

eQuester

Wisconsin Dressage & Combined Training's Monthly Newsletter

The Scoop on the USDF Convention

By Nicole Trapp

This year, the USDF Annual Convention was in Houston, Texas Dec.4-7. I was honored to be able to go to the convention to represent as the WDCTA delegate.

Software Gives a Leg Up on Education

Travel plans went as they should, and I was lucky enough to get to the convention on time on Wednesday, so I could join in on the invitation-only Judge's Workshop. We used the Blackhorse One system to compare scores of about 50 judges, while they evaluated a First Level Test 3, Second Level Test 3, and a Fourth Level Test 3. If you haven't seen this system before, it will be the go-to tool that will be used in judge's education. Through the app, each judge evaluates a test with scores and comments. At the end of the test, the scores are sent to the main software and downloaded into a spreadsheet that shows, through different colors, discrepancies among judges, with the bigger discrepancies (more than two points) being highlighted in red. When the spreadsheet is displayed on the front screen, you don't want to see any red marks under your name. I was pretty happy my scores were in line with our presenters, Janet Foy and Mike Osinski.



Janet Foy (foreground) and Mike Osinski (standing in back) demonstrate the Black-Horse software used for scribing at shows and now also being incorporated in judge education sessions.



Judge's Roundtable Addresses Concerns

The judge's roundtable was the next seminar on the schedule. Much of the discussion was about dressage seat equitation at regional championships. This class has grown tremendously in the past few years, and it's been a struggle to run the class efficiently, especially at regional competitions, and has been the source of the majority of complaints coming from shows, as of late. There are some new directives coming out that will help keep that class as short as possible, but still give each exhibitor a fair display of their equitation.

Open Forums Cover GMO Challenges

Thursday morning started with the **Administrative Council Open Forum**. Two topics of discussion involved the creation of the new initiative to grow Group Member Organizations (GMOs) that have between five and 24 members. These small GMOs will have the ability to be a GMO, but will not have voting rights until they reach 25 members. There was also much discussion to get GMOs to remember to nominate a volunteer for the year-end awards.

Continued on next page

USDF Convention continued

The **Technical Council Open Forum** touched on some of the regional complaints. Besides dressage seat equitation, concerns involved differences in scoring. The majority of the complaints are at Second and Third Level. This is mostly due to having much more lateral work at these levels compared to lower levels and the difference of views at C and B/E.

There also was conversation on getting more volunteers to try to keep shows a little easier on the pocketbook. This translated to more discussion and ideas. One suggestion was to change the requirements for regionals to be two scores on two separate days instead of two separate shows. A competitor could still get qualified in one weekend, but would only pay USEF and office fees for one show.

Activities Committee Open Forum: A reminder was sent out to GMOs to remind them of the GMO education grants that are hardly used. These are \$1,000 grants for educational purposes. In addition, look for scheduled Zoom meetings on educational topics. New this year is that the children's division has been added to the North American Young Rider Champion-ships (NAYRC). Watch for youth outreach clinics being held in each region, which are open to youth riders who can walk, trot and canter.

The **Awards Committee** announced the addition of new Horse Performance recognition stall plaques becoming available in 2026.

Region 2 Meeting

PM delegate nominations are due April 15. Please contact Molly Fine, if you want to represent your fellow members at the convention. WDCTA member, Stephanie Severn, received the Education Challenge Award because she had the most education hours in our region. Congrats, Stephanie!

Be sure to participate in the last instruction/trainer clinic hosted by IDCTA Jan. 4-5 on lungeing. For more information, contact Molly Fine.

Discussion also touched on the Junior/Young Rider teams and the need to fundraise to support them.

Region 2 championships for 2025 will be Sept. 10-14 at the Waterloo Hunt Club.

Equipment—What's Allowed and What is Not

Friday morning started with the **Competition Open Forum**, which was an overview of equipment rules.

