

Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch

Sponsorship Proposal



**Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch
11021 Mountford Avenue
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STEPHANIE RHODES-BOSCH

RIDER PROFILE



Once only her dream, Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch has now set for herself a realistic goal of representing Canada at the International Level of Equestrian Eventing. Specifically, Stephanie is a member of the Canadian International Equestrian Eventing team.

Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch was born in Edmonton, Alberta in 1988 and moved with her family to Summerland, BC in 1999. She is currently 21 years old.

She has been involved in competitive equestrian sports for 15 years, primarily in the sport of Eventing (also referred to as Three-Day Eventing). She is currently riding on the Eastern U.S. circuit after completing an extremely successful summer season.

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Stephanie has worked extremely hard to reach the championship level of competition she currently enjoys. She does however, come from a middle-class family.

Her family is committed to helping Stephanie attain her competitive riding goals, but the family alone cannot meet the continuing financial requirements of the sport. Stephanie has understood from a very young age the costs involved in continuing with her sport and the level of sacrifice her entire family has made to support her passion and goals. She has reached an extremely high level of competition with very frugal means and hopes to share her passion of Equestrian Eventing with her future financial supporters.

Education



Stephanie is an Honors graduate of Summerland Secondary School serving her graduating class as Valedictorian.

Stephanie has been accepted to the University of British Columbia – Okanagan in the Bachelor of Science, Nursing Program. She has deferred acceptance pending a return from competitive riding.

The Horse



No equestrian rider can achieve greatness without the trust and support of a talented horse. Stephanie and her family were extremely fortunate to have purchased Port Authority six years ago from a breeder in Maple Ridge, BC. Port Authority (or “Ollie”) through Stephanie has become one of the top Eventing horses in North America. He is healthy, strong, and a willing participant in Stephanie’s pursuit of her goals.

Port Authority, an eleven year old Selle Francais/Thoroughbred, is relatively young for a horse of his stature. He was purchased by Stephanie’s family to enable her to pursue her goal of competing at the North American Young Riders Championships. Stephanie and Port Authority represented BC and Canada in 2008 at the North American Young Riders Championships, bringing home the Bronze Medal.

The WORLD of EVENTING

Eventing is an equestrian event, which comprises dressage, cross-country and show jumping.

First called the "Militaire," the Three Day Event has its roots as a test for horses used as cavalry mounts. The predecessor to eventing originally began as a form of endurance riding, without jumping or galloping. Such competitions included a ride in 1892, traveling a 360-mile distance from Berlin to Vienna (the winner completed the ride in 71 hours and 26 minutes). However, these competitions did little to prepare horses and riders for actual combat, and so around the end of the 1800s, the French began *militaires*, which was the true forerunner to the three-day event.

It currently has two main formats, the one day event (ODE) and the three day event (3DE), although organizers at nationally sanctioned Horse Trials also choose to run some events over two days instead of three.

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Dressage

The dressage phase (held first) comprises an exact sequence of movements ridden in an enclosed arena (20x60m for International 3DE but usually 20x40 for lower levels). The test is judged by one or more judges who are looking for balance, rhythm and suppleness and most importantly, obedience of the horse and its harmony with the rider. The challenge is to demonstrate that a supremely fit horse, capable of completing the cross-country phase on time, also has the training to perform in a relaxed and precise manner.

Each movement in the test is scored on a scale from 0 to 10, with a score of "10" being the highest possible mark and with the total maximum score for the test varying depending on the level of competition and the number of movements. Therefore, if one movement is executed terribly, it is still possible for a rider to get a good score if she reorganizes and does well in the following movements. The score (%) is then converted to penalty points, which are then added to the remaining two events.

Cross-country



The next phase, cross-country, requires both horse and rider to be in excellent shape and to be brave and trusting of each other. This phase consists of approximately 12-20 fences (lower levels), 30-40 at the higher levels, placed on a long outdoor circuit. These fences consist of very solidly built natural objects (telephone poles, stone walls, etc.) as well as various obstacles such as ponds and streams, ditches, drops and banks, and combinations involving several jumping efforts - based on objects that would commonly occur in the countryside.

