



September 2021 WDAA Newsletter

Dear Friends,

As WDAA staff and volunteers are working feverishly on the World Show, new tests, and an online judge's seminar, it occurs to me that WDAA members may not know what I really do as President of WDAA.

Officially, this is my job description:

1. The president shall, subject to the direction and supervision of the board of directors:
2. Be the chief executive office of the corporation and have general and active control of its affairs and business and general supervision of its officers, agents and employees,
3. Preside at all meetings of board of directors,
4. See that all resolutions of the board of directors are carried into effect, and perform all other duties incident to the office of president and as from time to time may be assigned to such office by the board of directors.

First of all, my position is a volunteer position. I do receive compensation from WDAA occasionally if I perform a contract service such as judging a show or instructing at group apprentice judges training. Also, if I travel for official WDAA business, I am reimbursed for my travel expenses, but not my time or presentation materials. Otherwise, all my time, written documents or presentations, materials used and duties performed are donated by me to WDAA and the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF).

I serve on several committees that meet primarily through phone calls or Zoom monthly or quarterly:

- **WDAA Board of Directors:** We have monthly WDAA Board calls. As the President, I conduct the meetings, but WDAA Executive Director, Dini Swanson prepares the agendas and sets up the meetings. The other directors and I usually spend time on research and phone calls to prepare for board meetings and give updates regarding projects and issues we have worked on since the last meeting and discuss ideas for future business. We review all WDAA business and financial matters to ensure our members money is being used responsibly to fulfill the mission of WDAA and best serve our members' interests.
- **USEF Western Dressage Committee:** I am chairman of the USEF Western Dressage Committee where rule change proposals are developed and hashed out. That committee meets as needed, usually six or seven times a year and I work with WDAA's USEF liaison, Nicole Zerbee in between meetings to prepare and address issues that come up from other committees, members, or just unusual circumstances.
- **USEF Breeds and Disciplines Council Advisory Group:** Since the number of seats on the USEF Breeds and Disciplines committee is limited, only the larger USEF affiliates are allotted seats on

- the committee. So, this committee was formed as an advisory committee to the Breeds and Disciplines committee giving all the smaller affiliates opportunity to voice our opinions. Three members of this committee are elected to represent it on the Breeds and Disciplines Council.
- USEF Breeds and Disciplines Council: I am one of three individuals from the USEF Breeds and Disciplines Council Advisory Group who was elected to serve on the Council itself. Therefore, it is my job to represent the interests of smaller breeds and disciplines on the council.
 - As WDAA President, I am automatically a part of every in-house WDAA Committee. If the committees are running smoothly, I sometimes don't participate actively until they ask me or need me. Currently, I am working with the Online judges' seminar task group actively as a contributor and as a reviewer. I help the test writing task force occasionally, mostly by riding and timing new test drafts and providing feedback to the writers who are also volunteering their time to write tests for WDAA. I am part of the Judges Review Group as well as the Judges Education Task Force.

I also represent WDAA through meetings or presentations including, but not limited to:

- Working with partners such as AQHA to develop a Western Dressage program for Quarter Horse owners including handing out ribbons at AQHA World Show,
- Working with USEF staff as the leader USEF's Western Dressage affiliate. An example of something I might be involved in is when a member sends a picture of a bit to USEF asking if it's allowable for competition or providing input on new policies. We collaborate to make sure USEF and WDAA share our most recent documents and ensure that information on our websites is accurate and in sync. We discuss and implement ways to market Western Dressage and USEF and provide the best possible services to our members.
- I routinely develop and present program information about Western Dressage to promote or further develop WDAA initiatives. Examples are presenting at the AQHA Judges' seminar with Joyce Swanson to encourage AQHA judges to seek Western Dressage judge licenses, presenting information about judging Western Dressage to Australia's Western Dressage Association via Zoom. This Fall, I will present an informational session for the Ebony Horsewomen in Connecticut on behalf of WDAA.

Within WDAA, I have an ongoing list of usual activities:

- I answer questions or concerns from members who don't call or email WDAA directly. I usually receive five or six emails or calls a week from members with questions or concerns.
- I work with Dini to oversee WDAA programs such as the WDAA Lifetime Points and Achievements Program, website development and educational content.
- WDAA representative and Head Cheerleader -Since my job, outside of WDAA is being a horse show judge, I have the opportunity to meet lots of members all over the country and I have the opportunity to share information about Western Dressage with a wide variety of horse people everywhere I go. So, I talk to LOTS of people about Western Dressage. I write much better than I speak, but I usually do quite a bit of public speaking on behalf of Western Dressage.
- Strategic planning or thinking up ideas and working on ways to bring them to life, and you know I don't do that by myself. Dini and her team, other board members and volunteers make most of the magic happen. Some of my pet projects include the blooper awards for the Online World Show, Freestyle No Fences, reorganizing WDAA's electronic filing system, keeping the rulebook up to date, and the Question of the Month to name a few...
- I write stuff or review and edit documents, monthly President's letter, organizational charts, Rail Class Guide for Judges, rule change proposals, contracts, agreements, award nominations, magazine articles, and the Questions of the Month
- My least favorite duty is talking on the phone. I prefer to communicate via email when possible so I can do it when I can prepare for it and attach information as necessary. I suppose this is because I'm rarely sitting around doing nothing when I receive calls and I would prefer to communicate with my full attention.

