WISCONSIN
Dressage & Eventing
ASSOCIATION

State Board Meeting Minutes

Date: May 21, 2026
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Zoom meeting

ATTENDEE	PRESENT	ATTENDEE	PRESENT
President & Newsletter Editor: Caryn Vesperman	Yes	Member at Large & WHC Representative: Heather Klopp	No
Vice-President & Webmaster: Stephanie Severn	Yes	Member at Large: Cindy Riffle	No
Secretary: Carol McKinnon	Yes	Member at Large: Jessica Sims	No
Treasurer: Morgan Winter	No	Eastern Chapter President: Nicole Trapp	No
Membership Recorder: Diane Brault	No	Eastern Chapter Alternate: Tammy Risseeuw	No
Member at Large: Melinda DeLuca	Yes	Eastern Chapter Representative & Awards Committee Chair: Jessica Kaczmarek	Yes
Member at Large: Mary Hanneman	Yes	GUEST(S):	N/A

Call to order: 7:10 pm

Because the meeting was held without the required quorum of seven, the group decided to proceed with discussions only on topics that did not require immediate voting. Official votes on the scholarship program updates and the approval of the April minutes would be conducted via separate email communications.

WDEA Scholarship Program
The group reviewed the existing scholarship document and proposed several amendments to make the program more accessible and attractive.

- Within six months of receiving the scholarship, all recipients are required to write an article on the attended activity for the WDEA newsletter. They no longer need to also make a presentation at a chapter meeting.
- The scholarship committee is chaired by the WDEA Vice President and committee members include all chapter presidents. Currently, because of there is only one chapter this means the reviewing committee would consist of only two people. This was deemed acceptable as the committee would then present the candidates to the board for review and a final vote.

- The scope of the scholarship will be updated to include “horsemanship, horse health and welfare”.
- The scholarship structure will be revised to offer up to three grants of up to $500 each. One grant in each of the following categories: adult amateur, professional, and junior/ young rider.
- The question of whether board hours count toward volunteer eligibility will be deferred pending Certified Public Accountant guidance.

Working Equitation Awards Program Eligibility
Jessica K. explained that working equitation includes a classical test, an obstacle course, and a speed phase; however, the tests are not USDF tests and the discipline is not USDF sanctioned.

- Working equation scores will not count toward current year-end awards.
- The topic may be revisited in the future after more research.
- A potential educational presentation on working equitation could be explored at a later date.

Awards Program Administration
Several administrative issues were identified related to the transition of awards program management.

- Forms are currently updated with new awards’ chair name and address.
- Registration for awards can be completed on the website with PayPal payment or through the snail mail with a check.
- The awards chair will work throughout the year to rebuild key forms in Google Docs.

Social Media and Website
Stephanie provided a brief update on website and social media needs.

- Board members are encouraged to send content for the website and FaceBook page.
- Instagram will be considered as a new platform.

Member-at-Large Email and Open Position
Caryn provided an update on the member-at-large outreach initiative.

- The membership list will be updated and the outreach email sent.
- Possible eventing candidate for open board position.

Eastern Chapter Schooling Show Update
Jessica K. provided a brief update on the upcoming Eastern Chapter schooling show.

- The show is on track to be a large and well-attended event.
- There is a strong volunteer sign-up for the show and significant interest in the used tack sale.
- Placing a donation tip jar at the show to collect contributions toward the awards program was suggested.

Next Meeting
The next board meeting will be held in September.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Carol McKinnon, Secretary

ADDENDUM TO MAY 21, 2026 MINUTES

Electronic Voting on three motions

Motion #1
On May 23, 2026 Caryn Vesperman requested a motion be made to make the changes as noted to the scholarship program and be voted on via email.

On May 24, 2026 Jessica Kaczmarek made the following motion:
I move to accept the changes in the wording to the scholarship program.

Cindy Riffle seconded.

After a 48-hour discussion period, members started voting on May 26, 2026. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Motion #2
On May 23, 2026 Caryn Vesperman requested a motion be made to accept the April minutes and be voted on via email.

On May 25, 2025 Melinda DeLuca made the following motion:
I make a motion to approve the April board meeting minutes.

Jessica Sims seconded.

After a 48-hour discussion period, members started voting on May 28, 2026. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Motion #3
On September 16, 2026 Morgan Winter proposed rolling the certificate of deposit that is coming due this September to a 7-month special CD.

On September 16, 2026 Mary Hanneman made the following motion:
I move that we roll our CD that is coming due into UWCU's 7-month special earning 4.07 % APY.

Carol McKinnon seconded.

After a 48-hour discussion period, members started voting on September 18, 2026. **Motion passed unanimously.**