

Summary of May Board Communications via email:

1. (BB) The April Summary was approved via email. Hopefully the Library will be open in June and we can meet as usual.

2. Review and approve Treasurer's Report:

From Winnie – May 11:

Current Checking balance: \$13,786.85

CD: \$6104.42

Ed. Fund: \$4543.04

Liability insurance for our events is in place and I'm just waiting for the agent to email me the certificates of additional insured. From what the agent has told me the price will be about what it was last year - \$675.00

Equipment trailer insurance:

From Winnie: Apr 15 – "As far as insuring the [Equip] trailer, Frank Garnett can write us a policy through Progressive Insurance. He will need Barbara's identifying information so she would need to call him and give all of that to him."

From Barbara: Apr 23 - "The arena [which sets on the trailer] costs more than a flat bed trailer. (arena = \$3060, trailer around \$1200) I do have a very strong hitch lock on the trailer. I don't think anyone could steal the trailer itself with that lock on. It sets next to a private road under a tree. It is between my house and the neighbors house so it is probably fairly safe."

Action item: BB will get with our agent and we'll find out what the trailer insurance will cost.

From John – May 12 - "I think we need to get the quote from the agent who uses Progressive. It should be under property NMDA ... Also the quote is needed if over a set amount vs the value of the trailer and arena it may not be worth it. In that case I would escrow say \$5000, invest it and only use it to replace trailer and arena if needed."

3. Membership Report:

From Sarah – May 13 - "No new members or renewals to report. Disappointing but not surprising."

4. **FOR THE RECORD:** April 30 Barbara received a letter from USDF, via email, awarding New Mexico Dressage Assn. the Licensee (meaning financial responsibility) for the 2021 Region 5 Championship Show!

It was applied for by Maureen Mestas (as "representative" of NMDA). Show Manager is to be Joe Coleman, Show Secretary Heather Petersen.

Barbara immediately emailed back that NMDA had not applied to host the Reg 5 Show! Maureen probably meant the New Mexico Dressage chapter of Rocky Mountain Dressage Society, please check with her.

After a couple of frantic emails it was corrected to that NMD-RMDS was indeed the Licensee and the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society is the host for the Sept. 16-19, 2021 Reg. 5 Championship Show.

And some people still think similar names are not a problem?

Barbara sent an email to Heather Petersen (Reg. 5 Director & Sec. of RMDS) protesting the duplicate name.

I haven't hear a reply from RMDS or Reg. 5 yet, but Maureen replied that she didn't think there was a problem, but she would add something about a RMDS chapter to their logo.

5. June events – We need to decide if event(s) are on or off.

Per NM Governor Grisham, as of May 15: Most COVID-19 restrictions are still in effect. No gatherings of more than 5 people. Social distance 6 feet. 14 day quarantine out-of-state airport arrivals.* As of April 30 State parks, golf courses, pet services are open. As of May 16, the following are opened: Businesses that sell goods and churches - at 25% capacity. All other "non essential" businesses (movies, concert halls, amusement parks, restaurants, gyms, indoor malls, salons) remain closed. Sports: Non-contact sports only. The governor still wants people to remain at home except for when you must go out. Everyone should wear a mask or face covering when in public spaces. Exceptions: eating, drinking, exercising. Maintain social distance of at least 6 feet at all times.

* This means judges must travel by car.

The following is from the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), (thanks to Maribeth and Nance):

Local government "rules" will always prevail. Here are USEF suggested guidelines for show management:

- Limited entrance/exit points.
- Only essential persons at event, no spectators. It was suggested that only 3 people per horse (rider, trainer, groom) be allowed on grounds.
- There is a suggestion to take temperatures of humans at entrance points.
- Face masks required based on local ordinance while unmounted. The venue makes this call. This includes show staff.
- Anyone violating mask rule must leave.
- Clean and disinfect bathrooms more frequently. Provide sanitizer in bathrooms.
- Bad weather shelter in car, not in barns.
- Provide sanitizer stations.
- Limit access to office, judge and scribe.
- May require liability waiver to include Covid clause – everyone at show (include staff) must sign.
- Schedule ride times and schooling to minimize time on grounds.

6. Clinic with Rachel Saavedra - June 12-14 – The "information & Registration" is on the NMD web calendar.

From Barbara – May 15: “Unfortunately the governor did not rescind the 5 person limit and unfortunately we don’t know how many auditors to expect. Maybe we should require auditors to pay ahead of time like riders and put a “first come first served” limit on auditors? We could space out chairs at 6 foot apart for the auditors all down the sides of the arena. The pot luck should probably be canceled. Everyone unmounted should be wearing a face cover.”

From Cindy Kavan – May 15 - “I and DJ (Collins) had a long conversation which we both thought it was best to wait until June 1 before deciding about the June 12, 13, 14 clinic. If the Governor says no gatherings of 5 or more again, we think we should cancel it if we want to use the grant money. [BB: We have a grant from The Dressage Foundation TDF]. So far I have 3 entries.

