

## SHOW REPORTS & PHOTOS

### ***Bittar & Wall log strong starts to the Series that continues through October.***

Alyce Bittar got the Verdugo Hills May hunter/jumper show off to an exciting start by winning the Welcome Stake with Lara Croft B. The 17-year-old considered the track built by Joe Lombardo for the 1.35M \$10,000 class as great prep for the weekend's Grand Prix. As planned, the pair went on to win that class on Sunday May 21 at the Hansen Dam Horse Park.

Another goal of Alyce's is representing Zone 10 at this summer's North American Youth Championships (the streamlined new name for the North American Childrens/Junior/Young Riders Championships). She went into the weekend leading the standings in the Young Rider division for a spot on the team that will travel to New York state for the Championships in July.



Coached by her father Georges Bittar, Alyce has worked hard to understand and mesh with Lara Croft B. "I've had her for about a year," Alyce said. "She's come so far and it's taken me a long time to get to know her. You have to ride her a certain way. She's super high energy and I

## June 2018 - Verdugo Hills Hunter/Jumper

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normally ride her at least two times on the day of a horse show.”

Alyce added more riding mileage in the 1.35M Grand Prix, by piloting another two horses into the top 10 standings. She was sixth with Cara B and eighth with Cado B.

In the newly-footed Hansen Dam hunter ring it was trainer Lisa Wall and Tangled Up In Blue getting off to a strong start by winning in the USHJA National Hunter Derby's field of 25-plus contenders. “The mare is only 7 years old and still really new to all this,” Lisa explained. “However, she's proving that she can rise to the occasion. This was the best that she has ever felt.”



Lisa felt surprised to win her second consecutive derby aboard Tangled Up In Blue. This pair also won the USHJA National Hunter Derby at LEG Gold Coast April, making them eligible for a LEGIS Hunter Rider bonus check if they win another hunter derby either at Gold Coast or Verdugo Hills during the 2018 show season.

“We have been consistently improving together as she continues to gain miles in the show ring,” Lisa said. “I'm excited to show her next week in the Memorial Day Classic hunter derby and I hope that we can win a bonus check!”

After the Memorial Day Classic, the Verdugo Hills Series, sponsored by Valencia Sport Saddlery, continues with shows in June, August and three in October. Along with high-quality competition conditions, the Series features fun social get-togethers and the lovely setting of the Hansen Dam Horse Park in which to enjoy them.

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*Report excerpted from press releases provided by Langer Equestrian Group.*