Competitors were encouraged to make sure they know the rules and the changes that happen throughout the year. Currently we are at pre-Covid methods of equipment checks at horse shows. At Level 1-3 shows, equipment checkers will not check bits in the mouth with rubber gloves. At Level 4-5 shows, equipment checkers will be checking bits. What was new in 2024 was that 50 percent of the equipment on the grounds was to be checked. Technical Delegates (TDs) will not go into tackrooms without someone with them. Bridles that hang on a stall with a number are a TD's dream! Also, competitors should know the new rules about throat latches and crown pieces. If you're unsure, ask the TD before your first class at a show. This session was just a tip of the iceberg regarding horse welfare and the development of new rules and standards.



New Crow Piece Rule

“Any padding must be smooth and continuous across the poll while on the horse, and rectangular or in the same shape as the crown piece.

The one on the left is “segmented,” so not allowed, due to the inconsistent contact across the poll, and between the ears. It is not smooth and continuous. The one on the right, when on the horse, is considered consistent and uninterrupted in its single piece of padding.

USEF/USDF Open Forum Focused on Rule Changes

Much of the discussion was about the USEF rule changes. One that could affect us is being able to wear a windbreaker or parka in cold weather. I'm sure we've all been to shows in early spring or late fall and there might be some frozen precipitation falling much to our demise! One proposed rule that created some stir was that show veterinarians will need to be USEF members, due to having to go through SafeSport. Many of us realize how much of a strain this might be getting veterinarians to be show veterinarians, due to the added expense and already overbooked schedules.

Be sure to check out all rule changes and proposed rules, which allow you to comment as a USEF member on the USEF website. Some rules that may effect competitors is how voice errors are handled and scored and how in-hand classes held during inclement weather must be in an enclosed arena.

Continued on next page

USDF Convention continued



US Dressage Finals

presented by Adequan®

US Dressage Finals Open Forum—Big Changes!

During this forum, this year's US Dressage Finals was reviewed. There were 911 rides and 421 entries. In 2025, the US Dressage Finals will be Oct. 30-Nov. 2—a week earlier than normal *and* at a new location: the World Equestrian Center (WEC) in Wilmington, Ohio. (In 2026, the US Dressage Finals will be Oct.29-Nov. 1.)

The advantages of moving to WEC in Ohio for 2025 and 2026 include footing is the same in all the arenas, all championship classes can be held in indoor arenas, all stabling is indoor, with costs about the same.

The **Competition Management Education** session had some great information. Reminder: as of Dec. 1, 2025, all horses need to be microchipped before they go to a USEF show. The presenters recommended the Biotherm, which is not only a microchip, but also can be used to take the temps of horse at the microchip site. New rules in the GR section of the USEF Rule Book cover following biosecurity measures at horse shows.

Shows are now allowed to have paraclasses as opportunity classes with up to two classes per day. Last year, eventing classes were added as options for opportunity classes.

Rider Biomechanics Seminar: We Impact Our Horses

There was a very informative discussion from Joan Darnell on Rider Biomechanics. We watched videos and talked about rider position and how it affected the horse. Joan had developed her own pyramid for rider development.

Virtual Lessons: The Internet Creating Access

There was much discussion on what apps and equipment worked the best, plus tips to improve the rider's experience. One key point for instructors was to make sure you have the rider's contact information in case something should happen in the lesson and you need to call emergency contacts and services.

Flying High: Teaching Flying Changes

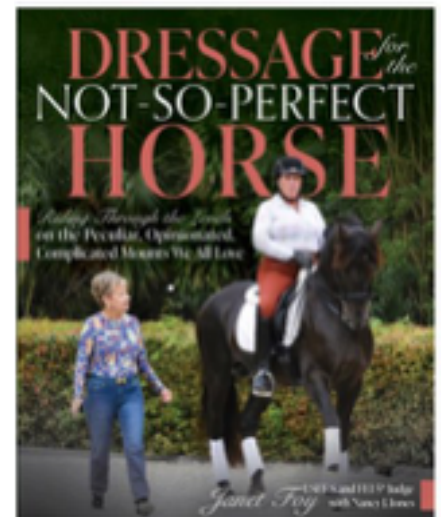
One of two learning sessions offered was on teaching flying changes. Key points in the training session included using the canter-walk transitions to teach the

aids for the flying change. The prerequisites for the flying change are straightness, adjustability, suppleness and throughness. Always start changing to the easier lead and try not to linger in counter-canter for too long. Repetition will be your friend when teaching your horse. Many different exercises were discussed regarding what to do with different problems when teaching flying changes. For anyone that has taught a horse flying changes, there is nothing black and white about getting success in the process because each horse is different.

