

New Mexico Dressage Association
Regular Meeting
May 5, 2015

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

Guest: Nance McManus, Western Dressage Chair

Officers' Reports

Secretary: Minutes amended.

Treasurer: Cindy B discussed the financial report. The online membership link is on the Web site; Harold has been working on the online entry form. She asked the Board to test the forms. The membership renewal form requires a USDF membership number. She also prepared a summary sheet of schooling show revenue from 2009 to 2015. The summer shows (Apr. through July) have been most popular.

Committee Reports

Schooling Shows: Marybeth reported the Juan Tomas show will be Aug. 23. The Apr. 18 show of 47 rides earned a profit. The Los Alamos show occurred during a snowstorm, in their indoor arena, and also earned a profit.

Recognized Shows: Donald is receiving entries for the May show. The Board discussed ideas to encourage members to participate in the recognized shows, such as the Opportunity classes. To educate first-timers, suggestions were to post contact information and/or publish a checklist. **Action:** Marybeth will talk with Harold about adding contacts (Marybeth and Anne). Donald will send Cindy K an article for posting.

Membership: Virginia reported adding 10 new members.

Year-End Awards: Barbara has updated members' standings. Currently they include Western dressage scores, although NMDA does not present awards for those classes. These scores will be removed from standings.

Junior and Young Riders: Tesha Fitzgerald is considering accepting the position of chair. Anne mentioned that Rachel Chowanec (USDF Gold medal rider) is ready to present a talk for young riders. Anne and Cindy will discuss a date for this event.

Education: Anne reported on a grant application that NMDA filed May 4, with the USA Equestrian Trust. The grant would fund a Lisa Wilcox clinic; dates are set for Aug 8-9 and Sept 12-13, to include 8 riders committing for both months. Anne is forming a committee to invite NMDA members to ride. The goal is a learning experience for riders and auditors (limited to 30). Cindy reported on the success of the Pilates clinic.

Publicity: John suggested an announcement requesting volunteers for the booth at the Trainers Showcase. Virginia volunteered to set up the booth Saturday. John can prepare a poster. The booth will include the canopy and the NMDA banner.

Western Dressage: The committee of Cathy, Nance, Barbara, and Anne continued the discussion from April. Nance presented a motion to assure riders that Western tests will, as in the past, continue to be offered at all NMDA schooling shows. Nance resigned as ad hoc Western dressage chair. The Board discussed the revised draft of the proposal presented at the April meeting, as a structure for future development. The Board debated making the proposal part of the standing rules, or rename it as a Framework for a Western Dressage Chapter of NMDA. **Action:** Cathy will revise the Framework and we will publish it as an attachment to the May minutes.

Old Business

Voucher program. The ad hoc committee (Anne and Cindy K) have not yet met to investigate ideas on reworking the program to reward volunteers for the first two shows. Cindy reported that by the June meeting we will have more definite ideas.

The Board agreed to table the discussion of updating By-Laws and Standing Rules to the June meeting. The member-hosted clinic is also tabled.

New Business

Cindy brought up a member's concern about a schooling show situation about another member's amateur status. Cathy cited USEF GR 1306.3 F that resolves the question about status.

Announcement of Next Meeting: June 2, 7123 Prospect Place NE; look for the orange door.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15