

Claus Bergener

FEI Grand Prix Judge – all disciplines
FEI Dressage Judge – all 5 Int'l tests
“I” Licensed Instructor – German Nat'l Equestrian Federation
Brigadier General (ret)

He has been called the 'gentle general'.... A combination of world-class expertise and a kind, supportive teaching style.

Born and trained in Germany and highly respected in the international circuit, General Bergener has 70 years equestrian experience and education to share with his students. Following his high school graduation in 1953 he continued his studies in the Science of Industrial Management. Mr. Bergener joined the armed forces in 1956 and from 1982 until his retirement in 1990; he served as a Brigadier General and Director of the Federal Armed Forces Communications. General Bergener is married and is the father of two sons. He himself rides through Grand Prix level Dressage.

He received his FRG instructor's license in 1972 and is qualified as a judge up through the FEI levels in dressage, Show Jumping, 3-Day Eventing, and conformation. Additionally, he was invited to sessions of the German Olympic Committee. He has judged numerous international shows and assisted judges at the World Equestrian Championships.

Hand-in-hand with these qualifications comes a sensitive, respectful 'ringside manner' that brings out the best in his students and their horses – from beginners to seasoned competitors. He teaches a no-nonsense, gimmick-free classical approach to dressage. Claus' kind, positive, easy-going style never fails to bring out the best in you and your horse. His lessons focus on correct basics which enable horses and riders to progress, often more quickly than they anticipate. His students compete successfully at all levels – training through Grand Prix.

General Bergener had been judging AHSA shows (training level to Grand Prix) and giving clinics in California, Oregon, Nevada and Arizona since 1985. He is a very popular clinician.