More Educational Opportunities

A session on "Inflammation and Fatigue in Performance Horses" was also offered. The session covered some interesting studies at Texas A & M about how to reduce fatigue in performance horses and how light (blue, red and sunlight) affects horses and the health of the hindgut.

There were additional sessions on the "State of the Horse Industry," which revealed the results of a survey conducted by Reese Koffler, a book club session with Janet Foy about her book, *Dressage for the Not-So-Perfect Horse*, a "fireside chat" with Bill Woods, and finished with an amazing panel of the medalists from the 2024 ParaOlympic Team. Their stories were amazing and inspiring.



GMO Roundtable Discussions

GMO representatives were divided up so GMOs of similar size could gather for talks about three main areas: Fun in the Fundraising, Youth Membership, and Social License to Operate.

Some ideas in the fundraising group included asking for donations on entry forms, Zoom education seminars, raffles, auction items (a load of gravel brought the biggest bid for one GMO), barn basket competitions, and trailer maintenance checks.

The youth membership group encouraged reaching out to the regional youth coordinator to see how to get more youth involved and adding leadline classes to schooling shows to get more youth and young kids participation.

Continued on next page

USDF Convention continued

The “Social License to Operate” discussion was a serious commentary about what we can do as professionals, adult amateurs and organizations to avoid regulations, policies and laws being implemented by governing bodies. The presentation covered how

Social license is the public acceptance of your activity; the public seeks assurance that an organization is taking horse welfare seriously, in perception and practice (credibility), build long-term relationships (trust) as the pathway to ongoing consent (license) for the activity to continue.

equestrian activities are unique because they are much more vulnerable to negative public opinion because they involve the use of an animal. This has blown up substantially since the Olympics and recent videos of horse abuse by prominent horse trainers.

A survey of equestrian stakeholders cited that 16% believe horse welfare standards are high, 78% say welfare standards need improving and 6% believe it's impossible to provide adequate welfare protection. In addition, when asked if they believed horses enjoy being used in sport, 67% of the public said mostly not. When equestrians were asked the same question, half of the respondents said yes and half said mostly not.

Three conclusions made is those involved in equestrian sports need to:

- (1) Optimize and prioritize equine welfare because it is the right thing to do—and be seen doing so
- (2) Understand the responsibility and impact of actions/ words and use of images
- (3) Actively engage with and address concerns regarding social license

Some tips were given to organizers of schooling shows on how to handle horse abuse and how to de-escalate a situation.

Budgets, Voting and the Future

The Board of Governors (BOG) meeting started Friday afternoon. The BOG approves next year's budget and included presentations from the executive director of the USDF; David O'Connor, USEF Chief of Sport and FEI Eventing Committee Chair, as well as reports on the USEF High Performance committee and from The Dressage Foundation. (The Dressage Foundation awarded \$375,000 in scholarships this year!)

The BOG meeting continued on Saturday. I didn't have to vote on any elections as the president, treasurer, and our Region 2 director all ran unopposed.

Unfortunately I didn't win any of the GMO baskets, but it was interesting to see what was in all of them. South Carolina made a basket out of a designer bag, scarf, pin and gloves that everyone was drooling over. Our basket was filled with lots of Wisconsin items and was won by Christine Engel.



Lining Up for Fun

Friday night concluded with a little Texas line dancing. We shared the dance floor with Anne Sushko—Region 4 director, Anne Cizaldo—USEF “S” judge and trainer, Lilo Fore—“S” judge (and more!), and the new USDF President, Kevin Reinig. Great fun was had by all—but we knew it was not something any of us were going to master any time soon.