This phase is timed, with the rider required to cross the finish line within a certain time frame (optimum time). Crossing the finish line after the allowed time results in penalties for each second late. At lower levels, there is a speed fault time, incurring penalties for horse and rider pairs completing the course too quickly. Penalties are also incurred if the horse refuses to jump a fence or if the rider falls off. The penalties for disobediences on cross-country are weighted severely relative to the other phases of competition to emphasize the importance of courage, endurance and athleticism. Fitness is required as the time allowed will require a strong canter at the lower levels, all the way to a strong gallop at the higher events.

Show Jumping



Show jumping tests the technical jumping skills of the horse and rider, including suppleness, obedience, fitness and athleticism. In this phase, 12-20 fences are set up in a ring. These fences are typically brightly colored and consist of elements that can be knocked down, unlike cross-country obstacles. This phase is also timed, with penalties being given for every second over the required time. In addition to normal jumping skills, eventing show jumping tests the fitness and stamina of the horse and rider, generally being held after the cross-country phase in higher level and international events. The winner is the horse and rider with the fewest penalties.

The Olympic Beginning

Eventing competition that resembles the current three-day was first held in 1902, but was not introduced into the Olympic games until 1912. Dressage originally demonstrated the horse's ability to perform on the parade ground, where elegance and obedience was key. Cross-country began as a test of stamina, courage, and bravery over difficult terrain, important for a charger on long marches or if the horse was asked to carry a dispatch across country. The stadium-jumping phase sought to prove the horse's continuing soundness and fitness after the difficult cross-country day.

The Olympic Eventing competition was originally open only to male military officers in active duty, mounted only on military charges. In 1924, the event was open to male civilians, although non-commissioned Army officers could not participate in the Olympics until 1956. Women were first allowed to take part in 1964, and equestrian sports are one of the only Olympic sports in which men and women compete against one another.

International Competition

International events have specific categories and levels of competition and are conducted under the rules of the FEI. CCI (Concours Complet International, or International Complete Contest) is one such category and defines a three-day event that is open to competitors from any foreign nation as well as the host nation.

- CCI : International Three-day event (Concours Complet International)
- CIC: International One-day event (Concours International Combiné)
- CCIO: International Team Competitions (Concours Complet International Officiel). Includes the Olympics, the World Championships, the Pan Am Games, and other continental championships

The levels of international events are identified by the number of stars next to the category; there are four levels in total. A CCI* is for horses that are just being introduced to international competition. A CCI** is geared for horses that have some experience of international competition. CCI*** is the advanced level of competition.

The very highest level of competition is the CCI****, and with only six such competitions in the world (Badminton, Burghley, Kentucky, Adelaide, Luhmuhlen Horse Trials, and the Pau Three Day Event) it is the ultimate aim of many riders. The Olympics and World Championships are also considered CCI****, although they are rated CCI*** to enable more nations to participate.

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One, two and three star competitions are roughly comparable to the Novice, Intermediate and Advanced levels of British domestic competition, respectively, and to the Preliminary, Intermediate, and Advanced levels of American domestic competition, respectively.

Stephanie is a member of both Equine Canada as well as the United States Eventing Association, which is the sanctioning body in the US. USEA was founded in 1959.

In 2007, USEA had approximately 14,000 members, in 50 states. It sanctions 260 competitions nationwide. Competitions field 200 to 400 competitors and attract upwards of 2,500 spectators per show.

Accomplishments



Stephanie and Port Authority have achieved significant success on the Equestrian Eventing circuit. Competing with Port Authority only since 2005, Stephanie has attracted a lot of attention from the Eventing world with steady and consistent improvement at each Horse Show.

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In March of 2007, Stephanie and Port Authority traveled to North Carolina to train and prepare for the 2008 North American Young Riders Championships

In that season they had the following results:

- Completed Florida International CCI*
- Finished 7th at the Maryland Horse Trials (intermediate level)
- Finished 6th at the Pinehurst Horse Trials (intermediate level)
- Finished 2nd at the NCDCTA Horse Trials (preliminary level)
- Finished 2nd at the Middleburg Horse Trials (intermediate level)
- Finished 7th at the Five Points Horse Trials (intermediate level)
- Finished 9th at the Florida International 3 day Event and Horse Trials CCI** (highest placed Canadian rider) qualifying them for the 2008 Championships.

