

Equine Cancer Survivor Wins Big

A life-saving operation allows a victorious return to the show-ring.

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Cancer survivor and miracle horse, Gladiator, stepped out to show the world he still has what it takes to win. He carried his partner Mindy Elgart to a winning performance at Florida's Wellington Classic Spring Challenge, Feb. 16-17. They posted a score of 70 percent at the FEI Prix St. George Adult Amateur class.

Three years ago, Mindy Elgart learned that Gladiator (known as "Max" to his friends) had developed cancer. She was devastated and knew she could not afford the operation that could possibly save his life. Stablemates, friends and family stepped up to the adversity and raised the needed funds for Max to fly over to the United Kingdom for the operation.

Max returned home, recovered from his operation and like the professional he is, went back to work. Not every day was perfect, but horse and rider centered themselves and focused on their return to the show-ring. Elgart trained Max to Prix St. George level, and when they entered the ring in Wellington, their work and determination led them to a well-deserved win.

Sho Clothes co-owner Michele Hundt presented Mindy Elgart and Max with their custom-made whip engraved with the Sho Clothes logo to commemorate their victory.