I thoroughly enjoyed attending the convention representing WDCTA. This was my first time attending as a voting member. Thank you to WDCTA for entrusting me to attend the convention!

The Future is Here...with Challenges



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.

CONTACT

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newsletter@wdcta.org
W1619 King Road
Brooklyn, WI 53521
Call/text:
(608) 695-9914



Nicole Trapp was our representative at the USDF annual convention, and as was noted in her article, our equestrian sports are under a microscope. I don't think any of us are oblivious to the bad publicity and spotlight on training methods.

While social media has the power for so much good, it comes with some big negatives too. The good: it's a great way to meet and communicate with friends, family and people from all over the world, sharing ideas, our lives and fun. The bad: it's an easy platform to spread misinformation and lies, as well as attack others. I've noticed an increase in posts from those I call keyboard warriors (when I'm feeling charitable) and keyboard bullies (when I'm not).

In the horse world, pre-social media, we had the term, rail birds, to describe the negative sideline observers. A respected trainer and former Olympic judge related the story of a top event rider warming up a difficult, but talented horse. The rider managed the horse's quirks well and was quite successful in competitions, but that didn't stop a rail bird from commenting negatively—loud enough for the rider to hear and then continued to criticize....loudly. Finally the rider rode over, dismounted and held out the reins to this "expert," whose next move was to....run away from the arena. The difference between rail bird and social media comments is rail birds' words only spread as far as those around them are willing to listen. With social media, the world listens.

Whenever a photo or video of a rider gets posted, these negative posters jump in about the cruelty and ignorance of the rider, never looking for the positives or understanding the challenges of riding. I've even seen these posters bully *children* who are riding! Posting about actual cruelty and abuse is one thing, but many times these posters go overboard, and some don't even seem to have the knowledge to criticize. If they are asked about their background and expertise or to post a photo or video of themselves to help educate the rest of the posters, they get defensive and just state, they know it when they see it (but of course, never post photos or videos of themselves for comment).

My point in bringing this up is that these negative posts do not help our sport... but it's our reality. None of us want to ignore or cover up genuine abuse and cruel training practices—it's appalling. However, sometimes people think that no one cares about horses or has the necessary expertise—except for them, and some non-horse people don't realize that our horses are cared for and pampered more than some children (sadly).

The truth is: we *all* have awkward moments as we learn or compete. Who hasn't inadvertently caught their horses in the mouth or sat too hard when we lost our balance, or found ourselves water skiing on their mouths after a spook? Imagine photos or videos cropped of only those moments with the declaration that we're cruel and abusive! Think of our international riders competing in very electric atmospheres—things can go badly for them too. As a result, now many clinicians and riders are requesting no photos or videos as they teach or ride because they worry people will misconstrue or edit their words and/or video—so we lose valuable educational opportunities. That has become our reality.

I don't have the answer, other than to focus on doing the best we can with our horses and be helpful and receptive when questions come up. Otherwise, as Nicole pointed out, we may lose our social license to operate.

Here's to a New Year with enacting positive ways to address this important issue.

Caryn

Wisconsin Dressage & Combined Training Association
Virtual Horse Show
(Traditional Dressage, Eventing Dressage, Western Dressage)



Nicole Trapp USDF "L" Graduate with distinction
Completed USEF "r" program, waiting on licensing committee approval

The form and payment must be postmarked by January 10, 2025. Submit Video by January 20th.

The Virtual Horse Show will be conducted by videoing your dressage test and uploading on to YouTube. The judge will complete the score sheets of the test, which will be returned to the riders. Virtual show prizes will be ribbons.

Please note the virtual horse show tests will **not** be included in the WDCTA Awards program.

