

## July Board Discussions

Here is the board discussions for July. The main topic is whether our shows are off or on.

### **Treasurer's Report:** (from Winnie, July 07,2020)

"I have not received the bank statement yet but our financials are about what they were previously. Julie Wilson donated \$150 to pay for AQHA recognition for [3 of] our shows. Nance had already put it on her credit card so I sent her a check for \$150. Otherwise there has been no financial activity."

BB: It's \$50 per show so next 3 shows are covered.

(Winnie asked Maribeth if we have received the refund from Expo for the canceled July 18<sup>th</sup> "Ride-A-Test")

Maribeth responded: (July 10, 2020):

"I am arranging with Expo to get a refund. They are going to charge us \$45 fee to cancel the event.

If we let them keep the deposit and schedule it for next year they won't charge us the fee, let me know if we want to put the Ride-a Test on next year's calendar and let EXPO keep the deposit.

I suggested that next year's president's message remind our members that even without much activity that their membership entitles them to the educational resources at the USDF website so there is still value there for them.

The opportunities to really work on riding are big this summer."

Winnie replied by telephone July 17 that NMDA has not received the deposit back from Expo. BB asked the board whether we pay the \$45 cancellation fee or schedule the Ride A-Test for next year. (No response.)

THIS ITEM IS STILL OPEN

### **Membership:** Sarah reported July 08, 2020:

"No new memberships to report. With the show later this month, I hope we'll get a few. I'll keep checking my PO Box every other day. ..I'll circulate the current membership list to you all this evening or first thing tomorrow.

"I think getting potential dates on the calendar for next year is a good idea. I think everyone understands that any dates calendared now are subject to change."

### **Youth:** from Susan Jul 07,2020

"So far as the NMDA meeting goes, I don't have anything to submit. I have several young riders who would like to show, but I'm not encouraging them yet. There are multiple virtual shows to enter so they are choosing to do that instead. Their parents are also more comfortable that way, too. We are going to be patient, at least that's the plan.

"I'm being cautious and I hope you are, too. And yes, I'm getting tired of not having anyone (horse-type) to talk to. I can only talk to my husband about harvesting garlic or codding moths so much. Patience, remember?"  
"Stay safe."

**Shows:** (from Nance July 10, 2020)

"Because the judge has a family matter, NMDA is postponing its Cherry Tree show on the 26<sup>th</sup> of this month (July). It is hoped it might work out in September just before the USDF's Region 5 [Championship show] at HIPICO. There are a LOT of details to work out especially since the show is recognized by WDAA, AQHA, and the USDF for various awards.

"That makes the next show with NMDA up at Trinity Ranch in Lamy, NM on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Points with AQHA, the WDAA, and USDF will all be available since we have another USEF licensed judge coming to see us ride. Trinity Ranch is a great place to ride with a wonderful large arena to warm-up, designated dressage area, and great folks helping.

"So...keep riding and for those of you that haven't sent in your AQHA horse registration information for western dressage points please do so now instead of waiting for the volunteers of our shows to be flooded in show details. Thanks!"

(from Nance, July 11, 2020):

"I am hoping Winnie has gotten in touch with the board. I was kind of hoping we could offer the postponed show to be near the Region 5 at HIPICO. Last year when we [this was a AHA show at HIPICO] has a show right before the rated show many folks came to ride that we rarely see. Why those people don't ride at all our shows so they HAVE a better ride at a rated show will always amazes me. "Hoping to try to help the USDF riders get three shows."

(from Nance, July 14, 2020):

"GREAT NEWS! Even more hard work from the volunteers following through the NMDA schooling show (with recognition from WDAA, and AQHA, and USDF) is a go! The date has been moved to the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. It will be at Cherry Tree and with Julie Haugen judging. This show is right before the Region 5 extravaganza at HIPICO on the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of September. So Western riders be sure to get in your entries before the show fills up. We will send out a reminder closer to the time the entries are due.

"Meanwhile, know that the show at Trinity Ranch is still scheduled. Also know that NMDA enjoys offering schooling shows in the Santa Fe area however if you don't show up to ride then the shows can't continue to happen. This show is also a place to get quarter horse points as well as WDAA lifetime points. The due date for this show's entries is not up on the NMDA website however you can plan on getting them in by the 5<sup>th</sup> of August."

