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CDI Amateur Division Debuts in 2015 AGDF Opener

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Sonia Zugel with Afago Da Reposa, Katharina Stumpf with Nymphenburg's Love and Virginia Yarur with El Dorado

Wellington, FL – January 9, 2015 – The Adequan Global Dressage Festival debuted the first ever CDI Amateur division on Friday, and Austrian rider Katharina Stumpf captured the inaugural prize.

Medium tour and small tour divisions for amateurs are included at the AGDF 1 CDI-W, and the amateur divisions will continue to be offered throughout the circuit. The small tour division began Friday with the Prix St. Georges. To compete in the division, riders must be at least 26 years old and cannot be listed on the FEI World Individual Dressage Ranking.



Katharina Stumpf with Nymphenburg's Love

"It is so exciting really! For days I haven't been able to sleep," exclaimed Stumpf, who was the first rider down centerline in the class. "It's really fantastic. Any class I can take in the amateurs, I will take it!"

Stumpf, riding Nymphenburg's Love, won the class with a 66.474 percent. She started her day by competing in the Intermediaire I with For My Love. When asked her thoughts about the new division, Stumpf radiated incredible energy.

"It's absolutely ideal," said Stumpf. "I am so happy the FEI is also thinking about us amateurs and now has created a class for us."

U.S. adult amateur rider John McGinty spearheaded the effort to gain FEI approval for the new division. Stumpf believes that once other amateurs see the class, it will grow to be more and more popular.



Virginia Yarur with El Dorado

The class had an international flair with three riders from three different countries. Also competing in the class were Virginia Yarur of Chile riding El Dorado and Sonia Zugel of Ireland riding Afago Da Reposo.

"It's something that's very good because it gives an opportunity to people who are starting the sport," explained Yarur.

All three competitors will continue to ride in this division during the rest of the AGDF circuit.

"It's the backbone for the sport," said Zugel. "I think it's really amazing that they have a division for amateurs. We wanted to support it."



Sonia Zugel with Afago Da Reposo

Results – Prix St. Georges for Amateur

Adequan Global Dressage Festival 1 CDI -W

Judges – E: Alonso – MEX/H: Tubman – CAN/C: Ringmark – SWE/M: Christensen – DEN/B: Lamping - USA

Rider/Country/Horse/Total Score

1. Stumpf, Katharina/AUT/Nymphenburg's Love/66.474
2. Yarur, Virginia/CHI/El Dorado/65.789
3. Zugel, Sonia/IRL/Afago Da Reposo/61.079



Michael Klimke with Fineliner 2

Michael Klimke and Fineliner 2 Capture Intermediaire I

Michael Klimke of Germany followed up his Prix St. Georges victory with a win in the Intermediaire I, scoring 72.053 percent with Fineliner 2 to go two for two at the 2015 AGDF. Canada's Megan Lane and San D'Or followed in second with 70.842 percent. Diane Creech, also of Canada, closely trailed Lane with a 70.026 percent riding Robbie W.



Megan Lane with San D'Or

**Results – Intermediaire I
Adequan Global Dressage Festival 1 CDI -W**

Judges – E: Rockwell – USA/H: Lamping – USA/C: Tubman – CAN/M: Umbach – LUX/B: De Wolff – NED

Rider/Country/Horse/Total Score

1. Klimke, Michael/GER/Fineliner 2/72.053
2. Lane, Megan/CAN/San D'Or/70.842
3. Creech, Diane/CAN/Robbie W/70.026
4. Dueck, Shannon/CAN/Cantaris/69.737
5. Wilcox, Lisa/USA/Galant/68.526
6. Lauritsen, Mary Bahniuk/USA/Ansgar/68.289
7. Yarur, Virginia/CHI/Finn/68.026
8. Stumpf, Gabriela/AUT/Finally Love/68.000
9. Gallagher-Legriffon, Denielle/CAN/Argo Conti Tyme/67.974
10. Boylen, Christilot/CAN/Donatella 79/67.921