



2016 Cloud Eleven ~ Gavilan North LLC Carolina International Raises the Bar in its Third Year and Honors the Legacy of Karen Stives

Raeford, North Carolina- December 3, 2015 - The Organizing Committee of the Cloud Eleven ~ Gavilan North LLC Carolina International, running March 24-27 at the Carolina Horse Park, is pleased to announce that the 2016 competition will be held in memory of Karen Stives. While honoring the legacy of the Olympic gold and silver medalist, the Carolina International will feature newly designed cross country tracks by renowned designer Ian Stark and will once again award unprecedented prize money across all divisions. For those unable to attend the 2016 competition, a free online livestream of the two and three star competition will be provided by EQSportsNet.

“Karen had a deep impact on the sport of eventing and provided instrumental support to the Carolina International. We look forward to honoring her legacy at the 2016 competition as we once again welcome North America’s top eventing combinations to the Cloud Eleven ~ Gavilan North LLC Carolina International and provide an unparalleled experience for our sponsors, patrons, owners, and spectators,” said Jane Murray who has joined Robert Costello as Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee.

Stark, of Selkirk, Scotland, brings a wealth of experience having designed renowned tracks both in Europe and the United States at the CCI3* and CIC3* levels including Bramham, Blair Castle, Tattersalls, Rebecca Farm, Richland Park and Galway Downs. After visiting the site in the summer of 2015, Stark has made significant changes to the cross country courses for the international divisions as well as the upper level horse trials. The 2016 courses will test the accuracy, scope, and efficiency of the world's best combinations as they gallop over some of the top footing in the United States in preparation for podium finishes at the Rio Olympic Games.

The competitors taking on Stark’s innovative tracks will be looking to earn top prize money as a total of \$75,000 will offered, with \$35,000 being awarded to the CIC3*.

In 2016, the Carolina International is pleased to partner with EQSportsNet to provide a free Live stream of the 2016 Cloud Eleven ~ Gavilan North LLC Carolina International. The broadcast will include wall-to-wall coverage of all three phases of the CIC3* and the show jumping and cross country phases of the CIC2*.

“We are very excited to add the Cloud Eleven ~ Gavilan North LLC Carolina International to our 2016 broadcast schedule and bring three days of high quality, comprehensive coverage to our existing subscribers and expand into a new audience,” said EQSportsNet’s Kathy Meyer. “The Carolina International has built a reputation as one of the marquee eventing competitions in the United States and what better way to kick-off our eventing coverage on EQSports.Net than with such a world class competition.”