These results have more than qualified Stephanie for the North American Young Riders Championship competition, a specific goal set by Stephanie before embarking on her journey to North Carolina.

2007 was a very successful season for Stephanie and "Ollie" competing on the very competitive Eastern US circuit, competing not only against other Young Riders but also in divisions made up of former Olympians from the American, British and Canadian teams.

2008 Results

Jerseyfresh CCI ** 9th place highest placed young rider

North American Young Riders Ch CCI ** 3rd place

2009 Results

Florida Horse Park Int div 2nd place

Rocking Horse Adv div 6th place

Southern Pines Adv div 11th place

Fork Farm CIC *** 20th place

Jerseyfresh CCI *** 15th place highest placed young rider

Wits End CIC *** World Cup Qualifier 12th place

Plantation Field Adv div 4th place

Morven Park Adv div 4th place

Fairhill International CCI *** Ch 12th place

2010 Results

Pine Top Advanced div 2nd place

Poplar Farm Advanced div 4th place

Fork Farm CIC *** 8th place

Rolex Kentucky CCI**** 5th place

Richland Park Advanced div 1st place

American Eventing Championships tba (Sept 9th-11th 2010)

World Equestrian Games tba (Sept 29th- Oct. 3rd 2010)

Competitive Goals



Stephanie has set specific short and long-term goals to further her career in Eventing.

Stephanie is a short listed member of Canada's Eventing team.

Her success throughout 2008 and 2009 has left her poised to make her mark on the International stage and represent Canada at the 2010 World Equestrian games to be held in Lexington Kentucky in September 2010

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Stephanie's 2010 spring schedule saw her choose from some 50-competition sites in the US southeast, traveling from Maryland and New Jersey south to Georgia and Florida.

The most prestigious and exciting one, the "Rolex" Kentucky CCI **** the only event of this level held in North America. Stephanie finished in 5th place here, the highest place a Canadian has finished in the history of the sport, the highest placed "Rookie Rider"(it was her 4-star debut), her horse was named "Best Conditioned"

In preparation for the 2011 Pan American games and the 2012 London Olympics, Stephanie will continue to train with Canada's National team coach Mr. David O'Connor at his home farms in Middleburg, Virginia and Ocala, Florida.

Sponsorship Opportunities



Stephanie has sacrificed enormously to attain the high level of competition she currently enjoys. Between the ages of 12 and 16, she traveled by Greyhound bus after school for 40 minutes every day to get to and from the barn where her horse was stabled. For 10 months of the year, 5 days a week, Stephanie did her homework at lunchtime to maintain her honor role status, so her evenings could be spent with her horse.

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Since Stephanie began horse riding, she has kept her horse at a barn where she could do the chores herself in order to keep the cost of board more reasonable. In 2006 after graduation she worked three jobs to help save enough money for her trip to North Carolina.

As a Working Student at Fork Stables, Stephanie regularly worked 10-14 hour days riding, grooming, tacking up, and cooling down horses in addition to the daily barn chores in exchange for lessons and room and board for her and Ollie. Fortunately, this work ethic comes naturally for this very driven focused young rider.

Stephanie believes that in life we don't find passion but rather it finds us and it is our job to facilitate that passion; her passion just happens to involve an animal with whom she has an extraordinary relationship centered on trust and dedication.

Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch is seeking financial support to enable her and Port Authority to compete at the 2010 World Equestrian Games the 2011 Pan American games and ultimately the London Olympics in 2012.

Stephanie manages to remain training in the US on an athlete Visa, however this does not enable her to earn enough to support this journey on her own.

Without financial support from benefactors like you, Stephanie's goal of becoming one of the best Equestrian Eventers in the world will not materialize.

