

Region 1 Spring Meeting March 20, 2011 Minutes

Held at Hassler Dressage Chesapeake City, MD

Lisa Schmidt brought the meeting to order at 9:15

Introductions were made. Thirty-three PM and GMO delegates were in attendance. GMOs represented were ESDCTA, PVDA, DVCTA, IEO, French Creek, VADA, LVDA, and OVCTA.

Initial Discussion

Is there disconnect between our upper level riders and the governance of our sport? Can we get information about the governance to them at competitors parties? Competitors need attention drawn to what goes into the volunteer aspect of the sport. Volunteer work should be highlighted in GMO newsletters as well as how much work goes on behind the scenes at USDF and what that brings to the competitor. Should we have some kind of Competitor Incentive Program?

Regional Championships October 19-23 2011 Lexington,VA –Dianne Boyd expects another full show. VA Horse Center is continuing to upgrade their arenas, lighting, sound systems. Doggie Costume show will continue and Kem Barbosa has agreed to sponsor. There will be a stall decorating contest again.

BLM General update -In region 1 every GMO has paid their BLM dues except CDCTA. If they don't pay, their members will not be allowed to qualify. Some GMOs outside our region are joining.

2011 BLM Championships October 14-16, 2011 Allentown,NJ - Terry Masters is working hard on sponsorships – BLM's have a 3 year Title Sponsor: Trilogy-Performance Saddlery. 2011 will be second year. Terry is trying to organize a welcome party for competitors with lunch or something earlier in the day.

Bids for USDF/GAIC Regional and BLM Championships

ESDCTA has applied to host both at the New Jersey Horse Park. NJHP is working on the footing and had no footing complaints after the CDI that was run in 2010. They are redoing all of the barns. Proposed Dates are Oct 12 – 14, 2012

VADA applied for both. Dates are Oct 18-21, 2012 Virginia Horse Center is redoing the flooring in the stabling area. VADA is looking to improve amenities. Facility is always upgrading their footing. There are 7 rings.

NCDCTA has applied for both. They ran the Regionals in 2010 at the Williamston facility. The facility is very helpful to show management. Travel and Tourism did a 'Taste of Williamston' as a welcome to the show for all competitors. Vendor walk is an idea for one of the parties. Each vendor will supply food or drinks and the competitors will walk through. They supply free dinners to the competitors with a cash bar every night. There is a lot of community support from the state and county level. Dates – first weekend in November. Nov 1 – 4, 2012

Voting for Regionals and BLMs for 2012

NCDCTA will host the USDF/GAIC Regionals November 1-4, 2012

VADA will host the BLMs October 18-21, 2012

Region 1 Omnibus – Kept all prices the same. The USEF fees for reprinting the 2011 tests may be prohibitive in the future. Anyone who wants an omnibus can purchase them by contacting Alison Head at lookingglassfarm@mac.com.

Region 1 Website – Alison Head is our new webmaster. Leslie Raulin got a new site started and transferred the old site to the new. Blake Crumbliss has volunteered to update the website. Any educational event hosted by a GMO-information needs to go to Lisa Schmidt by the 1st of the month so that she can have it posted by the 10th of the month. Please plan ahead when asking for something to go on the website. We may start offering some degree of advertising on the website to enhance sponsorships and generate income.

Youth Teams Competition-July 23, 24 2011 – Morven Park – Alison Head reported. Same format as last year. Intro A & B will be used. There will not be an Intro C (as stated in the omnibus). GMOs need to help more with the cost and supply more volunteers.

Adult Teams Competition- Sept 24, 25 2011 at NJ Horse Park- Terry Masters reported. The plan is to make the team competition into a real regional event. Terry Masters has an information packet for which she has asked feedback. She will then send to the individual GMOs.

NAJYRC – July 26 – 31, 2011 at Kentucky Horse Park –Patsy Albers reported. Region one has 14 Advanced Young Riders and 7 Juniors declared to date. Funding is an issue. Patsy suggests that competitors be asked to foot the bill, but then be reimbursed by any fundraising that gets done.