What I do not do is run WDAA on a daily basis. That is Dini's job and she has a capable group of contractors who assist her. WDAA is unique in that we have a mix of volunteers and contractors who all work together to accomplish our goals.

Every WDAA President will make this job his or her own and manage it in his or her own way. What I do is not necessarily what all past and future presidents did or will do. I just want to stay transparent and allow you to consider becoming involved WDAA governance if you are interested and have time.

The path to become WDAA President begins with volunteering through your State WDAA affiliate or one of WDAA's committees. Board members are usually recruited from committees where the board is impressed by someone's work and dedication. The WDAA Board elects the President as well as other officers for three-year terms. I am currently serving my second term. I was first elected President in November of 2017.

It is my pleasure to serve as WDAA President. I feel like I am making a difference in the World by contributing to a program designed to enrich horses' and people's lives. I am grateful to Ellen DiBella and everyone at WDAA and USEF who has helped me learn what I need to know to serve WDAA best.

Cindy Butler, Your President
Western Dressage Association of America

Sponsorships and Ads needed for the World Show!

We need your sponsorships, program ads and golf cart reservations for the World Show! Time is running out!

World Show entries close in less than 2 weeks, don't miss out! Freestyle classes are filling up quickly. Also, be sure to make your hotel reservations now, check out the World Show prize list for all information, it can be found through the www.wdaaworldshow.org website.

Remember - to qualify for the World Show your horse only needs to have shown in any class, at any WDAA recognized show.

[Learn More!](#)

Award saddle under construction by Mike Corcoran

Congratulations to the 159 horse and rider combinations that scored an 8 or higher in Harmony at the 2021 International Challenge! You are now one step closer to being part of a drawing for the **2021 WDAA Harmony Award Saddle!** To see if you are on the list, please visit this link. <https://westerndressageassociation.org/announcing-the-2021-harmony-award/> The drawing for this beautiful saddle will be held Sunday evening during the World Show Awards Celebration.



See the List Now!

Attention Junior Exhibitors entered in the World Show! The Overall High Score Junior Rider will receive the Lynn Palm Future Star Award

\$1,500 presented by The Dressage Foundation's Lynn Palm Western Dressage Fund.

The \$1,500 Lynn Palm Future Star Award will enable a promising youth rider to continue their Western Dressage training and education. It will be given to the highest placing rider aged 17 and under who competes in Intro, Basic, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, or Level 4 classes. The Award will be announced at the WDAA World Championship Show's Awards Celebration on Sunday evening.



Lynn said, "Today's riders are fortunate to have access to ways to further their education and dedication to their sport through The Dressage Foundation. I am proud to support the future of Western Dressage with the 'Lynn Palm Future Star Award' at the WDAA World Show. Best of luck to all the competitors!"

WDAA is so fortunate to have Lynn as such a passionate supporter, thank you from all of us!

Attention all Exceptional riders!



Heidi Adams has generously volunteered to call for any exhibitors in either Therapeutic Riding or Physically Challenged classes at no charge! to get on her schedule please contact her at silencespeaksmore@sasktel.net. Thank You to Heidi for her undying commitment to the growth of Western Dressage!

WDAA has it's 2000th Member!

WDAA is pleased and proud to announce the 2000th member of the association. Congratulations to Evelyn Eberle, a young lady from Switzerland, who has been living with a family on a quarter horse ranch in Hillsville, Missouri. She is working and training as a vet tech. She has a young Quarter Horse stallion, who will become her western dressage mount when he has finished training. In the meantime, she has been riding a 25-year-old very capable Morgan. Evelyn will receive a 1-year WDAA membership for her timely 2021 membership submission.



Questions About Points?

Do you have questions about the difference between USEF points, (Horse of the Year = HOTY) and WDAA points, (WDAA Horse Lifetime Points and Awards Program = WHLPAP), USEF licensing and WDAA show recognition or who can judge these? Hopefully, this will give you some clarity.

Western Dressage judging and points clarification.

