

New Mexico Dressage Association
Regular Meeting
July 2, 2015

Board Members Present: Cindy Kavan-Winfield, Cathy Soller, Barbara Burkhardt, Cindy Begay, Charlene Strickland, Marybeth Perez Soto, Anne Sparks, Virginia Gredell, Donald Simpson, John Collins

Officers' Reports

Secretary: Minutes of Board meeting amended.

Treasurer: Cindy B discussed the financial report distributed by email. She discussed finances, and that fees for online memberships are starting to come in.

Committee Reports

Schooling Shows: Cindy reported 27 rides at the Stanley show. Marybeth discussed the schedule of schooling shows. She thanked Barn Dogs for supplying prizes at the Stanley show. **Action:** Marybeth will contact Harold about the online entry form.

Recognized Shows: Donald had no report.

Membership: Virginia reported 5 new membership applications, for 155 NMDA members in 2015. The Board discussed ordering additional USDF test booklets, planning for next year. **Action:** The Board will review the "Welcome" letter at the August meeting. Cathy volunteered to print addressed envelopes from the current membership list.

Year-End Awards: Barbara will update the standings this week. Cindy reported a member inquiry about L judges (limited to judge through 2nd Level). Cathy commented that the Board had addressed this question in 2014 and determined that riders at 3rd Level or above are welcome to enter schooling shows and qualify for year-end awards. NMDA will continue to encourage entries and calculate the awards as is.

Junior and Young Riders: Anne reported that Rachel Chowanec accepted the chair.

Education: Anne has filled the rider slots for the Lisa Wilcox clinic, with all levels covered. The Sept. date will be changed to Sept. 5-6. **Action:** Marybeth will contact Harold to edit the date change. Cathy mentioned that Sandy Perez noted that the Paso del Norte GMO requested the flyer, so members may sign up as auditors. PdN may also be interested in co-sponsoring future educational events.

Publicity: John will submit dates of shows and the upcoming clinic to the *Horse Around* magazine.

Old Business

The Board discussed a problem with the edited version of the Standing Rules. To resolve questions Anne suggested tabling the review. **Action:** Anne will merge the edited version with the committee's document, for the committee to hold another meeting and to present edits at the Aug. meeting.

Western Dressage. Cathy brought up a concern about what WD information is appropriate to be posted on the NMDA Web site. Anne mentioned that only elected officers may contact the Webmaster to make rule changes on the Web site; however, the Schooling Show Chair and Education Chair may submit updates to scheduled events.

Cathy reported on the WD chapter, to be named the NMDA WD Chapter. Their short-term goal is to enlist NMDA members. Riders have expressed wanting to be part of NMDA, and not become independent. Officers include President Sandy Perez, Vice-President Deb King, Secretary Lisa Phillips, and Treasurer Laura Farmer. Cathy read Sandy's comments about WD classes held under NMDA

schooling show rules. USEF-recognized shows follow USEF rules.

Cathy noted that the WD info on the NMDA Web site needs editing. The Board discussed how to edit existing information to inform WD riders on helmets, horse boots, bits. **Action:** Cathy will contact Sandy to draft the wording of WD rules. The WD Chapter will have a page on the NMDA Web site. Cindy K mentioned that this chapter will not require officers' insurance. Also, the IRS has specific requirements for chapters of a 501 c 3 organization. Cindy K also mentioned we can add a section to the NMDA membership form for 2016, where the members may choose which of the two disciplines they ride. **Action:** Virginia will consult with Harold the logistics of adding this section. Cathy suggested renaming the chapter as a division, and to rename the 4 people as committee members of the division. The Board agreed that will simplify the situation; Cathy will talk with Sandy about this action.

New Business

Cindy K has researched the 501 (c) (3) annual filing requirements through the IRS Web site (irs.gov) to verify that NMDA is complying with its tax-exempt status. She spoke with a representative, asking about the NMDA sponsorship of NMDS shows and finding out the paperwork that NMDA would need to file. **Action:** Anne will consult CPAs for their opinions on the sponsorship. NMDA is also eligible to receive nontaxable certificates for purchasing items from specific local vendors (such as Costco, Smith's, Subway, Dion's, and Jason's Deli) for food and drink at various events.

Announcement of Next Meeting: Aug. 4, 7123 Prospect Place NE; look for the orange door.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:30.