



THE BARAN
GLOBAL HUNTER CLASSIC



July 11-13, 2025

Longines Tops International Arena
Valkenswaard, The Netherlands

THE BARAN GLOBAL HUNTER CLASSIC

Bringing Hunters to the World Stage

The Baran leadership is thrilled to unveil the format for the inaugural **Baran Global Hunter Classic**—a groundbreaking event designed to elevate hunter competition to the world stage. Offering €300,000 in prize money, three days of high performance hunter competition will unfold July 11-13, 2025 at Longines Tops International Arena in Valkenswaard, the Netherlands. This premier competition marks the first step toward creating a global championship format, providing an unparalleled experience for top-ranked professionals, junior and amateur hunter athletes. Our mission is to inspire, innovate and redefine the future of hunter competition, offering competitors and enthusiasts new dreams and ambitions.

This visionary event has already garnered the support and commitment to participate from many of the industry's most influential figures. Jan Tops and his renowned events team, the Longines Tops International Arena, top equestrian commentators, leading North American event organizers and esteemed judges have signed on to participate. We are collaborating with marketing and production experts from other major sports to ensure an unforgettable experience. Additionally, the competition will showcase elite riders from both the hunter and jumper disciplines, bringing together the best talent from around the world.

With that, we are excited to present the competition and participation package—your gateway to being part of this historic event.



RIDER ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

PROFESSIONAL HUNTER RIDER & TEAM CAPTAIN

- Top three riders from the 2024 USHJA International Hunter Derby Championships
- Five additional riders based on the USHJA World Champion Hunter Rider (WCHR) year-end standing for 2023 & 2024 combined
 - Should the top five riders elect to not attend, the five spots will be filled by moving down the combined 2023 & 2024 WCHR list.
- Two wild card spots available

WCHR Year End Rankings					2024 USHJA International Hunter Derby Championships		
	Rider	2023	2024	2023/24		Rider	
1	Nick Haness	1801	1979	3870	1	Hunt Tosh	
2	Geoffrey Hesslink	1838	1763	3601	2	Elizabeth Boyd	
3	Scott Stewart	1641	1768	3409	3	Scott Stewart	
4	Kate Conover	1895	1480	3375			
5	John French	1834	1499	3333			
6	Amanda Steege	1078	1631	2709			
7	Halle Robinson	1077	1637	2707			
8	Holly Orlando	1456	1213	2669			
9	Christopher Payne	1398	1188	2586			
10	Michael Britt-Leon	1029	1508	2537			
11	Hunt Tosh	1175	1340	2515			
12	Elizabeth Boyd	1083	1265	2348			
13	Victoria Colvin	1105	1219	2324			
14	Kelly Lorek	1160	1143	2303			
15	Leslie Steele	1295	948	2243			
16	Jennifer Hannan	1006	1174	2180			
17	Samantha Schaefer	660	1494	2154			
18	Marylisa Leffler	813	1265	2078			
19	Caleb Cooney	1110	955	2065			
20	Vivian Yowen	1047	979	2026			
21	Brady Mitchell	1403	622	2025			

RIDER ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

CONTINUED

JUNIOR OR AMATEUR

- Each team captain selects a junior or an amateur rider.
- The junior or amateur must meet one of the following certificate of capability:
 - Have been champion or reserve champion at a USHJA WCHR event in a 3'6" division between Jan. 1, 2024 and April 1, 2025.
 - Have completed a USHJA WCHR International Hunter Derby.

INTERNATIONAL JUMPER ATHLETE

- Each team captain selects the International Jumper Rider.
 - The team captain must provide a horse for the selected International jumper rider to compete.
- The international jumper rider must meet one of the following certificate of capability:
 - Ranked in the Top 50 of the Longines World Ranking List as of April 1, 2025.
 - Have represented their country at the Olympic Games, World Equestrian Games, World Cup Finals or an FEI Regional Championship.



