

## Melissa Taylor and Ansgar Peak To Win The TheraPlate Peak Performance Award



*Wellington, FL. (August 21, 2018)* – Wellington local Melissa Taylor came to the Gold Coast Dressage Associations Shade I & II shows held at the Palm Beach Equine Complex to gear up for a bid to become national champions.

Taylor rode Nicole Polaski's thirteen year old gelding Ansgar to victory in the Prix St Georges with a score of 71.765%. The goal of this show was to get in one final tune up before Taylor and her student Codi Harrison left for the US Dressage Festival of Champions held August 21-26 at the historic Lamplight Equestrian Center. Taylor and Ansgar are going in to the Intermediarie I Championships ranked seventh with a qualifying average of 68.779%, which was accomplished at the highly competitive Adequan Global Dressage Festival.

Getting to this point has been no easy task for this pair, "He is a little bit of a firecracker, and we have come a long way and we have developed quiet a relationship" said Taylor of their journey. Being a horse on the smaller size

Ansgar has a lot of movement, which helps obtain the big scores necessary to make it in the Wellington circuit and to succeed at the national championships. Winning the TheraPlate Peak Performance Award for their outstanding ride hours before the horse hit the road for Lamplight, Taylor and Ansgar have proved that they are ready to contest the very best. By winning the award Taylor will get a month long trial of a TheraPlate with her husband Olympian Lars Peterson in their home barn of Legacy Farms. She is highly anticipating the trial of her TheraPlate once she returns home from the national championships.

Along with being the Official Therapy Plate of the US Equestrian, TheraPlate is also a proud sponsor of the Gold Coast Dressage Association.

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Photo: Melissa Taylor and Ansgar peaked at just the right time to win the TheraPlate Peak Performance Award, pictured with groom Emily Benner, and husband Lars Peterson. (Photo courtesy of JRPR, no photo credit necessary)