



An Interview with Jaclyn Duff

For those of you that haven't seen Jaclyn Duff around these parts, it's because she has been away learning her craft the last few years with Canadian Olympian and consistent producer of top talent, Jill Henselwood. The years Jaclyn spent away featured an intense training and competition regime that was topped off this summer by a trip to compete for Canada on the Nations Cup teams and at some of the world's biggest shows in Europe! Raised in Edmonton, Jaclyn is returning home with her knowledge and intends to turn professional and make her dream her career.

What has made you decide to turn professional?

After finishing a BA with a major in Economics, I took some time off to focus completely on riding before making the decision between pursuing a Masters degree or to continue riding professionally. After spending the last two years chasing new goals and competing in Europe, I've realized that my passion lies in horses and I want to pursue a career doing something I love.

What are your plans for starting your new business model?

I have turned professional so I can start a small

training business and have a few sale horses. I really enjoy working with young horses and bringing them along. I've worked with a lot of amazing trainers throughout the years and I am confident in my ability to pass along a lot of the knowledge I have learned from them to others – as well as from my personal experiences.

When and where do you think you have done the most learning in your career?

It's hard to pinpoint one time or place and say I've have learned the most from that particular moment in my career. I am constantly learning everyday and I strongly believe to be the best you have to be open-minded and continually learning. I have worked with so many fantastic trainers that have gotten me to where I am today, and every one of them has taught me something that has helped me achieve success so far in my career.

Where did you go this summer? What were some of the results?

This summer I travelled to Europe with three horses. I started my tour in Bratislava, Slovakia where we had great success. EH All or None won the World Cup Qualifier and Pater Noster won the Grand Prix

the next day. After Bratislava we travelled to Samorin, Slovakia. Samorin was a beautiful show and the facility was spectacular.

After the two shows in Slovakia I travelled to the Netherlands and based out of Stal Hendrix for the remainder of the summer. The first show I did from there was the CSI2* in Roosendaal. Pater Noster won the Grand Prix qualifier the first day out of 100 horses, and EH All or None capped off the week by winning the Grand Prix. I got invited to travel to CSIO5* Gijon, Spain, as the reserve rider for the Canadian team. Gijon was an amazing show and I qualified and jumped my first 5* Grand Prix there! After Gijon I did a CSI2* in Peelbergen, just down the road from Stal Hendrix. Caesar Z was outstanding at that show, placing 4th in the Grand Prix qualifier and 5th in the Medium Tour Final. EH All or None was 9th in the Grand Prix. The final show I did before returning to Canada was CSI3* Donaueschingen. It was a really beautiful show; it reminded me of a mini-Aachen as there was driving and a big dressage show on all at the same time. EH All or None won the first ranking class and finished 10th in the Grand Prix.

I really enjoyed my summer in Europe and I feel my horses and I gained valuable experience. Getting to go to different shows all over Europe at different venues gave my horses so much experience. The level of competition is also great over there. A lot of the time there are 80-100 horses in the qualifying classes for the Grand Prix. You learn to be a bit more competitive, because you can't just enter the Grand Prix – you have to qualify! I hope to return to Europe again soon to compete.

As a rider, getting to train with Emile Hendrix and learn the European system was amazing. I'd say I am very comfortable with the North American system of riding forward; if there is an option in a line, I would typically leave out a stride before I would add because

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The horses I have now are: EH All or None, Pater Noster, Stakkarus and Caesar Z. Caesar Z has jumped up to the 1.50m level, and the other three have done the Grand Prix.

What is the plan for the near future?

My plan for the near future is to head to Wellington, Florida, to compete. It was a hard decision not to attend Thermal, California, this year, but in order to gain more experience at the highest level of the sport I felt I needed to go to Florida.

ABSJ is excited to have this fantastic young Albertan rider back home. We can't wait to see what the future holds for her! 🏇

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we have such a tight time allowed in most classes at home. In Europe I was taught to be a lot more disciplined, and to make my horses do one more stride if there was an option. It really taught my horses to be more rideable. As a rider I think it is important to know both systems and be comfortable doing both.

What horses do you have now? What levels do they compete at?

Looking Forward To The 2017 Show Season!

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