

eQuester

Wisconsin Dressage & Combined Training's Monthly Newsletter

[Adequan Festival of Champions \(Aug. 18-24\)](#) **International Competition in Our Backyard**

If you didn't go this year, be sure to put the Festival of Champions on your calendar next year. For a week,, riders came from all over the United States to compete in young horse championships, FEI, and national classes at Lamplight Equestrian Center in Wayne, IL. Many judges and spectators commented about how lucky we are to have this facility in our "backyard." It was exciting to see former Olympian Sabine Schut-Kerry, some up-and-coming combinations such as Adrienne Lyle on Hussmanns Topgun, new partnerships including Christian Simonson on the drool-worthy Indian Rock, some area riders, including Brittany Burson and :Martin Kuhn, and former area rider, Jessica Jo Tate. (For full results, see the USEF website [here](#).)

Here's an edited summary of the competition from the USEF, combined with photos I took over the three days I scribed for the FEI young horse classes, freestyles and other FEI classes.
— Caryn Vesperman, editor

Wayne, Ill. - Six new champions were crowned on Saturday at the U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions, highlighting a full day of competition at HITS Chicago Lamplight Equestrian Center. Titles were awarded in the Neue Schule/USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship, the Adequan®/USEF Brentina Cup National Championship, the Aspen Leaf Farm/USEF Pony Rider Dressage National Championship, the Markel/USEF Developing Prix St. Georges, and the Markel/USEF Young Horse Championship for 5-Year-Olds, as well as 4-Year-Olds. In addition, competition in the Aspen Leaf Farm/USEF Children Dressage National Championship got underway. Markel/USEF Developing Horse Dressage National Championship – Prix St. Georges

The Developing Prix St. Georges division showcased the



One of several metal statues at Lamplight Equestrian Center. The show grounds are manicured with flowers, bushes and trees, has excellent footing, and gazebos and covered seating areas spared spectators from the sun. And the shopping? Let's just say it wasn't hard to find things I "need."

rising generation of elite equine athletes, and 13 entries returned for their second test, the USEF Developing Prix St. Georges, on Saturday morning. With two winning tests, the champion title went to Hussmanns Topgun (Totilas x Atterupgaards Demi), a 2016 Danish Warmblood gelding owned by Heidi Humphries and ridden by Adrienne Lyle (Wellington, Fla.) Though he's a relatively new face at the FEI level, his development has been a

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Festival continued

steady and deliberate progress over the past several years.

"He is a horse with tremendous power and scope who needs all the time he needs to develop the strength to carry that, and to feel confident in his ability to do that," said Lyle. "He's been a really fun project, because every day, he just makes me a better rider. I have to be super conscious of my body position and how I ask things. I have to have everything stacked and lined up perfectly for him, and then he does it. Those kind of horses, I think, really elevate your riding."

The judges recognized the pair's work, awarding consistently good marks across both tests.

"I was really happy with today's ride," said Lyle. "I thought it was one of the best feelings he's given me in the ring of really being able to have him relaxed with me enough that I could put my leg on and ride back to front into a really honest, solid connection, and feel like he was using his whole body through the test."

Lyle recognized owner Heidi Humphries (Zen Elite Equestrian Center) for her ongoing support of the young horses and the sport at large.

"She's having a pretty incredible week here as an owner, and she's such a wonderful supporter of us and of dressage in general in this country," she said. "It's just really exciting to be around that energy and have such a fabulous team. I feel very lucky."

Winning second in both tests and reserve champion overall was MSJ for VIPs (Foundation x VIP), a 2017 Oldenburg gelding owned by Lauren Fisher and shown by Rebecca Rigdon (Cardiff By The Sea, Calif.).

"I was really happy with our first test. That was the best Prix St. Georges he's done to date," said Rigdon. "Today we had some expensive mistakes in the canter tour, but the trot tour was really, really good, and the walk is always good. I could tell the minute I picked up the canter, I thought, 'Oh, he's getting a little tired.' It's a hard test with the pirouettes and immediate fours and



Views of the Hits arena: (top) toward the cafe and (bottom) toward judges box at C.

Möller was the one who recommended him, and my coaches, Christine Traurig and Guenter Seidel, we all said, yes, this is

definitely the horse. It's been a long journey, but he's incredibly smart. He has more power than he always knows what to do with, so that's been, I wouldn't even say a challenge, but just trying to educate him as to how to manage that. Mentally, he's just cool, relaxed—he's just a wonderful animal. I cannot say a bad thing about him. He's just such a good boy, and he's just as easy in the barn as he is under saddle. I'm really, really lucky."

A new national champion was crowned today in the Neue Schule/USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship as Christian Simonson (Ventura, Calif.) and Indian Rock, a 2013 KWPN stallion (Apache x Crisjena), owned by Zen Elite Equestrian Center, delivered a winning FEI Grand Prix Freestyle with a score of 79.430%, winning the overall championship with an average score of 74.393%.

the half pass zigzag. That's tough for a horse with a canter so big."

Although still a fairly young horse, MSJ for VIPs and Rigdon have built an impressive resume together, including two outings to the World Breeding Championships.

"We got him as a four, coming five-year-old. He was quite green for his age," said Rigdon. "Ulf



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Festival continued

For Simonson, the moment was nothing short of surreal. “It’s been amazing, and like a true childhood dream come true,” he shared. “I think I’ve watched this show for I don’t even know how many years now and being able to compete here, with him of all horses, at a senior championship, I just have to pinch myself. To be given this opportunity from Zen Elite Equestrian Center is just unbelievable. I’m so grateful to them.”