Fundraising: Highlight the commitment of last year's team in order to kick off this year's activities. The Dressage Foundation is giving lessons in fundraising. The program will be a six week program on line. Once USDF gets declaration we have a target list of the competitors then we should have a call or letter go out with the policies and procedures of competing and fundraising. This would build teamwork for the future. Debbie Delgiorno and Patsy will work together to explain the competitor's obligations. The CDI's in NC and NJ and a VADA show committed to allowing some kind of fundraising for the NAJYRC.

USDF has requested that Region 1 host a JR/YR Clinic between now and March of 2012. USDF and the Dressage Foundation will fund it except for the any party or dinner. The Hassler's would like to offer their facility to host Jeremy Steinberg as the Region 1 clinician. Patsy Albers, Debbie Delgiorno , Scott and Susanne Hassler and Lisa Schmidt will work to find a date.

Youth Programs Advisory Subcommittee –Nicole Delgiorno reported. Six of the most active members from previous years are serving. It is geographically diverse. Gaye McCabe is the advisor. High School pin

program is being publicized and pushed. They have their own tab on the new USDF website. They are working on an electronic calendar that with deadlines to programs and competitions and links to entry forms for particular competitions specifically for youth. Lauren Griffin from Ohio came up with this idea. Youth polo project idea to create a youth based polo shirt to be sold through the USDF and looking for support from SmartPak and maybe be sold through them as well. This program would benefit youth programs. This subcommittee really wants to help meet the needs of youth in our sport.

Dressage at Devon – Sept 27 to Oct 2, 2011. Lori Kaminski reported. Dianne Boyd is the new show manager. The show has a new sponsorship solicitor, Kathy Dress and a new PR firm, Project Marketing. The Devon Horse Show foundation has committed to redoing the footing in the gold ring. They are supposed to start in March in order to have the footing ready for their spring show. The footing from the gold ring will be used in the warm-up area. They have a long range plan to handle the run-off from downpour rain, but this will take time and a great deal of money. The show is changing to a CDI/W/Y/J and CDI 3*

Regional Awards –Zoanne Kornspan reported. Forms are on the Region 1 website, but still have Kristin's name on them. This will be fixed. Zoanne proposed establishing an Instructor/Coach award based on the success of their students. Criteria for this award and a form will be developed. Please give suggestions to Zoanne Kornspan. Deadlines for all nominations are the November Region 1 meeting.

L-Programs in Region 1 – NCDCTA looked into running another one, but it seems that the new guidelines are more financially prohibitive. There seems to be a bottleneck with the last part of the program. There was a lot of discussion about the L-graduates, their continuing education, who should be allowed to judge schooling shows and how they are allowed to become licensed judges.

Instructor Certification – Averett University in Danville, VA is holding workshops and a pre-cert March 24-26, 2011. Hilltop Farm is holding a final exam the first weekend in April.

E-News from Region One Director – Will be sent on a monthly basis. Region 1 has a Facebook and Twitter page and a link will be attached to the E-news. Educational listings from GMO's will be placed on the Facebook page as well.

2011 Convention will be in San Diego, CA. There will be a symposium but details to come. The convention will be November 29 thru December 2. The symposium will be December 3 and 4.

USDF Report – USDF website went live this past week. It seems to be very easy to navigate. The Dressage Foundation has funding for numerous GMO programs and programs for individuals. In 2012 the convention will be in New Orleans in the French quarter.

Treasurer Report- Dilly Jackson will stay as treasurer for this year. Lisa gave report in her absence.

The Balance Sheet as of Feb 28, 2011

FEI Jr/YR \$4290.13

Education \$2213.20

General \$3729.96

Youth \$3084.64

Fall meeting will be at the Best Western in Leesburg, VA on October 30, 2011

Committee Reports

Adult Programs Committee – Fran Crocco reported. They have had 2 conference calls. Topics have included: Etrack (to provide university credits), the new clinician for the adult clinics: Lilo Fore, and educational sessions for this year's convention. The overall feeling is that there is not enough education at the convention. There will be morning exercise sessions which include Yoga/Pilates. They are trying to get more sessions squeezed in.

Regional Championships – Bettina Longaker reported. In 2012 there will be changes in closing dates based on qualifying dates.

