

FEI 3-STAR JUDGE Omar Zayrik of Mexico (left) presented prizes to Vivienne Kissoon (second left), Aria Cozier-Dowden (second right) and Taylor Foster. (GP)



Equestrians on high in challenge

RIDERS OVERCAME the setback of **Hurricane Beryl** to successfully compete for the 2025 Caribbean Equestrian Association's **Regional Dressage & Mini Dressage Challenge**, held at Congo Road Equestrian Centre in St Philip recently.

The competition was abandoned last year due to the passage of **Hurricane Beryl**. The Barbadian dressage riders and their horses from affiliated stables across the island rose to the occasion, with their exceptional talent making Barbados proud in this prestigious competition.

This show series features riders from the Caribbean association's member countries competing at their home grounds while being regionally ranked against other member countries.

The competition was held under the auspices of FEI 3-star

judge Omar Zayrik of Mexico.

In the **Regional Dressage Challenge**, Barbadian dressage riders competed in tests ranging from USEF Training Level Test 3 through to FEI Intermediate 1 Freestyle.

The entries for the **Mini Regional Dressage Challenge** included tests from Introductory Level Test B to Training Level Test 1. Notably, for the first time, Barbados had a **Mini Dressage Challenge** as a member of the Open Freestyle Class team.

In the **Regional Dressage Challenge**, Roberta Foster and **Chichic**, riding to a compilation of music from home-grown superstar **Rihanna** in the FEI Intermediate 1 Freestyle, achieved the high score of the day – 75.24 per cent.

Maia Archer and **Daisy** topped the **Mini Dressage Challenge** scores in USEF Training Level Test 1 with 68 per cent.

The **Regional Dressage Challenge** Children's Team of Rylee Pinheiro and **Vivaldi**, Imogen Hutchinson and **Amagold**, and Josiah Straughn and **Professor** had a team score of 191 per cent.

The Adult Team of Foster and **Bandit**, Paige Tryhane and **Corlato**, and Adriana Watson and **Sargeant Vaughn** achieved a score of 202.21 per cent.

The Open Freestyle Team of Foster and **Chichic**, Gina Hunte and **Vivaldi**, and Rylee Pinheiro and **Vanity** returned a team score of 217.20 per cent.

One of the highlights of the weekend was a presentation to the decorated former high jumper Anton Norris, who became the first athlete to win a bronze medal for Barbados at the 1962 **Commonwealth Games**. The Barbados Equestrian Association was deeply honoured by and appreciative of his presence. (SW)