COMPETITION FORMAT



WELCOME CLASS | FRIDAY, JULY 11 | EARLY AFTERNOON

Horses and riders will have the opportunity to compete in a 3'6" warm-up class, allowing them to acclimate to the arena and jumps for a confident start to the week. Additionally, they will be granted a one-time flat session in the grass ring in the days leading up to the event. This dedicated preparation time will also enable the team captain to assist their international rider in fine-tuning their performance ahead of the competition.

ROUND 1 | FRIDAY, JULY 11 | MID AFTERNOON

UNDER SADDLE | 10% OF TEAM FINAL SCORE

The first round of team competition begins with a unique under saddle class in a hack-off format. All 30 riders will showcase each gait once in both directions, each will be scored and the top 10 called to the middle of the arena. Once the other 20 have been assessed, they will be excused and the top 10 will hack off and be pinned in reverse order.

Each team may drop one score to get their highest combined total from two riders. This combined score from the first round of team competition will be placed separately and count for 10% of each team's final standings.

ROUND 2 | SATURDAY, JULY 12 | EARLY AFTERNOON

CLASSIC HUNTER ROUND | 40% OF TEAM FINAL SCORE

Horse-and-rider combinations are invited to participate over a beautiful 3'6" classic hunter course. Teams will return in reverse order of their standings from Round 1. The international jumper athlete will be each team's lead-off rider, followed by their junior or amateur and finish the class with each team captain.

Each team may drop one score to get their highest combined total from two riders. This combined score from the first round of team competition will be placed separately and count for 40% of each team's final standings.

ROUND 3 | SUNDAY, JULY 13 | EARLY AFTERNOON

HANDY HUNTER ROUND | 50% OF TEAM FINAL SCORE

All 30 horses will be invited to compete over a spectacular 3'6" handy hunter course. Teams will return in reverse order of their combined standings from Round 1 & 2. The international jumper athlete will be each team's lead-off rider, followed by their junior or amateur and finish the class with each team captain.

Riders will be scored on their handiness, pace, track and brilliance. Each team may drop one score to get their highest combined total from two riders. This combined score will be placed separately and count for 50% of each team's final standings.

BARAN GLOBAL HUNTER CLASSIC AWARDS

€300,000

TEAM FINAL STANDINGS

TOP USA JUNIOR/AMATEUR RIDERS

TOP USA HUNTER PROFESSIONALS

TOP INTERNATIONAL JUMPER ATHLETE

ENTRY PACKAGE

Upon declaration of a qualified team captain, junior or amateur and international jumper athlete, you meet the eligibility requirements to purchase a team for the competition.

This package is thoughtfully designed to provide a world-class experience—not only at the event but throughout your stay in The Netherlands. It also streamlines all travel logistics for the horses, ensuring a seamless, stress-free and healthy journey from start to finish.

The package will include the following:

EQUINE TRAVEL

- Round-trip flights for three horses per team.
- Round-trip equine ground transportation in Europe between the airport and the venue.
- Facilitation of all equine paperwork for customs and health requirements.

VIP EXPERIENCE | THE BARAN TOPS INTERNATIONAL 4* AND 2*

- One VIP table seating eight people per team in the Longines Tops International VIP Lounge for the entire Tops International event week.
 - VIP table includes daily meals and beverages during events.
- Welcome Lunch invitation for each team member.
- The Baran Launch Party Saturday evening.

TEAM ACCOMMODATIONS

- Three hotel rooms for the week at the Pullman Eindhoven Cocagne; one for each rider.
- Three hotel rooms for the week; one for each groom.

TEAM TRANSPORTATION

- Daily shuttle service between Pullman Eindhoven Cocagne and venue for riders.
- Daily shuttle service between hotel and venue for grooms.

HORSE SHOW ENTRIES

- Entry fees for three riders.
- Entry fees for three horses.

This package is valued at over €100,000 and will be offered at a special rate for this inaugural event. We are proud to offer €300,000 in prize money over the three-day competition.

Price on request for qualified professionals. Please contact thebaranevent@gmail.com.