Simonson also credited the people behind the scenes who helped make the win possible. “It feels amazing. I think it’s a real reflection of my team, especially Adrienne Lyle, my trainer. Not only her, but also Marina, Hugo, and all the grooms we have back home that make this happen. I just get to sit on the horse and do the riding part, but they’re really the reason why.”

The partnership between Simonson and Indian Rock, known around the barn as “Rocky,” is still relatively new, which makes this victory even more meaningful. “To come here with him, and to already feel this kind of connection in the ring, it’s something really special.”

Meagan Davis (Loxahatchee, Fla.) and Toronto Lightfoot, a 2013 Oldenburg gelding (Totilas x Okima Lightfoot), owned by Scott Durkin, captured the Reserve Champion title with a score of 68.711%, marking a major milestone in their partnership. “It was a huge goal of mine. Last year at this time we did our fifth Grand Prix ever,” Davis said. “It was just a huge accomplishment to get here at this point a year later, and then to win Reserve Champion was icing on the cake.” Davis shared that the highlight of their freestyle came during the one-tempis: “The second line of one-tempis, I got all 15 in, and I was like, ‘Okay, now we’re ready to roll.’”

At home, Toronto Lightfoot, fondly called “TT,” has just as much charm as he does talent. “Toronto is a sweet-heart. He loves bananas, so I actually have banana keychains on things, it’s a running theme,” she said with a smile. “He tries super hard, and we got him three years ago when he was in Prix St. Georges. We moved him up to I-2 and then bumped him up to Grand Prix. I just think that shows his talent and willingness to be a partner.”



(Above) Local competitor, Martin Kuhn (Illinois) on Fiorenza finishes in 13th place in the Five-Year-Old Young Horse class.

(Left) Brittany Burson (Illinois) finishes eighth on Venturini in the Four-Year-Old Young Horse class.

Karen Lipp (Ball Ground, Ga.) guided Infinity, her own 2013 KWPN gelding (Dream Boy x Ultraster) to round out the top three with a score of 68.064%. In addition to her top three finish, Lipp was honored with the Soft Hands Award, presented by Neue Schule, which recognizes exceptional harmony and lightness in the rider’s contact. She was presented with a sash and a Neue Schule saddle pad in celebration of her achievement.

Christian Simonson added a second national title to his record by winning the Adequan®/USEF Brentina Cup Dressage National Championship aboard Fleau de Baian, finishing on a cumulative score of 69.528%. The pair delivered a strong performance highlighted by expressive canter work and powerful piaffe-passage transitions to secure the championship.

Fleau de Baian, a 2010 KWPN stallion (Jazz x Fidora), owned by Zen Elite Equestrian Center, is a full brother to the legendary Parzival. Simonson affectionately calls him “Felix,” and describes him as the perfect partner. “He’s just like his brother, Rocky. He would go through fire for you,” Simonson shared. “It’s the most amazing feeling. I remember when I first sat on him, I thought, wow, this horse would just give you everything. And he really proved that this weekend.”

Their freestyle sealed the win with a final centerline that Simonson called one of his best moments of the competition. “That last centerline with the double fan each way—I’ve been really trying all week with both my boys to mentally click into that spot in the piaffe-passage. Today it just clicked. It felt like I had already won, no matter the score.”

Continued on next page

Festival continued

Caroline Garren and Quantaris, a 2010 Oldenburg gelding (Quarterline x Super Susi), owned by Oded Shimoni, claimed the Reserve Championship following a polished performance that left them just behind Simonson's winning score, finishing with a score of 68.101%. "He felt great today," said Garren. "We had a clean test that I was proud of. A couple of moments could have been a little more collected, but I really enjoyed our music and I'm happy with the choreography we chose for the freestyle."

Garren, who is preparing to step into the senior Grand Prix ranks, praised both her mount and her support system. "I'm so blessed to have the opportunity to ride Quantaris. He's such a joy in the barn, he's super snuggly, and I love that about him. I'm grateful to Oded for believing in me, developing me as a rider, and giving me these opportunities. Doing the Brentina Cup this season has been wonderful preparation for the senior level, and I feel so lucky to have people investing their time and energy in my growth as a rider."

Earning high marks across the board, including a 9.0 for the trot, MW Virtuous (Valverda x MW El. Sp. Pr. Rheporter), a 2020 U.S.-bred Oldenburg stallion owned by Jennifer Vanover and ridden by Charell Garcia (Middletown, N.Y.) won Saturday's FEI 5-Year-Old Final test and secured the overall national championship.

"He was bred by Jennifer Vanover and Maplewood Warmbloods, and he grew up on the farm. She's done everything with him," said Garcia. "I started working with him last year, and he was here (at Festival) last year as a 4-year-old, and I had a really fun time with him. He grew up a lot over the last year with strength and everything. He really showed up this week."

Fall-like temperatures and breezes picking up at Lamplight on Saturday afternoon may have affected some of the young horses, but MW Virtuous showed his maturity. "I thought that would be a little challenging at the beginning," said Garcia. "But he was like, 'You know what? If you help me, then I'll help you.' And we just went through the test together and he stayed with me. I was really proud of him."