RULES:

1. The video may be taken any time between now and Jan 20th. The video test must be submitted by Jan 20th.
2. All of the rules of riding a USEF test apply (except as noted below).
3. Riders may choose to submit a traditional dressage test, a Western dressage test or an eventing dressage test. Ribbons will be provided for winners from 1st to 3rd place for Open, Amateur or Jr/Young Rider divisions.
4. The video needs to be made by taking it from where the judge is normally located behind "C." The video needs to be located a distance back from "C," so the full horse and rider are seen. Zooming in and out is recommended.
5. The video cannot be edited. If edited, the video will not be reviewed or placed.
6. The dressage letters need to be located in the arena, so the judge can see them in the video.
7. A helmet is required per USDF/USEF rules. However, the rider's clothes do not need to be per USEF/USDF requirements, but light-colored breeches are preferred. No boots and/or wraps should be on the horse.
8. Per USEF/USDF rules only the voice of reading the test is allowed.
9. The video must be posted on YouTube, and the link emailed to Melinda DeLuca (jjdmcd@gmail.com). Make sure the YouTube video is titled with the test being ridden and the YouTube posting is made public.
10. The video may only be used for this one virtual show with WDCTA.

REGISTRATION:

1. Mail the form and a check (made out to WDCTA) to Melinda DeLuca, S14W32743 Forest Hills Dr, Delafield, WI 53018.
2. The form and payment must be postmarked or hand delivered to Melinda DeLuca by January 8, 2025.
3. Cost per test: WDCTA members \$30; non-members \$40.

Only Print information

RIDER'S NAME: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____ HORSE OWNER'S NAME IF NOT RIDER: _____

CHOOSE ONE: TRADITIONAL DRESSAGE _____ WESTERN DRESSAGE _____ EVENTING _____

CHOOSE ONE: OPEN _____ AMATEUR _____ JR/YNG RIDER _____

TEST(S) RIDDEN: _____

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ _____

Member Listings

INSTRUCTORS

Andrea Schten-Achtenhagen
N76W36158 Saddlebrook Lane
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.

Jackie Luebke-Puetz
15034 Co. Rd. X
Kiel, WI 53042-9706
cvestor@aol.com
(920) 693-3367

Will teach through 2nd Level, earned USDF Bronze medal, trained through 4th Level. Served in the past on U&SDF education committee, USEF steward. Will travel.

Megan McIsaac
Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum
4246 Schneider Drive
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
N76W36158 Saddlebrook Lane
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
aschten2000@yahoo.com
(262) 470-4557

Heated 20 stall barn, heated 72' x 200' indoor arena, safe board turnout with pastures, large outdoor arena.

Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum
Megan McIsaac
4246 Schneider Drive
Oregon, WI 53575
lindinhofllc@gmail.com
(608) 445-8531
80x200' heated indoor w/ mirrors. New stalls and client tack room w/ individual lockers. Individual and group turnout. Wash stall. Solarium. Theraplate. Numerous trails. Individual training programs. Lessons and leasing options on FEI school

BREEDERS

Rebecca Lewison
Grand View Farm
Barneveld, WI
(608) 437-4776
Breeding Hanoverians with bloodlines of top stallions from all over the world and carefully selected Hanoverian premium broodmares.

Jackie Luebke-Puetz
15034 Co. Rd. X
Kiel, WI 53042-9706
cvestor@aol.com
(920) 693-3367
Standing Section B Welsh stallion, Too Cute to Shoot, bay, 13.2 h, cuter than a bug's ear and several times qualified for USDF breeding championships. In 2018, was third in halter for Welsh Association.

If your ad is in gray, this is the last time it will run in the newsletter. Please renew and promote your business while supporting WDCTA. Thank you!

Member Listings

BUSINESS

Above and Beyond Equestrian
(920) 619-3419

ABcustomequestrian@gmail.com

The first choice in custom riding boots, footwear and accessories.

Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum

4246 Schneider Drive

Oregon, WI 53575

lindhofllc@gmail.com

(608) 445-8531

lindhof.com

Importing top quality dressage horses from Europe. Contact us to find your next dressage star.