“I don’t think it would be good to use grant money unless we can do the clinic the way it was written – lectures each morning, potluck Friday night. I have spoken with the grant people and they are holding the money until they hear from me. They will hold it as long as it takes – even over a year.

“With the grant money NMDA would break even. They are paying for everything.

“If we decide to go ahead without grant money NMDA would need to pay Cherry Tree \$600 for the arena (2 days) plus \$40 per ride x 16. That’s a lot I think!

“So I am willing to wait to hear & cancel if we have to. I kind of in favor of canceling since I truly believe that social distancing until there is a vaccine and cure is the best way to go.”

7. June 20 Schooling Show (USDF & WDAA recognized) at Cherry Tree Farm. Most of the Board thinks this show is doable, with some precautions: Social distancing, masks on everyone that is not mounted, plus lots of hand sanitizer and just use common sense. As an outdoor event we are very low risk. (USDF & WDAA recognition has been approved.)

From John – May 12 - “June shows and clinics. I don’t think we would have problems with clinics since riders are scheduled and only overlap would be 1-2 trailers in parking lot. We had Bernalillo agents come by last weekend, they noted the distance from warm up arena, to parking lot, to arena more than satisfied distance requirement. So if we had a show we would have to schedule it almost like a clinic to avoid crowding around arena and parking lot. The other problem would be those riders who wish to ride multi tests, they would have to ride them back to back. [Or alternate them like BB asks to be scheduled – just one or two riders between rides.]”

There is also a “rule” that with out of state airline travel there must be a 14 day quarantine at the destination, therefor the judge will have to travel by car.

From Winnie – May 11 - “Nance McManus will house the judge for the June show, so that is taken care of. At least for this show year we [may want] to waive the [minimum] 20 ride limit for shows. We can absorb the loss for this year.”

Another wrench in the works is VSV has been reported in southern N.M.

John says for any horses coming from south of Belen there will be a VS check at the gate.

c. **The July Rated show at HIPICO** is still on (as of May 10th) Opening date for entries is May 11. Host is SFDA.

d. The 2020 Reg 5 Championship show is at HIPICO, Sept 17-20. Host is RMDS.

e. Parker, Colorado is totally closed the whole year – may be due to being under new management.

8. **Year End Awards & the On-line “shows”.**

It has been suggested that NMDA “approve” on-line shows for NMDA Year End Awards. I (BB) want to say that according to our November 2019 Questionnaire, very few people were interested in competing for Year End Awards in a ‘normal’ year, and the small number of Y.E. awards we give out verifies that.

From John – May 12 - “Year End Awards, we still have July, August, September, Oct., Nov. to schedule shows. Worst case have two shows Oct. and Nov. and average scores of both shows wins this years awards??”

Several people sent me (BB) info on “virtual” dressage “shows” that you can send in a video and have it judged or critiqued and maybe win prizes or ribbons.

It was pretty much agreed that these “virtual” shows could be informative and maybe fun. People should be encouraged to do them on their own.

Here is a couple of sites where you can video tape your test ride and send it in for prizes/ribbons.

BetterDressageScores.com

I (BB) looked this up. It’s video-taped “shows” with entry fees, a real judge, prizes, etc. Sounds like a good alternative to showing. They post a “show” about every two weeks. Has Classical dressage, Western D. and Event D.

From Susan Reed – Apr 22 – Ann Bresson sent me information from her daughter in Wyoming. Her daughter has organized a “virtual schooling show” called: The “Virtual Dressage and Western Dressage Jackpot & Schooling Show”. Information can be found at: andrita.ficklin@yahoo.com. 303-949-8068.

Here’s my opinion (BB):

I have gone to a couple of these ‘virtual shows’ and they look like fun, and educational. My opinion is let those who are interested to do them on their own. I don’t think we should count them for our year end awards. I want to remind everyone that our Questionnaire last year asked how many were interested in going for year end awards – it was only a very few. We only gave out 6 awards to 4 people for 2019. (Which is twice what we gave out in 2018.) It’s been like this since 2016 when horse shows pretty much crashed.

If we don't have enough shows, or no one qualifies for year end awards, we need to think up something entertaining for the year end banquet and membership meeting.

Here's another web site riders can check out: Dressagetraining.tv/

From Barbara – May 21 – The June events (clinic 12-14 & SS June 20) at Cherry Tree Farm are canceled. John (Collins) had a bad accident with his young horse and will be in the hospital for at least a month. All other venues in the area are closed at this time and judges can't cross state lines.

After June 1st the Board will have a serious discussion about the rest of the show season. The Governor may open or close various business/venues but the virus will remain until we get a vaccine.

Submitted by Barbara Burkhardt