Garcia said her ride in the 5-year-old preliminary test was good but knew there was more to give. "Today he did it. It was really fun to see him stepping it up and giving it that other little bit that I know he has," she said. "I really love this horse. He's playful. I call him my little clown because he just has fun. He makes a joke out of everything. When you walk him around, he is curious about things and always wants to explore what's around him. That's also what you feel under saddle in training him. He's really curious when we try something new. He's like, 'I'm game; let's do this.' And then once

he gets it, he's like, 'Gotcha. Just sit there and I'll take care of you.' So, it's really fun working with him."

After earning second place in both tests, Templeton's Milano (Morricone I x Florenciana), a U.S.-bred Westphalian gelding owned and ridden by Justin Giles (Heber City, Utah), was named reserve national champion for the 5-year-olds. This year was the pair's first trip to Festival of Champions, and "Cookie" handled the travel from Utah and the atmosphere at Lamplight with ease.

"I bought him as a 3-year-old and started him myself," said Giles. "From the first day I got on his back to today, he's been the same horse day in and day out. He gives me the best feeling in the ring, and I couldn't ask for a better horse to partnership within this journey. He handles my nerves like a champ. It's a true pleasure to perform with him and to be on a stage like this with a horse that I started."

The judges awarded Cookie scores of 8.0 or higher for all collective marks in the preliminary test and high scores in the final test, including a 9.0 for the walk. "I feel like we are headed in the right direction," said Giles. "I think an increase in balance and constantly building up our partnership and harmony is first and foremost in my mind in our training."

Charell Garcia earned another tricolor ribbon to take back to Maplewood Warmbloods, thanks to a victory in the 4-year-old class with MW Verrazzano (Viva Gold x Weiss Schwarz), a 2021 U.S.-bred Oldenburg stallion owned by Jennifer Vanover. Garcia said that Vinny showed his good character early in his show career, handling windy, challenging weather at qualifying competitions with no trouble.

"He just kept four feet on the ground and was just focused on his job," said Garcia. "That's how he is, both at the show and at home. He's really trainable and really rideable. He gives you a secure feeling. And especially for a stallion, he's kind of a puppy dog. He's a really fun stallion to work with—he has that expression to him, but he has a mellow side to him as well."

"Vinny" has two half-siblings competing in other young horse championships at this year's FOC, all homebreds out of Weiss Schwarz (better known as "Weezer.") "The mom breeds really well-minded and willing horses," said Garcia. "You can tell that they're all from her, and they have the same expression. They all really have her brain and rideability."

The reserve champion, VP Ice Man (Blue Hors Monte Carlo TC x Fine Amber), a 2021 Dutch Warmblood stallion owned by Valiente Partners LLC and ridden by Laura DeCesari (Tuscon, Ariz.) impressed the judges

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Festival continued

with his second go at the USEF 4-Year-Old test, earning impressive marks across the board including a 9.0 for the canter.

"I was first to go in the preliminary test, and I thought he felt amazing," said DeCesari. "I kind of just let him go and went with him, and I think I let him get a little flat. My coach, David Wightman, told me, 'Hey, be careful not to just throw him away during the whole test. You've got to keep a little contact.' And that seemed to help with the second test. He kept a little bit more balance and engagement. But in his mindset, he was just so relaxed the whole ride and totally with me."

DeCesari started working with Ice Man about a year and half ago. "I found him in Holland as a 3-year-old, and I started him myself," she said. "I co-own him with Susan

Arbuckle, and without her support, I wouldn't have been able to get him. She's an incredible person—she just cares about the horse and me. It's an incredible feeling to have that on your side."

One thing that has changed in Ice Man's life since joining DeCesari's stable is his name. "My husband, Tyson Clark, who's been his groom for the whole horse show and is my biggest supporter, is the one who named him," she said. "He came with the name Rembrandt, and there are plenty of Rembrandt's out there. We named him Ice Man because we love Top Gun, and because he's so focused. My husband would always say that he has ice in his veins."



The Dressage Foundation Offers Grants

Following are group education grants that groups like the WDCTA can apply for as a GMO:

- Dancing Horse Fund: to host a musical freestyle clinic or purchase a sound system.
- Dreitzler International Clinician Fund: to host educational events with clinicians from countries outside of the United States.
- Edgar Hotz Judges Education Fund: for GMOs that are hosting USDF's Continuing Education for Judges and USDF 'L' Program Graduates events.
- Lynn Palm Western Dressage Fund: to host Western Dressage educational events.
- Max Gahwyler Instructor Education Fund: to host educational events for dressage instructors.
- Michael Poulin Fund for Innovative Events and Programs: to host unique, innovative, collaborative events or programs that work toward advancing dressage.
- Sally Swift Fund for Centered Riding Clinics: grants to non-profit equestrian groups hosting a Centered Riding® Clinic.
- Violet Hopkins Fund for GMO Events: for GMOs hosting educational events for dressage riders at all levels.

Find information about all these grants at <https://bit.ly/47b0JoM>. If you have questions, please contact TDF at (402) 434-8585 or info@dressagefoundation.org.

On to the Next Chapter



Caryn Vesperman Editor

All advertisements, articles and photographs should be submitted by the 15th of the preceding month of publication, unless prior arrangements are made for additional time.

Calendar of events will appear in both the *eQuester* and on the WDCTA website.

Payment should be submitted via PayPal through the WDCTA website (wdcta.org) or mailed to the editor with a check made out to WDCTA.

