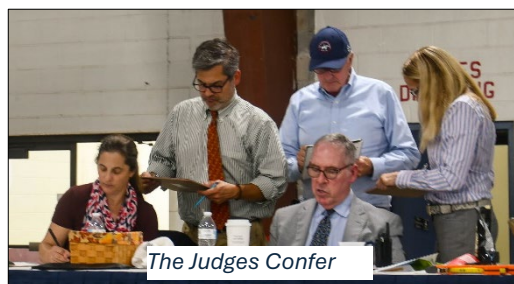


# Massachusetts Horsemen's Council 43rd Edition of The Days of Champions!

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Celebration of the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual MHC Huntseat Equitation Medal Finals held September 26-29th at the Three County Fairgrounds arena in Northampton, Ma welcomed Exhibitors for the Adult, Junior, and Mini Medal competitions.



**Thursday** was a bit of soggy warmup day followed by an informative Q&A session and refreshments sponsored by **USHJA Zone One Committee** with Judge and Course Designer, Patrick Rodes and Amy Eidson, Kim Abalon-Whitney and Jeff Nowak also shared Judging duty. Show Chair Felicia Knowles and new Show manager, Bill Worthington along with Secretary



*Show Chair Felicia Knowles*

Charlene Brown and Sandy Crowe produced a well-organized Finals again this year.

This year's special awards were presented to:



*2024 MHC "MISH ATAMIAN" PERSON OF THE YEAR. Deirdre Deprisco*

2024 MHC "MISH ATAMIAN"  
PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD  
**Deirdre Deprisco!**

2024 MHC "DEBBY TATE"  
OPEN SPORTSMANSHIP  
AWARD to **Annelise  
Banghart**



*2024 MHC "DEBBY TATE" OPEN SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD to Annelise Banghart*



*2024 MHC HORSE OF THE YEAR AWARD to "Cenzina".*

2024 MHC DOC Horse of the Year Deirdre Deprisco's  
"Cenzina"

Friday was sunny and chilly for the 23 younger Adults and 41 older Adults. In the younger Adult Medal 18-30, **Sponsored By Woodridge Farm, Inc**, riding consistently

**Isabel Fugman** moved to the top at the end of the first round and stayed there to win. **Sara Plaisted**, called back in sixth, moved up to third at the end round two and rode the troublesome hand gallop fence smoothly in the test to win Reserve!



The 2024 MHC Adult 18-30 Champion **Izabel Fugman**

and Joanna Johnsen battled it out to the very end swapping positions at the end of the second

The **2024 MHC Adult 18-30 Championship** was awarded to **Izabel Fugman**, who trains with **Rachel Sagalyn**.

**Reserve** went to **Sara Plaisted** trained by **Stephanie S. Plaisted**

round with Elizabeth Kenny and Joanna Johnsen both of whom train with Sarah C. Summers!

Next up came the older **Adult over thirty Medal Sponsored by Back Bay Farm**. Elizabeth Kenny and Joanna Johnsen battled it out to the very end swapping positions at the end of the second round with Elizabeth moving up to the top spot and holding it through the test.

The **2024 MHC Adult Over 30 Medal Champion** is **Elizabeth Kenny**, and the **Reserve Champion** was awarded to **Joanna Johnsen** both of whom train with **Sarah C. Summers!**

Following the competition and hosted by the DOC in the arena, the very much appreciated **Presidents Dinner** served everyone lots of warm food, salad, desserts, and refreshment, catered by local **Spoletto's restaurant**.



2024 MHC Adult Over 30 Champion is **Elizabeth Kenny**

Saturday dawned sunny and warm for Junior Day.

The days competition brought 65 qualifiers to show in their

respective open equitation and the JR Medal. Patrick Rodes's courses are always fair and challenging, making

interesting use of the quarter lines for fence placement and multiple long approaches, bending lines and combinations. The **2024 MHC Junior**



MHC 2024 Junior Medal Champion **Leah Munoz**

**Medal, sponsored by Corinthian Insurance** hosted a field of talented riders as usual.

Riding beautifully **Leah Munoz** training with **Katie Bobola** was called 3<sup>rd</sup> at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> round, moved up to 2<sup>nd</sup> after the 2<sup>nd</sup> round and moved up after the test to be named the **MHC Days of Champions 2024 Junior Medal Champion!** In a tight race, **Fiona Fitzgerald**, who trains with **Amber J. Viera**, was called back on top after the first round and stayed there through the second round but an unfortunate tip of a toe pulled a rail in the test to be named **Reserve Champion**.



**Leah Munoz**



MHC 2024 Adult Mini Medal Champion, **Emily Larson**

Sunday was another pleasant day for competition and brought a total of 87 qualifiers to ride in the 2024 MHC Days of Champions Mini Medals.

First up and **sponsored by Sheila & Shirley Murphy** the 2024 MHC Adult Mini Medal, **Emily Larson, riding with Allegra Valberg** moved up from sixth after the first round to the second spot at the end of the second round and the top of test to be named **2024 MHC Days of Champions Adult Mini Medal Champion!**

**Reserve Champion** went to **Caitlin N. Shea** who **trains with Carl D. Catani**. Caitlin was neck and neck with Emily right up to the test.



MHC 2024 Younger Mini Medal Champion, **Leila Alencar**

The afternoon's performance brought the **2024 MHC DOC Younger Mini Medal, Sponsored By Horseworks Insurance Specialist** with a total of 58 Mini Medal competitors. Riding to the top at the end of the first round and maintaining that position through the second round and test, **Leila Alencar** who **also trains with Sarah C. Summers**, proved unbeatable to be named **MHC DOC 2024 Younger Mini Medal Champion.**

**Reserve Champion** was awarded to **Madeleine E. Reuter** riding with **Dawn Dorrance**, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the end of the first round, 3<sup>rd</sup> after the second

round, and moved up to 2<sup>nd</sup> after the test for the Reserve!

For more information, please visit the Massachusetts Horsemen's Council on the web at [www.MaHorseCouncil.com](http://www.MaHorseCouncil.com), and on Facebook!