- WDAA Trains Western Dressage judges
- USEF licenses Western Dressage judges, once they are trained and tested by WDAA.
- USEF licensed WD small r judges can judge Intro- level 1
- USEF licensed WD large R judges can judge Intro- level 4
- All USEF WD licensed judges (r or R) can judge Suitability, Hack, Horsemanship, Equitation on the Rail and Medal classes.

Approval of shows

WDAA recognized shows - The criteria for WDAA Show Recognition provides the opportunity for all horses to be judged on a level playing field when they compete in western dressage classes.

Only shows that are WDAA recognized, count for points in the WDAA Horse Lifetime Points and Awards Program (WHLPAP)

Factors for Points Earned at WDAA Recognized Shows Beginning December 1, 2019 (start of new USEF show season)				
Points Factor	Online Shows	Schooling Shows	USEF-licensed Shows	WDAA World Championship Show
	USEF Western Dressage Judge	USEF Western Dressage Judge	USEF Western Dressage Judge	USEF Western Dressage Judge
0.5×	X			
1×		X		
2×			X	
3×				X

For all Show recognition information please visit <https://westerndressageassociation.org/show-recognition-information/>

For all WHLPAP information please visit <https://westerndressageassociation.org/wdaa-horse-lifetime-points-and-awards-program/>

USEF Licensed shows – The chart found on the WDAA website at the following link describes the different types of USEF licensing. HOTY explanations can also be found here:
<https://westerndressageassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/USEF-WDAA-show-comparison-v06192019.pdf>

If you have questions always feel free to email info@westerndressageassociation.org or call 720-662-4584, we want accurate information out there.

WDAA Tests App

Dressage Illustrated has produced an Android version of the 2017 WDAA Dressage Tests app! To check it out go to this Google Play Store link.

2017 WDAA Dressage Tests - Apps on Google Play

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.legend.wdaa_dressage_tests_2017

WDAA TESTS
IN GOOGLE PLAY



Don't forget about the ap for iPhones!

2017 WDAA Dressage Tests on the App Store

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/2017-WDAA-Dressage-Tests/id1531583080>



USEF Youth Sportsman Award nominee!

Congratulations to Samuel Bohner of Medina Ohio, the WDAA nominee for the annual USEF Youth Sportsman's Award. Every year WDAA has the honor of nominating 1 junior member for this award. The goal of this award is to identify potential future leaders in the equine industry from all breeds and disciplines.

The Overall Winner of the USEF National Youth Sportsman's Award will receive:

- National Youth Sportsman's Award commemorative trophy.
- \$1,000 grant, to be paid to an educational program (see funding criteria).
- A nomination for the USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year Award.

The Overall Reserve Winner will receive a \$500 grant

WDAA wishes Sam the best of luck in the final running for the overall award. Sam will receive a free 2022 WDAA membership for his application.

WDAA Hall of Champions

Please send in nominations for the WDAA Hall of Champions: The criteria are, a horse who has passed but has won a Western Dressage World Championship or Reserve World Championship at the Western

Dressage World Championship Show or an alliance partner's World or National Championship. Please contact Dini Swanson for additional information, dini@westerndressageassociation.org. The WDAA Hall of Champions and other WDAA awards are presented Wednesday night, September 29th during the WDAA Honors Dinner and WHLPAP Awards presentation. Tickets can be purchased online <https://wdaa.memberclicks.net/2021-wdaa-honors-and-awards-dinner-registration#/>

New WDAA member benefit

10% off from ReRide Tack & Consignment [ReRide Tack & Consignment- ReRide Consignment \(reridetx.com\)](https://www.reridetx.com)

members can get 10% off on all purchases online or in the store in Texas.

To learn more about this valuable member benefit and receive the discount code, visit your member portal and go to WDAA Member Benefits!

Look for their app - ReRide Tack Boutique!

WDAA member tip of the month | Username vs. email address

When you initially filled out the membership form, it asked you to provide a username (most everyone provided their email address). The form also asked for your email address, which in most cases, was the same as your username. So, what do you do to delete your old email account if you get a new email address? Here's the answer:

- Log in to your profile with your original username (old email address) and password.
- Go to your primary email address field and enter your new email address.
- You can then update your username to match your new email address

OR

- you can leave it as it was (assuming you will remember it going forward)

OR

- you can select a new username that is not necessarily an email address.
- When finished, save your selections and close out.



Join WDAA or renew your membership today so you don't miss out on exclusive member benefits!



WDAA has some very exciting events, be sure to check the calendar regularly so you don't miss out!



Take advantage of this free member benefit! Professional directory to connect potential clients with professionals.



The LMS is a great way to learn more about Western Dressage. Only available to members.

[Visit the LMS](#)

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Directory](#)

WESTERN DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

OF AMERICA







