

Richard Jones, 42
GBR

British rider Richard Jones (42) comes to Defender Burghley with Alfies Clover, on whom he finished seventh in both 2022 and 2018. Richard has announced that Alfie's Clover will retire from top-level eventing after this week.

Richard is a local rider based near Oakham in Rutland, where he was born. He went to school in Stamford and was a member of the local Burghley branch of the Pony Club. For several years he was a runner and score collector at Burghley. After school Richard was based in Sussex with dressage trainer Dane Rawlins before setting up his own yard at home, now shared with his wife Victoria, where he has a yard of eventers and young horses.

In December 2016 Richard suffered a serious foot injury after the horse he was riding slipped over then crushed his foot when getting up and in June 2017 at Bramham he lost a finger after slipping in the horse box and his wedding ring becoming trapped. Richard trains with Mark Kyle and Di Lampard. He is married to dressage rider Victoria and the couple has two young children – Freddie and Florence. Outside of eventing Richard likes fishing and watching rugby.

Alfies Clover (Tajraasi-Aoife's Clover (Clover Hill), owned by Sandra Martin, Dinah Saunders and Richard, is a 17-year-old grey Irish-bred gelding. He was bought as an unbroken three-year-old from Goresbridge from his breeder James Hickey. He completed his first CCI5* at Burghley in 2017 and has been a regular at both Badminton and Burghley ever since, finishing seventh twice at Burghley (2018 and 2022). 10th at Badminton in 2022 and sixth in the one-off CCI5* at Bicton in 2021.