The financial requirements at the level Stephanie is currently riding are beyond the financial means of Stephanie's family and only with kind donations either through Corporate Sponsorship or Individual Donations can she continue competing at the highest levels of her sport. Sponsorships and Donations will be used by Stephanie to meet the financial obligations, which are the primary hurdles to Stephanie continuing with the pursuit of her riding goals

Corporate Sponsorships



As a corporate sponsor, there are a number of possibilities to promote your business with Stephanie. Depending on the type and amount of support, corporate sponsorship can include:

- your business' logo being displayed prominently on banners, horse blankets, saddle pads at horse shows and events. Stephanie has many opportunities to represent your products at very large shows throughout the competitive season.
- your Company's name and logo being highlighted in media releases whenever possible,
- your Company's ability to conduct promotions using images of Stephanie and her horse,

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- your Company's ability, upon request to have Stephanie available for corporate functions, promotions, public speaking engagements etc
- Stephanie travels thousands of miles each season throughout North America using Interstate highways; your company logo could be displayed on Stephanie's horse trailer and truck.

In addition to the promotional benefits your association with Stephanie will provide to your company, you will be satisfied knowing that she will reflect only positively on your corporate profile. Stephanie is a very mature, industrious young lady who understands the importance of responsibility to herself, her family, her horse, and to her financial supporters.

Please contact Trish Bosch directly to enquire about a possible exclusive corporate sponsorship. (trish_bosch@hotmail.com)

Personal Donations



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As a personal financial supporter of Stephanie, Eventing Canada is in the position of issuing Charitable Tax Receipts in amounts equal to the amount donated to Eventing Canada.

Donations of any denomination can be made to Stephanie through Eventing Canada which is a charitable organization authorized to issue tax receipts to Canadian residents.

Stephanie will receive 95% of donated funds (5% is kept by Eventing Canada as an administration fee). These donations must be unconditional and have a letter sent with the donation stating that it is unconditional and requesting the Directors of Eventing Canada to direct the funds to Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch. A sample letter is attached at the end of this proposal setting out the contents of the required letter. Feel free to use this letter or should you wish, draft an alternate.

Should you have an interest in supporting Stephanie, any denomination is encouraged and welcomed.

As a guideline, Stephanie is proposing three levels of support: Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

Gold Sponsorship	\$2,500
Silver Sponsorship	\$1,000
Bronze Sponsorship	\$500

A letter from Stephanie acknowledging and thanking you for your support will be sent to you immediately upon your kind donation.

At the end of each year (i.e. December 31, 2008 through to 2010), Stephanie will also provide to you an accounting of her expenses incurred in pursuing her Eventing goals. She will also provide you on a regular basis (monthly via email) updates and pictures of her and Ollie as they train and compete.

Stephanie thanks you for your consideration of this proposal and is available to you should you have any questions regarding her past or future aspirations.

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Stephanie's family residence is at:

Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch
11021 Mountford Avenue
Summerland, BC

Stephanie is currently in Virginia but can be reached through her mother Trish Bosch at 250-494-1028 or directly at 540 687-0479

Addendum



GUIDELINES FOR 2010 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

EVENTING CANADA [!] is recognized by Revenue Canada as an Amateur Athletic Association. It is registered under 88721 5275 RR0001.

The Association is in a position to provide tax creditable receipts for "arms length" donations which support the Association's mandate to develop the sport of Three Day Event and Horse Trials in Canada.

Organizers and **Provincial Associations** can use the National Association's charitable status to attract cash donations from individuals and corporations.

Long, Short and Talent Identified Athletes, Young Riders and dedicated **Amateurs**, who qualify for *Eventing Canada [!]* funding, can seek financial support from non-family individuals and arm's length corporations.

All cash donations are eligible for charitable donation receipts for 100% of the contribution.

For more information regarding this *Sport and Athlete Development Program*, please contact:

Arthur Tateishi
Chairman

Eventing Canada [!]
59 Hillside Drive,
Toronto, Ontario M4K 2M1
telephone / facsimile: (416) 429-1415
e-mail: arthur@eventing.ca

For more information on the activities of *Eventing Canada [!]*, please visit our website www.eventingcanada.com.

Eventing Canada [!]
59 Hillside Drive,
Toronto, Ontario M4K 2M1

Attention: Arthur Tateishi

To the Directors of Eventing Canada:

I am enclosing a cheque for \$_____ payable to Eventing Canada. This donation is unconditional, and without direction.