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Hard to believe it's September! WDCTA is moving forward with a lot of changes, including our name change to Wisconsin Dressage & Eventing Association to better reflect our eventing members. (The eventing national federation changed their name from combined training to eventing 10+ years ago.) You'll hear more about that in the upcoming few months.

Also for 2026, the state board will be looking for some new board members...including me. Yes, after 30+ years, it's time for someone else to take the reins of the newsletter. (That's more than 400 newsletters over those years!)

I remember taking over as newsletter editor from Ellie Jensen. We were a print publication back then, and her husband, Carl, would print our newsletter at no charge at Xerox, where he worked. Then I would sit on my living room floor, affixing stamps and sorting the newsletters to qualify for a non-profit rate. Then Carl and Ellie re-located to Florida, so I had to find another printer. Then a few years ago, we transitioned to an all-electronic newsletter. Lots of changes, but moving to an electronic version certainly saved the organization money and saved me many hours of work.

Now it's time for someone else to bring in fresh ideas and take over the position. It also may be time to find out what our members want in a newsletter. For example, do members still want a monthly publication or would going to every other month, quarterly or a bi-annual publishing schedule suit your needs.

I'm not abandoning WDCTA, soon to be WDEA. I'll be here in some capacity, even if it's just as a member. With three horses under saddle, serving as the publications chair of the American Hanoverian Society where I'm overseeing two annual magazines, being on the board of the AHS Foundation, the desire to do more traveling and—oh, yes, a husband, I need to let go of some things that have meant a lot to me.

So, I'll be here a few more months when hopefully someone steps forward to serve for our organization. (Contact the WDCTA president, Melinda DeLuca if interested.) It's been a pleasure and an honor to serve all of you for so many years. I have many fond memories of working with excellent board members, over-coming challenges and doing our best to meet our members' changing needs.

Enjoy our stunning fall colors from the back of your horse, and good luck to those of you who qualified for regional champions and those who move on to the US Dressage Finals!

Caryn

Don't forget to send in your scores for WDCTA awards by November 30!

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Andrea Schten-Achtenhagen
Colt's Neck Equestrian Center
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Oconomowoc, WI 53066
aschten2000@yahoo.com
(262) 470-4557
Background experience: Has worked with multiple Olympic trainers. Ridden through Grand Prix. USDF Gold, Silver and Bronze medals, plus multiple regional championships. Will teach Intro to Grand Prix. School horses available. Will travel.

Tracey Dikkers
W4835 Aspen Court
Wild Rose, WI 54984
traceydikkers@gmail.com
Teaches all levels with 30 years of experience. USEF "r" dressage judge, USDF Bronze and Silver medalist on self-trained horses. Will travel.

Megan McIsaac
Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum
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Oregon, WI 53575
lindinhofllc@gmail.com
(608) 445-8531
lindinhof.com
FEI trainer, USDF-certified instructor through 4th Level, 2014 national champion with Kingsley, USDF Gold, Silver, Bronze medalist, all USDF bars. Competed four horses at GP. Competed successfully at Dressage at Devon and West Coast Festival. Year-end USDF/USEF and WDCTA awards. 16+ years teaching experience. Students competed through GP, earned riding awards and medals. Travel for lessons and clinics.

STABLES

Colt's Neck Equestrian Center
Andrea Schten-Achtenhagen
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[https://www.youtube.com/](https://www.youtube.com/@BarnyardBestiesWI/featured)

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Stephanie and Megan have created Barn Besties to build an online community. They provide videos on running and managing horse farms. Videos include building a facility, fencing, arena footing, equipment, barn tours and much more. Check out their YouTube channel.

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Caryn Vesperman

USEF/USDF "r" Judge
W1619 King Road
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touchstonefarm@gmail.com
(608) 455-2208

USDF Gold, Silver, Bronze medalist. Continuing education includes scribing for international levels with U.S. and foreign judges (including World Cup in Omaha), accepted into the "R" judge program, and current two horses training at FEI levels—were unstarted and brought up the levels. Available for USEF/USDF-recognized dressage shows, eventing and schooling shows.

Calendar

WDCTA Events

DEADLINE: Scores for WDCTA awards must be submitted and postmarked by Sunday, Nov. 30.

Other Events

Sept. 10-14
Region 2 Championships
Waterloo Hunt Club, MI

Oct. 2-5
Region 4 Championships
National Equestrian Center
Lake St. Louis/St. Louis, MO

Oct. 30-Nov. 2
US Dressage Finals
New Location! World Equestrian Center
Wilmington, OH

Dec. 3-7
USDF Annual Convention
Lexington, KY
More information go to:
usdf.org/convention.

2026

April 17-19
Midwest Horse Fair
Madison, WI

Sept. 17-20
Region 2 Championships
Lamplight Equestrian Center
Wayne, IL:

Oct. 1-4
Region 4 Championships
National Equestrian Center
Lake St. Louis, MO

Oct. 29-Nov. 1
US Dressage Finals
World Equestrian Center
Wilmington, OH



Mechanicals:

Ad size below. Photos should be submitted as jpegs. Or, mail to editor for scanning. Include self-addressed, stamped envelope for its return.

Deadline:

All calendar submissions, ads and payment must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Make checks out to WDCTA.

WDCTA members receive special rate (in **ORANGE).**
See calendar information at bottom of page.