Plum Lake Equestrian Center

Debra Stephenson

8177 Plum Lake Station Rd

Sayner, WI 54560

414-312-1630

plumlakeequinectr@gmail.com

plumlakeequestriancenter.com

A 60-acre north woods venue for your special event: workshops, retreats, weddings, fundraisers, barn dances, hiking, biking, trail riding, horse camps and more!

ProEquo Saddlery

Kelly Joesten Theisen

Caledonia, IL 61011

proequosaddlery@gmail.com

(312) 248-3570

proequosaddlery.com

Certified independent saddle fitter: saddle fitting, repairs, billet replacement, evaluations, flocking of all wool saddles, sales of Peter Horobin saddles (dressage, jumping, halfbreed and endurance.

Caryn Vesperman

USEF/USDF "r" Judge

W1619 King Road

Brooklyn, WI 53521

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, schooling shows and ride-a-test/fix-a-tests.

Calendar

WDCTA Events

Virtual Horse Show

Submit video by Jan.20.

See ad on page 5 of this newsletter.

Other Events

April 11-13,2025

Midwest Horse Fair

Madison, WI

Oct. 30-Nov. 2

US Dressage Finals

New Location! World Equestrian Center

Wilmington, OH

2026

Oct. 29-Nov. 1

US Dressage Finals

World Equestrian Center

Wilmington, OH

WISCONSIN DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION 2025 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIP TERM: December 1 – November 30



___ RENEWAL ___ NEW - Referred by _____

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____ MI _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

FARM OR BUSINESS NAME _____

New members: Please tell us how you learned about WDCTA:

- ___ Clinic or Event
- ___ Midwest Horse Fair
- ___ USDF ___ USEF
- ___ USEA
- ___ Pony Club
- ___ Facebook
- ___ Current WDCTA member (name) _____
- ___ Web Search
- ___ Other _____

*** Would you like to receive other horse-related mailings that are not affiliated with WDCTA? **YES** **NO**

DISCIPLINES:

- ___ Dressage
- ___ Eventing
- ___ Breeder
- ___ OTHER

RIDER STATUS:

- ___ Professional
- ___ Adult Amateur
- ___ Young Rider (*age 18-21)
- ___ Junior Rider (*age 17 or less)

* Age as of January 1

AFFILIATION:

- ___ Eastern Chapter (Plans to start in 2025)
- ___ Upper Peninsula Chapter (Upper Michigan and northern WI)
- ___ General Membership

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION AND FEES

- \$164 BUSINESS Membership** – Includes one USDF Group membership; emailed newsletter; one voting privilege; recognition & business card ad in eQuester, listing & logo on WDCTA website. Also, INCLUDES Stable, Instructor, Breeder & Business listings (chose one or all four) in both eQuester & website.
- \$64 FAMILY Membership** - Includes one USDF group membership; emailed newsletter; two voting privileges. USDF requires that an additional USDF membership be purchased for each additional family member. Add \$10 for each additional family member.
 - \$10** Add'l family member name _____ Birth date if age 21 or less _____
 - \$10** Add'l family member name _____ Birth date if age 21 or less _____
- \$52 INDIVIDUAL Membership** (Age 18 & over) Includes one USDF group membership; emailed newsletter; one voting privilege.
- \$39 JUNIOR Membership** -- Birth date _____ (must be age 17 or less as of January 1st. Do not use in conjunction with a Family Membership. Includes one USDF group membership; emailed newsletter; one voting privilege.

As a member of WDCTA, I may choose to volunteer for Association responsibilities or activities. I expressly agree that my services are being provided as a volunteer and that I am not an employee of the Wisconsin Dressage & Combined Training Association. I am neither entitled to nor expect any present or future salary, wages, or other benefits for these volunteer services. I agree to abide by the WDCTA Standard of Conduct: to act honestly, fairly, ethically and with integrity and treat all WDCTA members with respect and courtesy.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

WDCTA STABLE, INSTRUCTOR, BREEDER, BUSINESS LISTINGS -- Listings on website & eQuester. **Must fill out listing form available on WDCTA website and include payment.** (These listings are free when purchasing a Business Membership.)