**New Business:** (from Winnie July 07, 2020):

"I think we need to start looking at next year's show and clinic schedule. We certainly have time to do that rather than waiting until December or January when things MAY be back to normal and we have lots of catching up to do."

(from Barbara July 08,2020):

"I suggest just copying this year's show/clinic calendar for next year. It's worked out to avoid the Arab and HIPICO shows. (We can't know when NMD-RMDS will put on their shows.) We could advertise our calendar earlier, say Sept or Oct. , instead of November."

**Cancel 2020 show season?**

(from Julie Wilson July 23, 2020)

"Hey Barb...this e-mail is to advise you I must withdraw as co-manager of the Trinity Ranch show [Aug 16<sup>th</sup>]. I simply cannot bring myself to spend a day out there doing what I envision as my duties based on the status of COVID rightnow. I live[with] a 87 yr old and have to consider the consequences to him of my exposure. I think NMDA could have some problems getting competitors interested in coming...I have asked around and have no volunteers to be helpers For the same reason I have concerns. We have a judge coming from a COVID hot state and NM has a 14 day pre-entry requirement for out-of-staters. Jeffray Ryding at Goose Downs was visited this morning by NM State Police and Health Board because there was a show scheduled for tomorrow...she had already canceled. She was specifically asked if there would have been out of state exhibitors or officials. They were prepared to serve a cease and desist order. Other NM shows and rodeos have been served the orders or have postponed/canceled their events. Frankly as they should. I would like to see organizations support our residents and businesses by thinking about what's best for all of us not just what's best for me. To stop this virus we must isolate and not hold social events. Just my 2-cents. Sorry to be such a downer but this virus is no hoax...I know about it and the health effects it causes. Nothing is worth the risk of running into COVID. I beg your forgiveness and wish NMDA great success in the future."

(Barbara called Jeffray Ryding July 27, 2020:)

Yes, Goose Downs competition was shut down because not allowed more than 5 people in a group. No show, even cross country event can abide by that rule.

(Barbara called John Collins of Cherry Tree Farm, July 27, 2020:)

John agrees it would be almost impossible to restrict groups to no more than 5.

(from Barbara to the Board, Jul 28, 2020:)

"Hi guys...Over the weekend I received an email from Julie Wilson, manager of our [upcoming] Trinity Ranch show. Julie resigned the manager position because she and her husband are in the vulnerable age group for COVID-19. Julie also stated that the Goose Downs show had been shut down by the police and health department 3 days before their show because restricting participants to 5 or less

department 3 days before their show [July 25<sup>th</sup>] because restricting participants to 5 or less would not be possible. I researched this and sure enough, it's no more than 5 in a group. Even small dressage shows can not enforce this. Plus, there is a 14 day quarantine for out-of-state persons. We would not be able to bring in out-of-state judges. While we could use in-state "L grads", there are no judges in New Mexico qualified to judge WDAA and AQHA recognized shows. There are, I think, at least 3 in-state L grads that can have USDF recognition. "Another problem is volunteers. In addition to Julie [Wilson], several volunteers have backed out. The health and safety of our competitors, their families and supporters, our staff and our community members must be a priority. We can not in good consciousness put volunteers and competitors, and their friends and family at risk.

"While many may think these COVID rules are unfair, I feel that they are in our best interest. New Mexico has one of the lowest numbers of deaths and cases, we should do our part to keep it that way.

**"Therefore I propose that we cancel** all the remaining shows and clinics this year, starting with the Trinity show. The "rules" are not going to change that much in the next few months.

"Please send me your comments. We need to inform venues and judges ASAP."  
Barbara"

(from Maribeth, Jul 28, 2020):

"I agree."

(from Winnie, Jul 28, 2020):

"I agree that we need to cancel the remainder of the season. There are just too many reasons not to hold shows and clinics right now."

(from Valerie, Jul 28, 2020):

"Then we should consider the virtual show route.

"Covid will come to an end.

"So too will the dressage community in New Mexico if we don't start thinking outside of the box."

