

Sun, 2016-09-11 14:07

## Mary Burke Secures the Lead in the Adequan USEA Gold Cup Advanced at Aspen Farms

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Mary Burke and Prince William. Photo by Lively Manor Photography.

Mary Burke and Prince William have positioned themselves for a repeat win in the Adequan USEA Gold Cup at Aspen Farms Horse Trials in Yelm, Wash. after a clear cross-country round inside the time today.

“Overall I’m very pleased,” says Burke. “My horse is super crafty and efficient with his feet. It’s one reason he does really well with cross-country. The whole course felt good. I think I had a little bit of a pilot error coming to the first water; I should have gotten him back a bit quicker just to make the bounce in easier for him; I didn’t so he put a little shuffle in there. He was super through all the other questions. His speed and his ability to turn quickly gets him in on time.”

Compared to last year’s Adequan USEA Gold Cup Advanced course, Burke reflects “they changed the track a bit. I thought it was a good course; it’s a course that sets

people up to have confidence for Woodside and Galway. I didn't find it to be overly technical. It had some big jumps on it and some good questions—a good confidence building course.”

Looking ahead to tomorrow's show jumping, Burke notes “we've been working on making time for show jumping. Because he can be tense, he gets short and tight in his stride. We've been much better with that this year and have made time in every show jump this season. That is what we'll be trying to do tomorrow.”

### ***About the Adequan USEA Gold Cup***

The Adequan USEA Gold Cup features 11 qualifying competitions throughout the United States at the Advanced Horse Trials and CIC3\* levels. The final will take place at the Nutrena USEA American Eventing Championships, September 1-4 in Tryon, North Carolina. Riders who complete a qualifier earn the chance to vie for \$40,000 in prize money and thousands of dollars in prizes in the Adequan Advanced Division and the title of Adequan USEA Gold Cup Champion.

The 2016 Adequan USEA Gold Cup Series is made possible through the support of its many loyal sponsors: Adequan, Standlee Forage, Nunn Finer, Nutrena, Merck, Broadstone Equine Insurance Agency, and FITS.