Editor Contact Info:

Caryn Vesperman
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Brooklyn, WI 53521

Description	1 x	6 x	12 x
Business Card 3.5 x 2": In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with link to email OR website.	\$10 (\$9)	\$50 (\$45)	\$100 (\$90)
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Quarter Page 3.5 x 5": In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with links to email OR website.	\$15 (\$12)	\$85 (\$70)	\$150 (\$135)
Half Page 7.5 x 5" or 3.75 x 10": In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with links to email AND website.	\$20 (\$15)	\$100 (\$90)	\$195 (\$175)
Full Page 7.5 x 10": In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with links to email AND website.	\$40 (\$35)	\$150 (\$175)	\$300 (\$350)
Website Banner Ad 180x150 pixels, and can be a .jpg, .gif or .png	N/A	\$200 (\$150)	\$400 (\$300)

eQuester and Website Calendar of Events Submissions: *For WDCTA members only. (Up to 20 words).*

INCLUDE THIS: Date > Event > Location > Contact (Name/Phone/Email) > WDCTA-Sponsored Event (Yes/No)

WDCTA Event: Link to organizer's email and registration form, if applicable

NON-WDCTA-Sponsored Event: Link to organizer's email only.

Member-hosted private riding clinics cannot be advertised in the newsletter at this time.



DRESSAGE SCHOOLING CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

I. Dressage Awards

- Divisions are defined as Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR) and Adult Amateur
 - A Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR) is anyone that has not reached his/her 22nd birthday by January 1st of the award year.
 - Adult Amateurs must have an US Equestrian Federation (USEF) Amateur card or sign a WDCTA amateur affidavit. The card or affidavit must be included with the entry.
- Applicants may only compete in one Division per competition season.
- The following levels are eligible to participate in the Schooling Championship:
 - Introductory
 - Training Level
 - First Level
 - Second Level
- Participants of the Schooling Championship are not eligible for other WDCTA annual awards, including:
 - Horse of the Year
 - Rider of the Year
 - Championship program for recognized shows

II. Categories

- A champion and reserve champion will be named for each division at each level of competition -- Introductory through Second Level.
- Maiden awards are only open to those HORSES in their first year of showing at Introductory (Intro) Level through Second Level. Maiden awards will be given at each level for both divisions combined.

III. Registration and Eligibility

- The rider and owner of the horse must be members in good standing of WDCTA at the time scores are earned.
- A horse and rider combination may win an award or championship at any given level more than once.
- Championship registration for each horse and rider combination must be postmarked at least 1 day prior to the first show from which they plan to submit scores.
- A fee of \$25.00 for each level must be paid for each horse and rider combination to be eligible for championships.

- If competing for a Maiden award at any level, an additional fee of \$25 must be paid.
- Only one award is given for all divisions at that level for maiden even if there are two riders competing the horse.
- The Awards Chair must be notified in writing and fees paid if adding a level later in the year and prior to scores earned at that additional level.
- All registrations are for the show year December 1 through November 30.

IV. Qualification for Dressage Championships

- The horse/rider combination must have three qualifying scores from three different judges from two different shows.
 - Scores must be at least “L” candidates from a USEF Program.
 - Scores must be: minimum of 60% and above.
 - Scores must be from USEF, FEI or USDF tests.
 - The scores will be averaged.
 - Scores must be earned at shows open to all breeds.
 - One test score must be from the highest test for the level (e.g. Training Level Test 3).
 - Scores for the Maiden award may be from any test for the level.
 - If scores from a Regional Championship class are submitted, where more than one judge scored the ride, all scores must be averaged and will count as only one score.
 - Scores from Junior or Young Rider Team Tests will be accepted as long as the Team Test exactly matches the level test for which the Team Test is being submitted.
 - When a clinic is run in conjunction with a schooling show, using the show's judge as the clinician, the show must be held BEFORE the clinic in order for the rider's scores to qualify for year-end awards.

V. Submitting Scores

- The rider must send to the Awards Chair either the horse's USDF Score Sheet with their three chosen scores highlighted or a “GOOD QUALITY” photocopy of the original test for each qualifying score.
 - Photocopy must clearly state the show name, horse and rider, class, date, judge, score and judge's signature.
 - Photocopy does not have to include individual movement scores and comments.
- Scores must be postmarked on or before November 30. Scores may be submitted via email
 - A reply will be sent indicating your results were received.
 - Scores may also be sent through the U.S. Postal Service.
 - If you want notification that the awards chair received your scores when sent through the postal service, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard with your score sheets.
- NOTE: No refunds after the awards application and payment are submitted.



WDCTA DRESSAGE SCHOOLING CHAMPIONSHIP APPLICATION

Horse Information: Name _____ Breed _____ Sex _____ Date of Birth _____	
Rider Information: Name _____ Street Address _____ City/ST/Zip _____ Phone _____ eMail _____	Owner Information: Same as Rider ☐ Name _____ Street Address _____ City/ST/Zip _____ Phone _____ eMail _____
Award Information: Division (only one per rider) JR/Young Rider* Adult Amateur^ Rider Division (circle all that apply) Intro Training First Second Maiden Intro Training First Second	
Application Fees:	
Levels @ \$25 each	\$
Maiden [†] @ \$25	\$
Total Payment (No refunds will be provided)	\$
Submit Applications to: Celeste Pauli 840 Settlers Trail Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085 Phone (920) 207-5301 Email celestempauli@gmail.com	Please enclose: Completed Application Check made payable to WDCTA WDCTA Amateur Affidavit (if applicable)

Note: To participate in the WDCTA Dressage Schooling Championship Program, you must be a current member of WDCTA in good standing.

