

# *New Mexico Dressage Association*



## *Flying Changes – Supplemental*

March 2009

[www.nmdressage.net](http://www.nmdressage.net)

*The New Mexico Dressage Association is a United States Dressage Federation Group Member Organization (GMO) and all members are automatically USDF Group Members (GMs). For USDF Participation Membership, members must apply directly to USDF.*

*This is the short on line version of the Flying Changes newsletter posted on the month in between the full published Newsletter, with special notices and reminders that will help you keep up to date with what's going on with NMDA.*

*The April publication of Flying Changes will be coming out in late March – the deadline for submission of ads or articles is March 10<sup>th</sup>.*

### NMDA Schooling Show and Calendar Updates:

- The February 28<sup>th</sup> schooling show had to be canceled due to low entries. Feedback from members indicated this was due to the extended winter weather making it difficult for them to get out and ride. We will do our best to try to get another show scheduled for later in the year.
- The Bill Woods Clinic and schooling show originally scheduled in April in Taos has been moved to August 6 – 7 for the Clinic and August 8<sup>th</sup> for the schooling show.
- If you have a Clinic or event that you want to have on the calendar, please let us know. Posting events to the calendar on line is free to all NMDA members.
- **The next NMDA schooling show is Sunday March 21st at Cherry Tree Farm** – remember to use the new entry form for all schooling shows available on line. All the information you need about the show, opening date, closing date and where to mail the entry form will be on line.
- Check the on line calendar for the most updated information about events.

### New NMDA Awards Program!

NMDA now offers two types/sets of Year End Awards for NMDA Members, one for Schooling Shows and one for Combined USEF rated and NMDA schooling shows. Each set of awards are available for Introductory through Grand Prix/ Amateur, Open and Junior/YR. To be eligible for either type of award, the rider must have three scores from at least three separate shows. The single highest score at a level/division at each show is used. Both rider and owner of the horse must be NMDA members to be eligible for awards. Awards are presented at the end of the year in an Awards Ceremony after all the scores from all qualifying shows can be tabulated.

For the Schooling Show Award, all three scores must be from NMDA schooling shows and/or those schooling shows recognized by NMDA (i.e. the Arabian Horse Association of New Mexico dressage shows).

For the Combined Show Awards, the horse/rider must have at least two scores from designated USEF rated shows in Albuquerque. The rider/horse can use the highest score from each judge at a USEF rated show (USEF shows often have two or more judges). The rider/horse can use a combination of USEF and NMDA recognized schooling show scores, or the rider/horse can use all USEF scores. The three highest scores of the year are used.

An NMDA member may be eligible for both types of awards if they qualify for both criteria: three scores from schooling shows and three scores from combined USEF and schooling shows.

#### The 2010 NMDA Handbooks Have been Mailed

The 2010 Handbook was published earlier this month and mailed out to all new and renewed 2010 NMDA Members. If you did not receive one, check to see if you have renewed your membership. When you renew, a Handbook will be mailed to you. If you have renewed and did not receive one, please call our Membership Chair, Virginia Gredell at 505-286-5470  
[vgredell@kabana.net](mailto:vgredell@kabana.net)

***Be sure to renew your membership – the form is available on line!!!!***

#### Western Dressage Classes Coming Soon

A request was made by one of our Members who is also involved in the Quarter Horse Association, to have classes at our NMDA schooling shows that would allow Western riders to ride in their Western tack so they could participate and learn about dressage without having to buy all the dressage gear. The NMDA Board approved this proposal. The new entry form for NMDA schooling shows now has an option to choose a Western class at any level. The Western classes will be judged according to all the usual guidelines and rules and the rider will receive scoring and placement for the Western class entries. These classes will not count towards the NMDA Year End Awards. Riders will be expected to wear helmets, clean and neat attire (which may include jeans and western boots), use an appropriate USEF/USDF approved bit, but may ride in their Western saddle. Good luck Western riders! We hope you will enjoy riding dressage and find value in it for you and your horses.

#### USDF Region 5 Messages –

These posting come to us from USDF and we want to pass them on to you:

#### February 2010 Region 5 Message

Ravel, USEF Horse of the Year, and Steffen Peters (for the second consecutive year) won the title of USEF Equestrian of the Year. What a great way to start 2010!

With the new competition year, as usual we have rule changes. Be sure to look them up on the USEF web site. This is also the first year that dressage has different levels of competitions. The rule change is DR 126.2, but the chart on the USEF web site shows the different levels and

criteria. The good news is that level 3 and lower may offer “Opportunity Classes” that provide riders new to dressage to show without all the membership requirements.

<http://www.usef.org/documents/competitions/DressageLevelsChart.pdf>

USDF has several new executive board members and is providing orientation information for them, and the rest of us as well. As many of your organizations have had recent elections, now is a good time to review your policies and procedures and provide them to new board members.

FEI Jr and Yr qualifiers are underway, and we need to raise funds for our team. Please contact Susan Rudman, [sewrunred@msn.com](mailto:sewrunred@msn.com), if you are going to declare as a competitor or if you would like to help with fundraising for the team.

Our region, as well as the rest of the country, has had some crazy weather this year so far. We have Canadian visitors here in Arizona who truly appreciate our weather and dressage education, not to mention the shopping.

Happy Riding!

Theresa Hunt

Region 5 Director

**NMDA Mission Statement:**

The New Mexico Dressage Association (NMDA) is a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of New Mexico. NMDA is also a Group Member Organization of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF). The organization’s purpose is to promote the understanding of dressage and to develop skill and excellence in its use, as well as encourage, promote and conduct exhibitions, shows, clinics and other events by which interested people may develop their potential as riders and train their horses to the extent of their capabilities. Privileges of membership include but are not limited to participation in the organization’s activities and receiving the Handbook/Test Book, and monthly newsletter. Members also become Group Members (GM) of USDF, with all its benefits.