shows and the organization can be found at [DHSAShows.com](http://DHSAShows.com))

It was truly wonderful, exciting and encouraging to have keurings back in the US this year. It is the best litmus test for where we stand collectively on our breeding programs, especially after a couple years without. The breeders should be proud of what they have bred, trained and presented, and feel encouraged and optimistic about the future! Start thinking about your spring breedings, because that season will be here before we know it and let's make the next foal crop the best one yet!



# LAND ROVER U.S. DRIVING TEAM GIVES SOLID EFFORT AT 2022 FEI DRIVING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP FOR SINGLE HORSES

by Kathleen Landwehr, US Equestrian Communications Department  
September 19, 2022



Taylor Bradish and Katydid Duchess were the top U.S. finishers in 15th place.  
(M. Guillamot)

Le Pin-au-Haras, France – The 2022 FEI Driving World Championship for Single Horses concluded on Sunday at Haras National du Pin in Le Pin-au-Haras, France. The U.S. contingent, led by Chef d’Equipe Dee Aldrich and Team Coach Suzy Stafford, had solid performances against a world-class field. The Land Rover U.S. Driving Team of Taylor Bradish and Katydid Duchess, Raymond Helmuth and Kendro, and Carrie Ostrowski and Gellerduht finished seventh out of 16 teams, with the combinations demonstrating poise in their world championship debuts. Bradish and Katydid Duchess were the top U.S. finishers in 15th place out of 74 competitors.

“I was extremely proud of the U.S. athletes this past week at the world championships,” said Chef d’Equipe Aldrich. “They handled the pressure extremely well for such a

major event with wonderful sportsmanship and team spirit.”

“Every driver handled the pressure of a World Championship with fortitude and grace. Every driver was supportive of each other and handled the atmosphere like seasoned pros,” said Team Coach Stafford. “This team is young in experience and came out of this show with unmeasurable knowledge and insight for future success. The drivers have a bright future and are excited to take the steps necessary to achieve higher results.”

Bradish (Windsor, S.C.) and Katydid Duchess started the competition with a score of 61.83 penalties in the dressage phase. The duo impressed in the marathon phase over the track designed by Johan Jacobs (NED),

finishing fourth in the large field of competitors with 90.93 penalties. Bradish and Jennifer Matheson’s 2009 Welsh pony cross mare closed out the event with one ball down for 3.00 penalties in the cones phase for a final score of 155.76 penalties for 15th place.

Ostrowski (Lexington, Ky.) and Gellerduht began the competition with a score of 61.83 penalties in the dressage phase. They added 99.10 penalties in the marathon phase and 7.15 time penalties in the cones phase. Ostrowski and her own 2011 KWPN gelding ended on a final score of 168.08 penalties for 35th place.

Raymond Helmuth (Cambridge, Iowa) and Kendro scored 61.10 penalties in the dressage phase to kick off the competition. They tallied 99.94 penalties in the marathon phase, followed by one ball down and 5.74 time penalties for 8.74 penalties in the cones phase. Raymond and Helmuth Equine’s 2015 Dutch Warmblood stallion finished on a final score of 169.78 penalties for 41st place.

The U.S. individuals had respectable performances as well at the world championship. Leslie Berndl (Lexington, Ky.) and earned the top U.S. dressage score of 61.03 penalties.

The duo incurred 111.82 penalties in the marathon phase, then added 4.00 time penalties to their score in the cones phase. Berndl and her own 2013 Dutch Warmblood gelding ended on a final score of 176.85 penalties in 45th place.

Vernon Helmuth (Lodi, Calif.) and Ebony VDK scored 66.23 penalties in the dressage phase to begin the competition. They tallied 103.49 penalties in the marathon phase and 15.53 penalties, with one ball down and 12.53 time penalties, in the cones phase. Vernon and Sebastian Warneck’s 2009 KWPN mare closed out the competition on a final score of 185.25 penalties for 54th place.

Donna Crooskton (Saltsburg, Pa.) and Viktor, in their third consecutive world championship together, scored 67.76 penalties in the dressage phase to begin the competition. They added 117.86 penalties to their score in the marathon phase plus 8.08 penalties, with one ball down and 5.08 time penalties, in the cones phase. Crookston and her own 2008 Dutch Harness gelding ended on a score of 193.70 penalties for 62nd place. It is Crookston’s seventh and final world championship as she is retiring from competition after an illustrious career.