*A Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR) is anyone that has not reached his/her 22nd birthday by January 1st of the award year.

^Adult Amateur riders must provide a completed WDCTA Adult Amateur Affidavit with application. (available on WDCTA Forms Page)

[†] Maiden is defined as the first year showing at this level (only one award per horse per level)



DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

I. Dressage Awards

- Divisions are defined as Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR), Open and Adult Amateur
- Applicants may only compete in one Division per competition season.
- A Horse of The Year award will be awarded one for each of the following divisions Training – First level; Second – Fourth level; FEI levels.
- Levels are defined as In-Hand, Musical Freestyle, Materiale, Young Horse Tests, Rider Tests and Intro through Grand Prix.
 - A. A Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR) is anyone that has not reached his/her 22nd birthday by January 1st of the award year.
 - B. Adult Amateurs must have an US Equestrian Federation (USEF) Amateur card or sign a WDCTA amateur affidavit. The card or affidavit must be included with the entry. If you enter as an Amateur but do not include the necessary proof of amateur status, you will be entered in the Open division.
 - C. A champion and reserve champion will be named for each division at each level of competition -- Introductory through FEI.
 - D. Maiden awards are only open to those HORSES in their first year of showing at Introductory (Intro) Level through Grand Prix. Only one award will be given at each level for all divisions combined.
 - E. One Champion and one Reserve Champion Musical Freestyle award will be given for First through FEI levels combined.

II. In-Hand Sport Horse Breed Awards

- A. A young horse is filly, colt or gelding 3 years of age or younger.
- B. A mature horse is a mare or stallion 4 years of age or older.
- C. Amateur Handler Award
- D. A Champion and Reserve Champion will be named for Young Horse Filly, Young Horse Colt/Gelding, Amateur Handler, Mature Horse Mare and Mature Horse Stallion.

III. Registration and Eligibility

- A. The rider and owner of the horse must be members in good standing of WDCTA at the time scores are earned.
- B. For in-hand classes, the handler does not need to be a WDCTA member, nor is it necessary to have the same handler for each class in order to qualify for year-end awards.
- C. A horse and rider combination may win an award or championship at any given level more than once. For In-hand Sport Horse Awards, Mature Horse (Mare/Stallion) may win more than once.
- D. Championship registration for each horse and rider combination must be postmarked at least 1 day prior to the first show from which they plan to submit scores.
- E. A fee of \$25.00 for each level must be paid for each horse and rider combination to be eligible for championships. If competing for a Maiden award at any level, an additional fee of \$25 must be paid. Only one award is given for all divisions at that level for maiden even if there are two riders competing the horse. There is no fee for the Horse of The Year award. (Note: if entering via PayPal, there is an additional cost.
- F. The Awards Chair must be notified in writing and fees paid if adding a level later in the year and prior to scores earned at that additional level.
- G. All registrations are for the show year December 1 through November 30.
- H. Registration is not necessary for the Horse of The Year award. Winning horses will be chosen from the eligible entries. To qualify for the Horse of The Year award, **ALL SCORES MUST BE EARNED AT USDF/USEF-RECOGNIZED SHOWS.**

DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

IV. Qualification for Dressage Championships

- A. The horse/rider combination must have three qualifying scores from three different judges from two different shows. At least two of the qualifying scores submitted must come from USEF/USDF-recognized competitions. Only one may be from a schooling show. Remember, scores from "L" candidates and "r" judges are accepted through 2nd level. Scores from "R" judges are accepted through 4th level, and scores from "S" judges are accepted through Grand Prix.
- B. Scores must be: minimum of 60% at Intro through 4th level and minimum of 58% at PSG and above.
- C. Scores must be from USEF, FEI or USDF tests. The scores will be averaged.
- D. Scores must be earned at USEF/USDF-recognized shows, open to all breeds. At least one qualifying score submitted must be from a USEF/USDF-recognized show held in Wisconsin. One test score must be from the highest test for the level (e.g. Training Level Test 4).
- E. Scores for the Maiden award may be from any test for the level.
- F. If scores from a Regional Championship class are submitted, where more than one judge scored the ride, all scores must be averaged and will count as only one score.
- G. Scores from Junior or Young Rider Team Tests will be accepted as long as the Team Test exactly matches the level test for which the Team Test is being submitted.
- H. When a clinic is run in conjunction with a schooling show, using the show's judge as the clinician, the show must be held BEFORE the clinic in order for the rider's scores to qualify for year-end awards.
- I. The rider must send to the Awards Chair either the horse's USDF Score Sheet with their three chosen scores highlighted or a "GOOD QUALITY" photocopy of the original test for each qualifying score. Photocopy must clearly state the show name, horse and rider, class, date, judge, score and judges signature. Photocopy does not have to include individual movement scores and comments.
- J. Scores must be postmarked on or before November 30. Scores may be submitted via email; a reply will be sent indicating your results were received. Scores may also be sent through the U.S. Postal Service. If you want notification that the awards chair received your scores when sent through the postal service, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard with your score sheets.
- K. For the Horse of the Year award, all of the above qualifications must be met, PLUS ALL SCORES MUST BE EARNED AT USDF/USEF-RECOGNIZED SHOWS.