Competition Management – Bettina Longaker reported. They are looking into para equestrian issues

Historical Committee – Anne Moss reported. This committee gathers and vets the nominees for the lifetime achievement awards and Hall of Fame. If anyone wants to put a name forward, please notify Anne Moss so that she can bring it to the Committee for discussion.

There was discussion of possible Region 1 Hall of Fame. Anne and Zoanne will discuss the possibility of adding this to the Region 1 awards program with presentation at Dressage at Devon.

Sport Horse Committee – Scott Hassler reported. They are looking at more educational opportunities and need more participation for handler clinics and sport horse seminars. Number of shows and participants goes up and down. California and Texas picked up last year. For future they need to fill the gap between USDF and the Horse registries. They are working hard with all breeds groups. Committee is recommending to EB to change the format at annual convention to include closed meetings again because no real business can be achieved unless there is a closed meeting.

FEI JR/YR Committee – Patsy Albers reported. New guideline booklet has been produced for chefs of teams.

GMO Reports

PVDA – Tea for Training in the winter to teach new volunteers. Ride for Life Show is going full steam. Two awards have been donated for the GMO Challenge (one day clinic with Cesar Para and Betsy Steiner). The show has an extensive silent auction. For more information go to www.PVDARideforlife.org

NCDCTA – They have established an Outreach program and excellence in competition. They are holding a Hank Von Bergen Clinic in May, CDI3* in June. New programs: JR/YR outreach committee: JR Dressage Club to be modeled after 4H or Pony Club, outreach to other disciplines such as Arabian dressage, outreach to eventers to provide funding and medal system in competition, Timex series for lower level eventers.

DVCTA – 200 member club with a schooling show series, two unrecognized horse trials, Dressage at Fair Hill, series of clinics throughout the year including jumping clinics. They will host the GMO party at Dressage at Devon on Friday night and contemplating holding a part 2 of the L program for 2012.

VADA – They have 10 licensed competitions, 2 licensed breed shows, are hosting the youth team competition, and are running a Linda Zang on April 23. They have 8 chapters, 4 of which have had new test clinics. Membership has fallen in the last couple of years.

French Creek – They hold 7 schooling shows and support combined training with some events. They hosted a George Williams clinic in fall 2010 and are looking into running a Linda Zang clinic. They have partnered with a club in Scotland which is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year and FC has been invited to compete at their show. Silent Auctions, raffles, and other fundraising efforts are in the works to raise money to go to Scotland.

LVDA – This GMO has 75 members. They are concluding a winter lecture series in March, holding 5 schooling shows and one licensed, a fix a test and three clinics. They have revamped their end of the year award program for high score awards per level and medal rider awards. They have an active adult team with 19 candidates and are working on clinics for the area 4H clubs to get more youth interest

ESDCTA - Currently has 500 members but membership will grow as show season approaches. A new test seminar in December 2010 had 100 attendees. A judges' roundtable was held in February 2011. Their awards luncheon had 190 people in attendance. The GMO omnibus was just printed which includes prize lists for 186 shows between dressage and combined training. ESDCTA runs the Memorial Weekend CDI 3*, a Club Championship show in September (unlicensed), the Adult Team Championships, the BLMs, a Licensed Horse Trials in October. The Kessler Foundation will be a beneficiary of this club. There will be a Linda Zang Clinic in December 2011. The Youth committee is in full swing with demographics of 140 youth members. They are partnering with the NJ Pony Club for unmounted clinics and rallies, sponsoring teams to different youth team eventing competitions, and have a mentoring program for younger kids being mentored by older ones.

OVCTA – Eventers are getting very active in the club with a Jean Moyer clinic in dressage and jumping, new test seminar next week with live riders. They have 5 schooling shows scheduled and a big fall show in November. They have a new website and are using constant contact

IEO – This GMO has under 50 members but host 5 schooling shows open to everyone. They have awards at each level at each show and an end of series awards and end of year awards. At shows they are adding pony TOC class for youth and combined tests as an outreach to the eventers.

New Business –

1. Could we have a Region 1 educational symposium? Where and how to fund?
2. There seems to be an alternating of sites for regional championships. Do we want to consider just setting up a system where we alternate sites each year without having to vote?

Special Thanks to Scott and Susanne for hosting the meeting and the clinic.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Kaminski