

Krystalann Shingler and Tividor Earn the Markel Amateur Championship at the Gold Coast Finale

On the Scene 2009

[Gold Coast Dressage - 2009](#)

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Krystalann Shingler earned the Markel Amateur Championship for Prix St. Georges with her eight-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding Tividor. "He is so wonderful," she said of her horse, which was originally bought in Holland by Shingler's trainer, Shannon Dueck. Shingler and Tividor are also currently at the top of the national list of adult amateurs for Prix St. Georges/I-1. Shingler's road to the championship title at the Finale

included taking a win in Saturday's Prix St. Georges competition and a win in Sunday's Intermediaire I Freestyle with a 70 percent. "It was our first I-1 freestyle," she said.

"We're doing well." In addition to her time spent riding and training Tividor, Shingler works part-time with Sho Clothes. Shingler said it has not always been an easy trip with Tividor, who last year couldn't even handle going into the covered ring at the Jim Brandon Equestrian Center. Training and time have clearly helped the gelding, but Shingler said she also put him on the [Mushroom Matrix](#). "And he does seem calmer."

DressageDaily's [Mary Phelps-Hathaway, a Markel Equine Insurance Specialist](#) created the championships in cooperation with John and Noreen Flanagan, of Wellington Classic Dressage and managers of the Gold Coast Series. "We wanted to do something special for the dressage shows which are held at the Jim Brandon Palm Beach County Equestrian Center in recognition of the amateur riders who compete here throughout the winter season." said Phelps-Hathaway. "It is a special award for us, as we always present it on the anniversary of my joining Markel." An equine insurance specialist with Markel for 6 years, Phelps-Hathaway has been in the equine insurance business for 18 years. "Markel is a great company with real horse people working at every level of the business. They recognized our contribution to the dressage world through our work on the scene, and also through DressageDaily. Markel has contributed to the growth of our website and helped to make it possible for us to expand on our coverage and travels." Phelps-Hathaway adds. "In my father's hometown in rural Kentucky, where we now live half of the year, your insurance agent was a friend, and a member of the community who you would see at local events and in church on

Sunday. Markel which has been in this business for over 40 years still has that hometown flavor and spirit of service, and we are continuously inspired in our work with all involved in carrying that spirit of service to the sport.”

It’s a relationship which clicked from the very beginning and continues to thrive.” John and Noreen have created a separate division for the Amateurs who come to Florida and compete among many of the top dressage professionals in the world. With the additional support of Italian Rose Garlic Company, separate ribbons and classes for amateurs are the norm.