

New Mexico Dressage Association
Regular Meeting
July 8, 2014

Board Members Present: Cindy Kavan-Winfield, Cathy Soller, Rena Haynes, Barbara Burkhardt, Charlene Strickland, Marybeth Perez Soto, Anne Sparks, Donald Simpson, John Collins

Board Members Absent: Virginia Gredell, Mary Jastrzemski, Cynthia Ramsey

Guest: Lisa Vesper

Officers' Reports

Secretary: Minutes accepted.

Treasurer: No report. Rena and Cindy have drafted a tax exemption. They need to total hours each Board member volunteers to the NMDA. **Action:** Send an email to Rena reporting hours per week or month. We will have Form 1099s to issue to some winners and judges.

Committee Reports

Schooling Shows: The June Santa Fe show earned a profit. There were no complaints about the footing, which was crusher fines. The August show had to move to Vista Sandia, and the Board voted to keep the show there.

Recognized Shows: Donald reported the show was fine.

Membership: No report.

Junior and Young Riders: Cindy read a report, the results of a survey sent to young riders, with few responses so far. Cynthia had suggested that young riders report they can't afford to join multiple associations and schooling shows, and maybe they could solicit sponsors. Barbara mentioned that young rider NMDA members who show in rated shows are eligible for year-end awards.

Education: Cindy reported on the Pilates clinic's success. NMDA will return some funds to the USDF Foundation (used \$600). The clinic filled with 15 riders, and the mat session was almost filled. People are asking for another clinic. Some will go to the CO clinic. Janice Dulak's instruction helped change the riders' seats, and made a difference in the horses.

Anne reported that the summer horse fair will be moved to a fall date, TBD. There has been lots of interest. We need to schedule far in advance.

L Program Part II: Marybeth reported on the July show. Expenses were about the same as the May show. We're still slightly under budget. For the exam, we will rent bleachers at the end of the arena, at A in Dairy Barn and at C in Horse Arena. Marybeth announced the champions at Training, First, and Second. NM-bred horses did well.

Year-end Awards: Following the June discussion, the Board reviewed 3 options and voted on changes. Options were (1) Keep awards as is, 1 Test 3; (2) All 3 scores must be Tests 3; or (3) 2 scores at Test 3 and 1 other at that same level. The Board discussed implications of encouraging more rides at all shows, increasing rider achievement, and supporting education. The Board voted, and Option 3 won the majority vote.

The Board also discussed a new rule: A horse-rider combination at 1 level may only win a single year-end championship. (The combination becomes ineligible after winning a year-end champion at a level.) The Board voted to approve this change. Rena suggested adding a Most Improved Rider award. The Board discussed the logistics.

Publicity: John will publicize the horse fair with flyers in feed stores. He suggested NMDA merchandise, such as T-shirts or collared shirts, caps, and visors. The Board discussed color options. **Action:** John will get quotes.

Old Business

Lisa Vesper distributed information about The Downs at Santa Fe show venue. She reported on the facility cleanup and that The Downs will have 4 or 5 barns ready in August, each with 40 stalls and 8 tackrooms with saddle racks. The mission to revitalize The Downs for a world-class venue. They now have the track in good condition. In August they will host 2 phases of the Event at Santa Fe; the goal is to add cross-country next year in the infield. The grass infield is also a show option. They will use the grass for show jumping in August. A show office is in a separate building, closer to the stabling. Vendors will set up in the saddling area. They will have RV hookups, and 1 barn has groom showers. For the Event, they will have 3 arenas plus 2 warmups. The Board discussed the venue rental fee. The Downs is another place for a Santa Fe show. We can talk to eventers in August about the footing.

Announcement of Next Meeting: Aug. 5, 7123 Prospect Place NE; look for the orange door.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.