

Horse & Rider

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Young rider wins national dressage

HEREFORDSHIRE dressage rider Lucy Pincus, aged 14, has beaten off competition from a field of 26 to win a national title at the NAF Five Star Winter Dressage Championships held at Hartpury in Gloucestershire.

The teenage rider from Bartestree rode Serena Pincus's home-bred eight-year-old pony Sheepcote Sandmartin to victory in the Petplan Equine Elementary Restricted Area Festival Championship.

One of the youngest in the class of mainly seniors, Lucy rode an accomplished test on the 14.2hh Sheepcote Wurlitzer-sired pony and held her own with an impressive score of 70.69 per cent.

"We went quite early on in the class. It was a long wait to see if we'd held the lead so I was very relieved," Lucy told British Dressage.

"Spike - Sheepcote



Lucy Pincus and Sheepcote Sandmartin won at the 2011 NAF Five Star Winter Dressage Championships.

Sandmartin - felt tired in there as we'd had to qualify by riding in the first round this morning.

"It did actually help though - he was harder to ride, not as sharp, but his trot work was better for it."

Lucy, whose long term aim is to train Spike to

advanced level, has another prospect waiting in the wings.

"Spike will have a well-earned rest when we get back home and I'll spend the time concentrating on my young horse," she said.

"He's a really nice home-bred five-year-old by Don Schufro."