## STALLIONS APPROVED IN 2022

	Front	Posture	Suspension	Action Front Leg	Action Hind Leg	Enthusiasm	Attitude	Overall Picture
Oberon (Icellie x Cizandro)	8,5	8,5	8,5	9	8,5	8	8	8,5
Olymus HVM (Icellie x Colonist)	8,5	8	7,5	7,5	8	8	8,5	8
Martin Morero (Atleet x Larix)	8,5	8	8	8,5	7,5	8,5	8	8,5
Sallant’s Long Train Running (Renvyle the Real Deal x Plain’s Liberator)	8	7	7,5	8,5	7,5	8,5	8	8





## DRIVING AND TRAINING CLINIC WITH CHANTAL VAN DIJK

February 17th and 18th 2023 at Grand Finale Farm Ashby, MA



The DHSA is dedicated to embracing and preserving the traditional style of training, breeding and showing of the Dutch Harness Horse.

Not only do we strive to provide shows to give people the opportunity to present and show their horses in this style we are also dedicated to giving the opportunity to further educate people in the training and presenting of our beloved Dutch Harness Horse.

That is why we are so excited and honored to announce that this February 17th and 18th we will be holding the very first DHSA driving and training clinic with Chantal Van Dijk held at Grand Finale Farm in Ashby Massachusetts. Chantal needs little introduction in our Dutch Harness Horse community. She is one of the most accomplished and well-respected trainers in our industry.

She has spent a lifetime accumulating knowledge and perfecting her craft as a trainer. Alongside her husband

Robbie she has trained countless great horses including Waldemar, Cizandro, Eebert, Atleet, Hiro-T, Graaf Kelly and many more. Chantal has graciously offered to come over to the U.S. and support our organization by sharing this knowledge with us.

Whether you are just starting out with the Dutch Harness Horse or are yourself an accomplished trainer I'm sure there is plenty you can learn from Chantal. We would love to have people bring their own horses to drive in the clinic and get some one-on-one assistance from Chantal, but people are also more than welcome to come to just watch and learn.

Depending on the amount of horses that enter we may even offer a few show classes to get our 2023 show season underway!

For more information contact William Duffy  
978-758-3151, [Grandfinalefarm@gmail.com](mailto:Grandfinalefarm@gmail.com)



## RESULTS OF THE 2022 KWPN-NA STALLION OFFSPRING FUTURITY

We are excited to announce the winners of our first in-person Stallion offspring futurity for foals and yearlings. The earnings will be distributed shortly!

### GELDERS FOALS

#### 1ST PLACE:

Sebastian B (Gaudi x Incredible Babe J&S elite IBOP (tp) by Cizandro pref).

*Bred by Joseph L. Schwartz, owned by Stacy Brass.*

#### 2ND PLACE:

Safari B (Gaudi x Nendrini by Jaleet ster IBOP (tp) PROK).

*Bred by Dutch Central Stables, owned by Stacy Brass.*

#### 3RD PLACE:

Sana-Dessa G (Recruut x Adessa keur pref by Koss pref).

*Bred and owned by Kanoe Durdan Godby. – SSA sire*

### HARNESS FOALS

#### 1ST PLACE:

Sallianne (Globetrotter sport (tp) x Erianne M elite by Vaandrager HBC).

*Bred and owned by Ben Fisher Jr. – SSA Sire*

#### 2ND PLACE:

Saralonda (Atleet keur x Alonda ster pref by Talos).

*Bred and owned by Raymond Stoltzfus, Treasure Hill Stables. – SSA Sire*

#### 3RD PLACE:

Selah PH (Delviro HBC x Majesteit- PH ster by Governor aang).

*Bred and owned by Douwe Plantinga, Pleasant Hill Farms LLC. – SSA Sire*

### CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL BREEDERS, OWNERS AND STALLION OWNERS/ REPRESENTATIVES!

#### A recap of the stallion offspring futurity set up:

The stallion offspring futurity was open to all KWPN-NA VB and Register A foals and yearlings owned and bred in North America. There was no entry fee for foals and yearlings whose sires participated in the 2020 & 2021 KWPN-NA Online Stallion Service Auction (SSA). Foals and yearlings whose sires didn't participate, could be entered for \$35 each. We allocated \$10,000 of the proceeds from the 2022 Stallion Service Auction as prize money to the futurity. The owner gets 56% and the breeder 44% of the prize money. The inspection scores determined final placing. All ties will be split equally. The highest scoring foal and yearling will also receive a ribbon. The owner of a stallion that participated in the SSA, and whose foals placed in the top 3 will receive a plaque as recognition.

Thank you everyone who supported and donated to our previous Stallion Service auctions and participated in the futurity. We will definitely offer a Stallion offspring futurity again next year during the Keuring tour 2023. It's a great way to show what these stallions produce. Make sure you follow and bid in our Stallion service auction next year, it's a great way to learn a lot about a stallion and get a good deal on breeding to them. All stallion owners/ representatives, donating to the Stallion service auction will make us promote your stallion extensively and makes the chance higher that foals will be brought to a Keuring and entered in the futurity which brings extra visibility and promotion again, with our members and beyond.



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