

August Board Discussions

Here are the Board discussions for August. As you may remember, the remaining NMDA shows/clinics of 2020 were cancelled. Also Board "meetings" had to be cancelled because no more than 5 people are allowed to meet. (The board has 6 members.) Valerie did offer her home for gatherings but there are 3 board members that are nervous about participating in a gathering.

Treasurer's Report: (from Winnie – Aug. 06, 2020)

"I paid the Director's Liability insurance on 7/18/20 in the amount of \$1084.00. Otherwise, I haven't written any checks or made any deposits [as of Aug 06].

"The checking account balance is \$11,778.85

"The Ed. Fund balance is \$4554.22

"The CD balance is \$6133.94

"The amount we paid EXPO as a deposit was \$487.50*

"We need to pay the PO box rent which is \$148.00 for 12 months.

"I am hoping we can get at least a partial refund of our show liability insurance but have no information about that yet.

"WDAA and AQHA will allow us to use the recognitions we've already received for next year's shows."

* (from BB): I think Maribeth and Winnie are still working on this?

Youth: (from Susan – Aug 10, 2020)

"Nothing new in the Youth Riders area. The only bit of information that might be interesting is the USEQ [USEF?] Equestrian Interscholastic Athlete Program. Kids in 5th through 12 grade can "letter" in their chosen sport. Eventually, I'd like to pose this to some of the other horse groups, like 4-H or the Arabian kids. Just not until we can safely get together to talk about possibilities."

Virtual Shows: (from Barbara July 30, 2020)

"I and several board members urge riders to partake in the on-line virtual shows. I have gotten several good reviews of them. The most talked about one seems to be: BetterDressageScores.com"

(from Barbara Aug 11, 2020)

"Video shows: Several people have said the virtual show is satisfying to enter. It would be enjoyable if several riders would submit YouTube videos to the rest of us. Not just riding a test but enjoying their horses."

(from Julie Wilson – Jul 29, 2020)

"I noted the reply talking about online shows... we've been doing some at Katrin Silva's for both traditional and WDAA. They are not expensive, have all had "S" or "R" judges. The feedback has been very good but the videoing process and computer entry is often daunting. But It might be something NMDA members would want as opposed to trying to hold shows."

(from Valerie – July 30, 2020)

“I still think the virtual show is the only way to go.

We could at least try ONE

It’s sure not gonna be pretty next year when we only have 10 people renew their membership

Better Dressage Scores has EVERYTHING set up

All you have to do is video a ride

Pay \$19

Wait 1 week for results

We don’t have to hold one just for us

Let folks do it on their own and count the scores toward year end awards

All the folks that didn’t want to join unless they are showing are thinking I told you so. Yes I know educational opportunities bla bla bla. That’s not enough

This is the year 2020

We are in unprecedented circumstances

It’s time to think outside of the box”

(from Barbara – Jul30, 2020)

“About losing club memberships:

“The 65 members we have right now are mostly faithful members that have been members for literally decades. Many of them join just to support dressage. Do not take this to be talking down to our faithful members, each and every one is valuable and cherished. The usual [show riders and] active competitors often do not join until there is a show to go to. I also **want to remind everyone that all the other New Mexico dressage clubs are not putting on shows either.**”

(from Sarah – July 30, 2020)

“Hi, All.

“With regard to virtual shows, as a board member, I support having them if we have the means and people to host them. As a rider/participant, I’m not sure if I would submit a video. I must admit that I have no talent at all for taking photos or videos. So, I would definitely require assistance from another person. I would enjoy seeing other videos of other riders. I’d also enjoy seeing creative, non-competitive (funny?) videos from other NMDA members demonstrating what they are doing with their horses during this unusual time.”

“I support the idea of hosting a virtual show. However, I don’t time to help out with it. And I’m not sure if I would participate. Maybe.”

(from Cindy Kavan-Winfield – Jul 30, 2020)

“I’m not a board member but want to weigh in n the virtual show thing. I don’t know much about the online service but when Valerie first presented it I got really excited. After nothing but disappointments all season this seemed to me a bright thing to look forward to. Morale is really down. If NMDA got on board & made it a big deal & promoted the heck out of it, it could really give a lot of people a big boost.