- \$10 Stable listing \$10 Instructor listing \$10 Breeder listing \$10 Business listing \$35 for all four listings

Make check payable to WDCTA & mail to Diane Brault, 5184 County Road HH, Barneveld, WI 53507
membership@wdcta.org or 608-924-1808

Date Received _____	Check # _____	Amount \$ _____
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Mechanicals:

Ad size below. Photos should be submitted as .jpgs. 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
newsletter@wdcta.org
 W1619 King Road
 Brooklyn, WI 53521

Description	1 x	6 x	12 x
Business Card 3.5 x 2": In eQuester newsletter with link to email OR website.	\$10 (S9)	\$50 (S45)	\$100 (S90)
Classified Ad Up to 50 words. In eQuester newsletter with link to email OR website.	\$5 (S4)	\$25 (S20)	\$50 (S45)
Quarter Page 3.5 x 5": In eQuester newsletter with links to email OR website.	\$15 (S12)	\$85 (S70)	\$150 (S135)
Half Page 7.5 x 5" or 3.75 x 10": In eQuester newsletter with links to email AND website.	\$20 (S15)	\$100 (S90)	\$195 (S175)
Full Page 7.5 x 10": In eQuester newsletter with links to email AND website.	\$40 (S35)	\$150 (S175)	\$300 (S350)
Website Banner Ad 180x150 pixels, and can be a .jpg, .gif or .png	N/A	\$200 (S150)	\$400 (S300)

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 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	OWNER INFORMATION
Name _____	Name _____
Street Address _____	Street Address _____
City/St/Zip _____	City/St/Zip _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Email _____	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 2 nd 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 _____ Belt _____

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 Score report* to:

Sandra Malott
9625 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222

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

WDCTA Western Dressage Championship Awards

Dressage Awards:

- A. A champion, reserve champion and 3rd – 6th places will be awarded for each level.
- B. One freestyle champion, reserve champion and 3rd through 6th place will be awarded for all WDAA Freestyle test levels combined (Intro - Level 5).
- C. Open, Adult Amateur and JR/YR will be combined into one Division, defined as “Open.”
- D. Levels are defined as Intro through Level 5, using the current Western Dressage Association of America tests found at <http://westerndressageassociation.org>.
- E. The horse/rider combination must have three qualifying scores from 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 or USEF “r” or higher.
- F. Scores must be a minimum of 60% at Intro through Level 5.
- G. Scores must be from WDAA tests only. The scores will be averaged.
- H. Scores must be earned at schooling shows, WDAA-recognized and/or USEF/WDAA-recognized shows. Classes ridden must be open to all breeds. WDCTA does not recognize virtual shows for this awards program.
- I. One test score must be from the highest test for the level.
- J. 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.
- K. The rider must send to the Awards Chair 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.
- L. Scores must be postmarked on or before Nov. 30. Email is accepted. No exceptions.
- M. If receipt confirmation of scores is desired, send self-addressed stamped postcard with score sheets; Awards Committee will return postcard when results are received. This will be the only notification that results were received.

Registration and Eligibility:

1. The rider and owner of the horse must be members in good standing of WDCTA at the time scores are obtained.
2. Championship registration for each horse and rider combination must be postmarked at least 1 day prior to the start of the first show from which they plan to submit scores.
3. A fee of \$25.00 for each level must be paid for **each horse and rider combination** to be eligible for championships. If applying via PayPal, an additional fee will be charged.
4. The recorder/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.
5. All registrations are for the show year December 1 through November 30.
6. A champion and reserve champion will be named for each division at each level of competition.

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



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.)

- NOTE: No refunds after the awards application and payment are submitted.
- 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.
- Each score must be a minimum of 60% at WDAA Intro – Level 5.
- 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).
- Scores must be from WDAA tests only. One test score must be from the highest test of the level. The scores will be averaged.
- 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.
- 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



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