(from Sarah, Jul 29, 2020):

"Good morning,

"We all hoped the cononavirus would be under control by this time, but it's not. Yesterday, a record number of deaths due to COVID-19 was reported nationally. New Mexico has seen about 300 new cases reported every day for the past week. As disappointing as it is, I think we should at the very least cancel the August show. I would like to keep reviewing the calendar on a month-by-month basis, if possible. If that's too much uncertainty, then I won't oppose cancelling the remaining events for the year.

"I support the idea of hosting a virtual show. However, I don't [have] time to help out with it. And I'm not sure if I would participate. Maybe.

"Stay safe. Sarah"

(from Barbara, Jul 30, 2020):

"Hi guys

"**Well it's final.** Everyone that answered said it was ok to cancel the remainder of our 2020 shows and clinics.

"**Here's a list of "To Does"**

"BB is contacting Trinity Ranch and will work with Harold updating the calendar.

"Maribeth – work with Winnie on getting refunds back from Expo and USDF SS Awards (& updating USDF calendar).

"Winnie – contact our judges for Trinity and 2 CTF shows. (Vista Sandia did not have a contracted judge yet.) Make sure we get refunds from Expo (if we don't have it ) and USDF SS Awards. Cindy has worked things out with the Pilates clinic.

"Nance – cancel WDAA & AQHA recognitions and get our refunds (if possible).

"If anyone has any ideas of how we can celebrate our horses and horse friends, send me a line.

"We will continue to converse via email about club matters.

"Barbara"

(from Winnie, Jul30, 2020)

"I have reached out to all 3 judges and let them know we have cancelled the rest of our show season. Had to leave Sharron Sarchet a message but did speak with Cynthia and Julie in real time.

"I do think we need to explore putting on a virtual show."

(from Winnie, August 1, 2020):

"AQHA and WDAA have agreed that NMDA **can use the recognitions for next year's** show season, so that's taken care of. I wonder if USDF will do the same? I suggested it to Maribeth.

"If the Board agrees to meet at Valerie's home, I will not attend since gatherings of more than 5 people are still prohibited. Otherwise the board can meet and I can email my report to you."

(from Maribeth, Jul 31, 2020):

"I have told Expo to send me a check, when they do I'll send a check to Winnie to deposit. I don't think I ever got reimbursed for the fee to register the recognized shows on USDF. I'll arrange a refund from them. Winnie, did I ever get any reimbursements?

"I would love to meet at Valerie's. I think as a nurse she can manage things well. Those that are concerned can follow on Zoom. I would like to promote Zoom as a great meeting place. For those that don't feel they are technically inclined, I wouldn't mind calling you to get you on the meeting. It is literally just clicking a link in your email box. No technical skill is required. I have had many Zoom meetings during the quarantine from like minded tech phobes and can assure you that it is safe and easy.

"I am not liking the email meetings. I'm not sure we're all being heard as well as if we were engaging at a set time together.

"You all know I'm behind the virtual shows 100%. I'm glad we're all on the same page with this. I contacted one of the companies early on to see if they would do a show for the club and never heard back. I'm glad one of them will do this. I think this is how we should do it. I think it will keep the membership engaged with us as a resource for their shows.

"Take care, Maribeth."

(from Barbara, Aug 05, 2020):

"Val. Thank you for your generous invitation to gather at your house. I would love to have a face to face (well eye to eye – don't forget those masks!) conversation with someone that can actually talk back. (No matter how much I talk to my four legged "kids" they have not yet talked back – well, maybe that's a good thing!) However, I personally do not feel comfortable in a group at this time. Someday this pandemic will be over and we can mingle and hug and laugh.

"Keep the faith and keep in touch."

(Val's answer: "Sounds like a plan.")

### **Responses to canceling the show season:**

(from Jayne Stewart, Aug 02, 2020):

"Good choice! You might look into doing Zoom mtgs for the board and maybe for a general membership mtg. Jayne Stewart"

(from Gina McKay, Aug 02, 2020):

"I completely agree with you. Good job Barbara! Stay safe."

(from Gilly Slayter, Aug 02, 2020):

"Thank you Barbara. It is very weird time and I know how hard it is to make those decisions! I, for one, appreciate all the hard work and effort that goes into each and every event and phone call!

"We all can't wait to get back to "normal" and see our horsey friends again. Until then happy riding! Gilly Slayter."

### **Next month (August):**

Discuss virtual shows and can we use them for Year End Awards?

Submitted by Barbara B.