I would appreciate the Athlete Development Committee giving favourable consideration to Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch, an Eventing athlete and member of Eventing Canada.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Name

Address

ROOKIE ON A ROLL: Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch

By Karen Robinson



On Sunday, April 25, 2010, Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch achieved a personal milestone of a magnitude that most riders would never dare dream of: with her 12-year-old selle français/thoroughbred-cross gelding, Port Authority, Stephanie placed fifth at Rolex Kentucky, one of only a small handful of annual CC14* events held worldwide. Her placing represents the best Canadian result since Rolex became a four-star event in 1998 – but that’s not all. This was Stephanie’s first four-star, which puts her in the category of rookie. As the highest-placed rookie at this year’s Rolex, Stephanie was awarded a \$1,000 HSBC training grant. She is probably the highest placed rookie in the history of Rolex, and at 21 years of age, she is certainly the youngest Canadian ever to achieve that level of success at a four-star event. And Stephanie’s many months of preparation for Rolex also paid off in another way, when the BC-bred Port Authority received the prestigious Best Conditioned Horse Award.

In the days following Rolex, Stephanie discovered that when you achieve a goal this big, it doesn’t fade away quickly; the usual anti-climax of post-competition was replaced by a much more gratifying emotion.

“It’s taking a while to sink in, and I’m getting a little more excited every day,” she said a few days after the event. Stephanie’s excitement is also kept alive by the next big thing she hopes to have on her calendar – the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

When Stephanie and Port Authority, who is better known as ‘Ollie’ around the barn, arrived at the Kentucky Horse Park on the Monday before Rolex, Stephanie knew that the expectations were high, both from herself and from the outside.

“I went there hoping to be in the top ten,” she says. “I’ve been dealing with pressure from outside for a long time now. Going into Rolex, I did feel under pressure to be in the top ten. It was said to me several times.”

Previous results both this spring and in 2009 gave her coach and supporters every reason to expect that Stephanie and Port Authority would do well. Consistent performances at the three star level in 2009 continued into this spring; Stephanie placed second at her first Advanced horse trial of the year, Pine Top,

and was eighth at CIC3* The Fork, which was her last outing before Rolex.

As she gave Port Authority time to settle in at Rolex over the Tuesday and Wednesday before dressage, Stephanie concentrated on keeping her nerves in check. Port Authority is an outstanding cross-country and show jumping horse; what has made Stephanie nervous in the past is actually the 'safest phase', dressage.

"I've never been able to really wrap my head around keeping it all together in the test," she says. "I get nervous and make mistakes. It's been the biggest struggle in my riding. I think it's what has been holding me back competitively."

At Rolex, Stephanie was thankful to have drawn a start time on Thursday, and not to have to wait until Friday.

"I thought I kept my nerves together really well, but if I'd had another 24 hours, I'm not sure I would have been able to do that."

The schooling sessions in Kentucky went well, and by the time Stephanie entered the stadium on Thursday she was feeling better than she ever has at the start of a dressage test.

"For the first time in my life I had a smile on my face starting down centre line. I wanted to feel all the positive emotions of being at Rolex Kentucky."

Stephanie's score of 52.0 penalties speaks for itself.

"Ollie performed exactly the way he was supposed to. I could not have asked for more from him mentally."

When the dressage was over on Friday afternoon, Stephanie sat in 15th place from a starting field of 53 competitors.

With the dressage behind her on Thursday, Stephanie spent Friday trying to stay relaxed; she hand grazed Port Authority in the morning, and did a short show jumping school in the afternoon.

"I had jumped clear at The Fork, but that was because of the greatness of my horse – I made some mistakes."

In order to make sure she would be confident come Sunday, Stephanie had a lesson from David O'Connor, but jumped only about eight fences – just enough to feel like she was on track for Sunday.

"I had been doing dressage for a week up until then. Ollie was very, very happy to see his jumping saddle," she laughs. She also spent time getting to know the cross country course, saying, "It was most certainly a four-star. You didn't walk it and think your brain was going to explode, but it was big enough. I definitely looked at the coffin and hollows and knew they were serious questions. I went back out and looked at them on Saturday before I got on to make sure my plan was clear in my head."

She may have been nervous about the other phases, but Stephanie couldn't wait to get on cross-country.

