

Declan Cullen, 56
IRL

Defender Burghley is a first CCI5* for Declan Cullen (56) and his ride Seavaghan Ash's CCI5*.

Declan comes from a showjumping background and loves all sport. His interest in eventing began after spending time training with 1981 European Eventing Champion Hansueli Schmutz at his base in Basel, Switzerland. Declan made his international eventing debut in 2002 at the age of 34. He has produced a number of horses to four-star level and juggles this with working as an equine brand and feed consultant.

Declan is based in Gilford, Co Armagh in Northern Ireland with his wife Becky and daughter Kitty. From this base they run a business that offers equestrian coaching and business strategy planning services.

Seavaghan Ash (Glenhill Gold-Davys Instructions (Safety Catch)), owned by Declan's wife Becky Cullen, is an Irish-bred Irish Sport Horse registered 15-year-old skewbald gelding who was bred by Seamus McGouran. He has been ridden by Declan throughout his eventing career which includes highlights such as finishing 10th in the CCI4*-L at Blair Castle in 2023 and 10th in the CCI4*-S, also at Blair Castle, in 2022.