"Could we actually schedule a show on a certain day with ride times, classes, etc.? Then each entrant ride at the arena of their choice – even at home - & send the videos on to either the online service or on our own judge like Karin Lencyk. It could even be done live. We could publish results on the website.

"It would be cool if there were a way for anyone to be able to see the videos like being at a show watching, it would be wonderful if we had a member who was good at tech stuff & could manage the electronics.

"Valerie is right – we need to think outside the box. But more than encouraging people to do the online thing on their own, I think it would be neat if NMDA organized & promoted it & made it a club thing."

(from Winnie – Aug 06, 2020)

"Since I don't have a horse I don't really have an opinion about virtual shows. I've read all the regulations on the website and agree that they don't look very difficult as long as you can find an arena to ride in. Our bylaws and standing rules are silent on using virtual shows for year-end awards so that's something that needs to be addressed. If we are going to count virtual scores for NMDA awards shouldn't NMDA be putting on the virtual show?"

(from Susan – Aug 10, 2020)

"Since all in-person NMDA shows are cancelled for 2020, let's consider one or more virtual shows. I have one, or perhaps two, young people who would be willing to video riders. I don't know enough about virtual shows to organize one, but I know I'd participate. Perhaps Ann Bresson's daughter would serve as a guide, as she's done several, and hopes to do more. (She just started a new job so...) I'd need guidance on the technical submission part. The ride is the easy part.

"As for virtual show points, what NMDA rules would need to be modified for end-of-year awards?"

(from facebook – Katrin Silva – Aug 23, 2020)

"Virtual shows are not actual shows, but they come close: score sheets, constructive feedback, ribbons. We have lots to work on, but horses and riders are making progress, Boonlight Renegade won his Intro 2 test with Brenda Edeskuty, and his Level 4 test with me. Von Reminics Athena came in second in Level 1 with owner Kay Coen, and scored a 70 with me in Level 2 – good enough for the Open High Point Award in that level. Thank you, Ron Bartholomew, for organizing this great Western Dressage virtual series of events. Thank you Julie Wilson, for moral support, and for taking all the videos. Let's do another one soon!"

Conclusion:

(from Barbara) Several people have suggested NMDA put on a virtual show of our own. However no one wants to do the administrative work for an NMDA only show. Several people have participated in the virtual shows

(BetterDressageScores.com seems to be the most used.) and said they are very rewarding and useful to do.”

Year end Awards:

(from Barbara)

Rather than doing “our on” virtual show – I propose an Amendment to the Standing Rules to create Year end Awards using virtual shows. It would be a lot easier to amend our Standing Rule to use virtual shows for our Year-End Awards. “We would have to add an amendment to the Standing Rule of awards to read “virtual rides” are used and explain how to verify the scores (I understand you get a test sheet back judged by a licensed judge). Simply submit copies of the tests on our “Awards Report Form”. However, since the show season is 2/3s over, and those that usually join at their first show are not yet members, they would probably have to be grandfathered in some how, I think it is too late to make up a Year End Award at this time. Maybe we could think about (a Year end Award) if things are still closed up next year? What do you all think?

No one responded to my proposal so proposal dropped.

“I don’t think there is enough interest (or ability) to stage a NMDA only show.” Again, I want to encourage those that are interested in the virtual shows – go for it!

Western Dressage:

The WDAA World Show (Sept 30-Oct 4, 2020) is going to be virtual! Go to the web site www.wdaa.org to enter. Entries open 9-14-20 and close 9-28-20. This gives people that can not travel a chance to enter, and compete in, a world championship show! Also note that next year entries will have to qualify to enter the 2021 World Show.

USDF News:

The USDF Region 5 Championship Show (Sept 17-20, 2020 at HIPICO) is CANCELLED. Go to www.usdf.org for alternatives. You can enter another Region’s show if you are qualified.

The USDF Convention (Dec 2-5, 2020) is going virtual. I’ll have more details next month.

Submitted by Barbara Burkhardt
NMDA president.