"I thought it had my horse's name written all over it. He's a fantastic cross country horse. I was so excited to jump into the head of the water."

Stephanie had had no problems with time at Pine Top and The Fork, and when she checked her watch at the four minute marker on the Rolex course, she knew she was on track to make the time. Stephanie and Port Authority were one of 10 pairs to go clear and under the time that day.

Because he is part warmblood, Port Authority is heavier than many top four-star horses. Stephanie has found that he often comes off the cross-country course a little bit hot, and has got used to giving him fluids on Saturday night to make sure he recovers well.

"He came in really hot at Rolex, and I was concerned. He has a lot of muscle mass, which doesn't do him any favours."

Port Authority recovered well from his exertions – well enough to have been deemed the best conditioned horse at this year's event. Stephanie says she probably works harder on her horse on the Saturday night at an event than she needs to, "but I don't ever want to think 'shoot, I should have worked harder.' I always make sure I'm well prepared."

Having team veterinarian Dr. Christina Ober there was a reassurance.

"Christina is always around and knows Ollie like the back of her hand."

Port Authority sailed through the jog on Sunday morning, with Stephanie holding down eighth place. By the time Stephanie put her coat on to walk the show jumping course, she had a good feeling.

"The way Ollie jumped in the warm-up before cross-country made me feel pretty confident. The course looked fantastic. It gave you enough to do."

Stephanie has always worked hard on her technical correctness, and she was ready to put her skill to use. Hers was one of only seven clear rounds within the time. She was thrilled not only with her horse's performance, but with her own.

"It was not one of those times I had to sheepishly say that I owe it to Ollie."

As Stephanie galloped away from the last jump, the realization of what she had just accomplished began to have its first impact.

"I probably did an entire circle cantering in the arena before I had the wits to stop."

She eventually found her way to the exit, where her mom, groom and close friend Lindsay Rairden, and David O'Connor were waiting for her. Once her horse's boots had been weighed, she took the phone and spoke to her father.

"That was it. I cried like a baby!"

Stephanie remembers looking up through the tears and seeing this year's winner, William Fox-Pitt of Great Britain, looking down at her from aboard Cool Mountain and laughing good-naturedly at her.

Michelle C. Dunn



Stephanie Rhodes-Bosch and Port Authority competing in the dressage phase of the Rolex Kentucky Three Day Event

“I was so excited and grateful to everyone who had helped me get there.”

On the final scoreboard of Rolex 2010, there are four rows filled with dashes instead of numbers, indicating pairs who finished on their dressage scores; Stephanie and Port Authority are one of them. At the awards ceremony, Stephanie looked at the riders in front of her and those behind and realized she was in fine company.

“It was amazing that it felt somewhat normal, that I was not completely out of place. I was also standing beside Karen [O’Connor] and Mandiba, so it didn’t feel scary and intimidating.”

Stephanie’s fifth placed ribbon came along with a more practical reward: a cheque for \$20,000.

“The Mayor of Kentucky handed me my envelope, and when I saw the amount I thought, ‘excuse me?’”

The prize money and the HSBC grant will be put to good use: to pay the substantial bills that have accrued this spring as Stephanie prepared for Rolex, and to help fund the next potential stage in her odyssey – a return visit to Kentucky at the end of September.

“I like to think that my results over the past year have put me in a good position,” she says of her Canadian Team prospects. “It’s so exciting to be part of a group of such great talent. I want to be part of that, but I’m not in a position to take anything for granted.”

Port Authority enjoyed a well-earned break in May while Stephanie returned to her current base in Virginia to continue training and competing a group of young horses for their owners. If her WEG plans go as well as all of her plans have so far, Stephanie will take Port Authority to only a couple of events over the summer, including the American Eventing Championships at Chattahoochee Hills in September; the WEG team will be announced at the end of that event. Stephanie knows she has been extremely fortunate to have had her plans so far go exactly as she had hoped.

“I know that’s not the norm. As soon as you make plans, if it can go wrong it will. But I have been able to do everything I have set out to do. I’ve definitely had everything in all the right places.”

Come September 30, the place Stephanie hopes to be is back in the dressage ring at the Kentucky Horse Park.