

Mr. Cinder of the Sunshine State

When you think of the ‘Sunshine State,’ the last thing that comes to mind is a Newfoundland Pony. Yet just north of Miami, in Palm City, there’s a part Newfoundland Pony named Mr. Cinder who has been winning competitions and taking the dressage world by storm. With his highly adaptable Newfoundland Pony genes, we’re not the least bit surprised.

Mr. Cinder is 9 years old and is owned by Madeline Truman who acquired him in 2019. She came across Mr. Cinder via a trainer on Facebook who said in the sales ad, “True to his breeding, he is sturdy and sure-footed.” She flew to Ontario to meet the pony, and excitedly arranged for a vet check the next day. A week later, Mr. Cinder moved to Florida.

He was bred by Kim Stoppa in Cobden, Ontario. His sire is registered Newfoundland Pony #5777 Deerfield’s John Peter Payne and his dam is Canadian Horse, Deerfield Javron Sophie. Mr. Cinder stands 14.1 hands and weighs 900 pounds.

After giving Mr. Cinder lots of time to settle in and acclimatize, she began taking him out to training clinics and shows. “He’s everything I’d ever want in a pony; he has a great personality, good gaits, and is fun to ride. He truly is my best friend,” said Madeline.

“He’s very smart and he puts his trust in me. Even in a tricky venue, he catches on to the environment pretty quickly. Not much fazes him, including cold, wet or windy weather. For that, it makes me very thankful he grew up in Canada!” she added.

They’ve been racking up medals and ribbons ever since: He placed #1 in Introductory Level and #6 in Training Level in the 2020 National Dressage Pony Cup USA Rankings. The biggest competition they have ridden at so far has been the USDF Region 3 Dressage Championships at the Florida Horse Park in Ocala with a best personal score of 71.8% at Training 3.

The duo is becoming well known in the U.S. and Madeline is asked all the time about Mr. Cinder’s breed. “People are curious about him and ask if he is Welsh or Fell, but I tell them he is a Newfoundland Pony. I didn’t know about the breed before, but I am so happy to have found Mr. Cinder.”

Top: National Dressage Pony Cup in 2020 year-end awards. **Right:** His ribbons so far!