V. Qualification For In Hand Sport Horse and Amateur Handler Championships

- A. The horse/handler must have two qualifying scores from two different judges, at two different shows. Both judges must have an USEF Sport Horse Judge license.
- B. Scores must be earned from USEF/USDF-recognized shows, open to all breeds. At least one qualifying score submitted must be from a USEF/USDF-recognized show held in Wisconsin.
- C. Scores may be from Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand classes and/or Breeding stock In-Hand classes. Scores will be averaged.
- D. The owner must send to the Awards Chair either the horse's USEF/USDF Score Sheet with their two chosen scores highlighted or a good quality photocopy of the original score sheet for each qualifying score. Photocopy must clearly state show name, horse and rider, class, date, judge, score and judge's signature. Photocopy does not have to include individual movement scores and comments.
- E. **Postmark must be on or before November 30.** Email will also be accepted.
- F. Send self-addressed stamped postcard with score sheets; Awards Chair will return postcard when results are received. This will be the only notification that results were received.

NOTE: No refunds after the awards application and payment are submitted.

Show managers: If you want your show listed on the WDCTA website and in its monthly newsletter, please send your show information (date, name of show, show location, judge's name, show secretary's name and contact information) to newsletter@wdcta.org.



WDCTA DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIP APPLICATION

Championship registration open to WDCTA members in good standing.

FORM AND CHECK MUST BE POSTMARKED at least 1 DAY PRIOR TO START OF FIRST SHOW.

Please read WDCTA Dressage Championship Rules on the website, prior to competition year.

One form for each Horse and Rider combination. Please print neatly.

HORSE INFORMATION

Name _____ Breed _____ Sex _____ Date of Birth _____

RIDER INFORMATION

Name _____

Street
Address _____

City/St/
Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

OWNER INFORMATION

Name _____

Street
Address _____

City/St/
Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

AWARD INFORMATION

Rider Division (circle appropriate division)

Senior Open Adult Amateur* JR/Young Rider: Birth Date _____

Award Level (circle all that apply)

Intro Tr 1st 2nd 3rd 4th PSG I-1 I-2 GP

Other Riding Awards (circle all that apply)

Musical Freestyle 3&4 Yr Old Materiale 4, 5, 6 YO FEI Young Horse Tests

Highest level horse shown by any rider in any country _____

In-Hand Awards (circle one)

Young Horse Mare Young Horse Colt/Gelding Mature Horse Mare
Mature Horse Stallion Amateur Handler

APPLICATION FEES:

# Levels / Rider Tests / Freestyle / Horse Div ____ @ \$25 each x ____ # Rider divisions	\$
Maiden (First year showing this level. <i>Only one award per horse per level.</i>) \$25	\$
In-Hand Award ____ @ \$25 each (if applicable)	\$
NOTE: No refunds after the awards application and payment are submitted. TOTAL	\$
PAYMENT	

Sizes for possible awards:

Horse: Blanket _____ Halter _____ Rider: Jacket _____ .t _____

Send for with payment to:

Sandra Malott
9625 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222
Phone: (414) 687-4046
Email: awards@wdcta.org

Please enclose:

- ☒ Completed Dressage Awards Application
- ☒ Check made out to "WDCTA"
- ☒ Copy of USEF Amateur Card or WDCTA amateur affidavit
- ☒ Check that both rider AND owner are WDCTA members



WDCTA Dressage and In-Hand Score Report Form

One Level, One Horse and Rider Combination per Form.

All Scores must be postmarked no later than November 30.

Send good quality copies of your tests or a USDF/USEF score print-out along with this form.

Rider _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Horse's Name _____

Owner _____

RULES (Please read complete WDCTA Championship Rules on WDCTA website.)

1. Both owner and rider must be current WDCTA members at time scores are earned for awards. Exception: For in-hand classes, the handler does not need to be a WDCTA member, nor is it necessary to have the same handler for each class in order to qualify for year-end awards.
2. Dressage Awards: Three scores by three different judges from two different shows.
3. In-Hand Awards: Two scores from two different judges from two different shows.
4. Dressage Awards: At least two qualifying scores submitted must be from a USEF/USDF-recognized show.
5. Each score must be a minimum of 60% at Training - 4th level and a minimum of 58% at PSG and above.
6. Scores must be earned at shows, open to all breeds.
7. At least one qualifying score submitted must be from WDCTA- or USEF/USDF-recognized show held in Wisconsin.
8. One test score must be from the highest test from the level.
9. Maiden division awards may be from any test from the level.
10. WDCTA has a 70 Percent Club award for those members that have received a 70% or higher at a WDCTA-sanctioned schooling show or USDF/USEA-recognized show, during the awards year. WDCTA will award a certificate to the rider. There is no fee for the 70% Club.

Scores must be postmarked on or before November 30. Scores may be submitted via email; a reply will be sent indicating your results were received. Scores may also be sent through the U.S. Postal Service. If you want notification that the awards chair received your scores when sent through the postal service, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard with your score sheets.

Circle Division: Open Adult Amateur Junior/Young Rider Maiden 70% Club (free)
Eligible for a Maiden Award at this level? (Circle one) Yes No

Show Name and Date	Level and Test	Judge(s)	Score %

Average Score _____ %

Mail or email *Score Report Form* and *copies of the tests or USDF/USEA* report to:

Sandra Malott
9625 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Phone: (414) 687-4046
Email: awards@wdcta.org



WDCTA Eventing Report Form

One Level, One Horse and Rider Combination per Form.
All Scores must be Postmarked no later than Nov. 30.

