

# UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HORSE SYMPOSIUM

## SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2026 9 AM – 12 PM

### Melissa Tindall : Cavaletti, Pole and Groundwork Clinic



Join Melissa Tindall for a clinic where horses and riders will gain confidence and skills combining dressage principles with groundwork and pole work. Riders from all disciplines can learn the correct use of aids for lateral work on the ground to further their understanding when mounted. They can then work on improving balance and rhythm in the saddle over poles and cavaletti.

Melissa Tindall is an FEI rider and earned her USDF Bronze medal on her self-trained mare who she is currently competing at Prix St. George. She is the Coach of the UConn Dressage team, teaches riding at UConn and travels to teach locally. She was an apprentice with FEI rider and USDF Instructor faculty member Melanie Tenney, where she went through the BHS Instructor Training Program. Melissa began her riding career in hunter jumpers and eventing but has concentrated on dressage for the last 25 years. She focuses on positive teaching and training methods utilizing in-hand work, in addition to mounted work, to encourage connection and understanding of both students and horses.

#### 9-10 AM

##### **Session 1: In Hand Lateralwork**, limited to 12 handlers

Learn the how, when and why in asking/teaching horses to move laterally using dressage principles on the ground.

#### 10-11 AM

##### **Session 2: Advanced Pole Exercises and Cavaletti**, limited to 8 riders

For riders who are comfortable walk/trot/canter over multiple ground poles and cavaletti in more complex patterns. More advanced exercises designed to help the rider find balance and rhythm using dressage principals for both dressage and jumping.

#### 11 AM -12 PM

##### **Session 3: Basic Pole Exercises**, limited to 8 riders

For riders who are comfortable walk/trot over ground poles and comfortable cantering a single pole. Basic exercises designed to help the rider find balance and rhythm using dressage principals.