

Jennie Brannigan, 36
USA

Jennie Brannigan (36) is paying her second visit to Defender Burghley; she and her 2024 ride, FE Lifestyle, finished 12th here last year.

Jennie discovered her love of riding at a local stables in Illinois, and discovered an interest in eventing. She eventually found her horse of a lifetime, Cooper, on whom she won the Young Rider Championship in 2008. The following year she came to Britain to do the CCI4*L at Bramham.

Her last international run before Burghley was in the CCI4*-L at Kalispell, Montana, which she won aboard Pascal.

Based in Pennsylvania with top US rider Phillip Dutton, she credits him and former US team coach Erik Duvander as major influences on her career.

FE Lifestyle (Leo Von Faelz-Berina A (Brandenburger), or “Foxy,” is a 14-year-old German Sport Horse bred by Danny Arnold and owned by Nina and Timothy Gardner. He came to Jennie as a six-year-old from Clayton Fredericks.

Jenny says: “He’s always been an unbelievable cross-country horse. He’s been a little tough on the flat, but I think we’re really starting to get through that.”

The pair have completed Defender Kentucky CCI5* three times, and were fifth at Maryland in 2022. They were 12th at both Kentucky and Burghley in 2023, and finished 10th this spring.