Send good quality copies of a USEA score print-out/rider profile along with this form, or a copy of the dressage test and the final standings (photograph of posted show standings is fine.) For mini events, send in a quality copy of the dressage test and a photograph of posted show standings, or online link if that is applicable.

Rider _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Horse's Name _____

Owner _____

RULES (Please read current WDCTA championship rules on the WDCTA website.)

1. Eventing Awards: Three scores from three different shows.
2. In-Hand Awards: Two scores from two different shows.
3. The 70% Club is also available to eventers.
4. Each score must be a minimum of 50 at Starter - Training or a maximum of 60 at Prelim and above.
5. Scores must be earned at **USEF/USEA-recognized show**, open to all breeds, or for **mini events**, at WDCTA- or IDCTA-recognized mini events.

Scores must be postmarked on or before Nov. 30. Scores may be submitted via email; a reply will be sent indicating your results were received. Scores may also be sent via the U.S. Postal Service. If you want notification that the awards chair received your scores when sent through the postal service, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard with your score sheets.

Circle Division: Open Rider Junior

Eligible for Maiden Award at this level? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Eligible for 70% Club? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Show Name and Date	Level	Penalties

Average Score _____

Mail or email score report form, scores and *USEA Rider Profile* to the Award Chair:

Sandra Malott
9625 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Phone: (414) 687-4046
Email: awards@wdcta.org



WDCTA Western Dressage Score Report Form

One Level, One Horse and Rider Combination per Form.
All Scores must be Postmarked no later than November 30.
Send good quality copies of your tests with this form.

Rider _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Horse's Name _____

Owner _____

RULES (Please read full WDCTA Western Dressage Championship Rules on WDCTA website.)

1. NOTE: No refunds after the awards application and payment are submitted.
2. Western Dressage Awards: Three scores by three different judges from two different shows. WDCTA will accept scores from WDAA -or USEF-recognized shows and from schooling shows, but judges must be USDF "L" Graduates, USEF Western dressage licensed judges, or USEF dressage "r" judges or higher.
3. Each score must be a minimum of 60% at WDAA Intro – Level 5.
4. Open, Adult Amateur and JR/YR will be combined into one division, defined as "Open." One freestyle champion, reserve champion and 3rd – 6th place will be awarded for all WDAA Freestyle levels combined (Intro – Level 4).
5. Scores must be from WDAA tests only. One test score must be from the highest test of the level. The scores will be averaged.
6. Scores must be earned at schooling shows, WDAA-recognized and/or USEF/WDAA-recognized shows. Classes must be open to all breeds. Scores for virtual shows will not be accepted. Both owner and rider must be current WDCTA members.
7. WDCTA has a 70 Percent Club award for members who have received a 70% or higher. WDCTA will award a certificate to the rider. There is no fee for the 70% Club.

Scores must be postmarked on or before Nov. 30. Scores may be submitted via email; a reply will be sent indicating your results were received. Scores may also be sent through the U.S. Postal Service. If you want notification that the awards chair received your scores when sent through the postal service, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard with your score sheets.

Circle Division(s): **Open** **Freestyle** **70% Club (free)**

Show Name and Date	Level and Test	Judge(s)	Score %

Average Score _____ %

Mail or email *Score Report Form* and *copies of the tests* to:

Sandra Malott
9625 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Phone: (414) 687-4046
Email: awards@wdcta.org



EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

I. Awards

- A. There shall be a Champion and Reserve Champion for Junior, Rider, and Open divisions at the following levels for **USEF-recognized shows**: Starter, Beginner Novice, Novice, Training, Preliminary/Training, Preliminary, Intermediate, Advanced.
- B. There shall be a Champion and Reserve Champion for Junior, Rider, and Open divisions at the following levels for WDCTA- and IDCTA-recognized **mini events**: Starter, Beginner Novice, Novice.
- C. The dressage scores from a combined test or three-phase event are eligible for the WDCTA 70% Club. WDCTA will award a certificate to the rider. Both owner and rider must be current WDCTA members. There is no fee for the 70% Club.

II. Registration and Eligibility

- A. Horse/Rider combinations must be registered with the Awards Chair, fees paid and postmarked at least 1 day before a competition for the scores to qualify for awards.
- B. There shall be a \$25 registration fee for each horse/rider combination per division for the award year for recognized events, and a \$20 registration fee for each horse/rider combination per mini event division. If applying via PayPal, additional fees will be applied.
- C. The rider of the horse must be a member in good standing of WDCTA and USEA at the time the scores are earned. (Beginner Novice, Mini-Event, and 70% Club participants may be exempt from USEA membership, but both rider and owner must still be members of WDCTA at the time the scores are earned.) The riders should submit proof of their membership to WDCTA and USEA. The owners should submit proof of their membership in WDCTA.
- D. The Awards Chair must be notified in writing and fees paid if adding a level or division later in the year and prior to scores earned at that additional level.
- E. The award year is December 1 through November 30.

III. Qualifications

- A. Only scores from USEA Events can be used to meet championship qualification (Mini-Event are exempt from this rule.) Send good quality copies of a USEA Score Print-Out/Rider Profile along with the eventing awards report form. Or send in a good quality copy of dressage test and the final standings (photograph of posted show standings is fine). For mini events, send in a quality copy of the dressage test and a photograph of posted show standings, or online link if that is applicable.