



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2021 WDAA Newsletter

**WDAA wishes you the happiest of holidays and a very merry new year, the offices of WDAA will be closed from December 25th - January 2nd so our staff can spend time with their 2 legged and 4 legged families!**



Dear Friends,

If all you wanted for Christmas was new Western Dressage tests, you're in for a great holiday! The new 2022 Western Dressage tests are posted on the WDAA website.

Our test writing committee was headed up by Joyce Swanson with Susan Lang, Sharron Sarchet, Jodi Ely, Joanne Coy and myself.

Formatting was done by WDAA contractor, Gail Matheus. The committee and staff was very thorough in writing the tests, assuring that the training scale was appropriately maintained and tests are not too long or short, that they are interesting, flow well, and allow horses to accomplish the goals for each test. Maneuvers were placed where they have just the right balance between setting the rider up for success and challenging the rider. The new tests were written, then timed, tested, tweaked, and re-timed and re-tested as many times as needed. Tests were diagrammed and formatted. Then, the diagrams and the instructions on the tests were re-examined to make sure they are easy for riders and judges to interpret. The process took all year, but it was a labor of love and the committee is excited to share the new tests with you. We hope you enjoy them, share them and use them as a toolbox to make the most of your journeys with your horse/s.

Show managers may opt to offer the 2022 tests or the 2017 tests at shows between now and March 1, 2022. Prize lists for shows before March 1, 2022 will indicate which tests will be used at that show. On March 1, 2022, the 2017 tests will be officially retired and only the 2022 tests will be used at all shows after March 1, 2022.

I wish you all an awesome holiday season filled with good food, good friends and good horses.

Enjoy the Journey,  
Cindy Butler, Your President  
Western Dressage Association of America

---

## Don't miss out on the 2022 WDAA/USEF Western Dressage Judges Seminar! Registration closes on Jan 21st and spots are filling up!



This seminar, which is open to every Western Dressage enthusiast, is 3 full days of intensive training for new judge applicants and 2 days for licensed judges. All that hard work is balanced with great camaraderie, networking, and lively discussion. Lunch is provided all 3 days plus the hotel offers Happy Hour every night! This event will complete the requirement of seminar attendance for USEF Western Dressage licensing and maintenance.

Auditors are always welcome.

Register now, space is limited!

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



## The new 2022 WDAA Western Dressage Tests and Horsemanship Patterns are now posted on the all new WDAA website!

We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to the WDAA Test Writing Task Force led by Joyce Swanson and facilitated by WDAA staff member Gail Matheus! Task force members who also put in countless hours helping create these new tests are Susan Lang, Sharron Sarchet, Cindy Butler and Jodi Ely, plus many riders who timed the tests and provided feedback.

The new 2022 WDAA tests can now be found at  
<https://www.westerndressageassociation.org/wdaa-tests>

**Show managers may opt to offer the 2022 tests or the 2017 tests at shows between now and March 1, 2022. Prize lists for shows before March 1, 2022, will indicate which tests will be used at that show. On March 1, 2022, the 2017 tests will be officially retired and only the 2022 tests will be used at all shows after March 1, 2022.**

---

WDAA is so sad to see Cindy Reid stepping back from live show managing and managing our 2022 World Show, she has been such an integral part of the WDAA shows team, and a huge cheerleader for

Western Dressage. The GREAT news is that she will continue to manage our Online International Challenge Show, beginning May 23rd and ending July 6, 2022. Information for both shows can be found at [www.westerndressageassociation.org](http://www.westerndressageassociation.org)

---



The WDAA Executive World Show Committee is happy to announce that Jim Porcher of New Mexico will be our new 2022 World Show Manager. Here is a little introduction to Jim and his background.

I have been involved in the horse industry as a trainer and breeder since the 1970s, primarily with Arabian horses, although I have also shown and trained Morgans and American Saddlebreds, as well as open Hunters.

I have trained and shown National winners in Western Pleasure, Country English Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure, Show Hack, Halter and Working Hunters; National winners in Spain and International winners at the European World Cup.

I have been managing horse shows since 2002, starting with Arabian horse shows in New Mexico. I currently manage recognized Arabian shows around the country to include Region 8 Championships and the Arabian Sport Horse Nationals.

Currently I am the AHA Sport Horse Nationals Show Commission Chair; Vice-Director of AHA Region 8 and Chair of the Region 8 Show Commission; Vice-Chair of the AHA Hunter/Jumper Committee and the President and a founding member of the Spanish Arabian Horse Society.

I am an Arabian and Morgan judge and have adjudicated at the U.S. Arabian National Championships (twice) and the Morgan Grand National and World Championships.

I show in the Working Hunter division on my homebred Anglo Arabians. I was raised on a working cattle ranch in New Mexico; have an appreciation and respect for all areas of the Working Western horse and am honored to be invited to manage the WDAA Western Dressage World Championship Show.

**2022 Show dates for the 2022 WDAA Western Dressage World Championship Show are Sept 27th-Oct 1st. and it will be held in Guthrie, OK at the Lazy E Arena, judges will be announced soon.**

---

WHL PAP has a new website! We are still

accessible through the main WDAA site, but  
our program now resides at  
<https://wdaalifetimepoints.org/>

Annual Recordings are now being accepted for the 2022 show season.

<https://wdaalifetimepoints.org/wdaa-annual-recording-submission-form/>

We are preparing to add level 5 tests to the program. More details will be sent out in January.

Thank you for a wonderful year of sharing your Western Dressage journey with us!



WDAA MEMBER-ONLY WORKSHOP

# HOW TO MARKET YOUR HORSE BUSINESS IN 2022

Discover 3 Powerful Ways to Take the Overwhelm & Frustration Out of Marketing So You Can Work With Your Dream Customers

 STORMLILY MARKETING

## HOW TO MARKET YOUR HORSE BUSINESS IN 2022

Discover 3 Powerful Ways to Take the Overwhelm & Frustration Out of Marketing So You Can Work With Your Dream Customers, with Denise Alvarez of Stormlily Marketing.

Friday, January 21, 11 AM CT / 12 PM ET, Presented by the WDAA Member Education Committee. For registration information please visit, <https://www.stormlilymarketing.com/wdaa-live-workshop>

Don't forget to update your Dressage Illustrated apps on your phone, so you have the most current version!

**Our vendors need videos of the new 2022 tests so they can time their calling audio, please send your video links to [info@westerndressageassociation.org](mailto:info@westerndressageassociation.org) ASAP. Thank you in advance for your help with this project!!**

# Important messages concerning USEF WD rules



## 1. Presidential Modification Regarding WD130

**Lexington, Ky.** – A Presidential Modification has been approved to WD130 for the 2022 competition year. The Presidential Modification clarifies the recently updated rule, *to now include including* “in the same competition year” at the conclusion of the added sentence, “To be eligible for Intro Level, a horse/rider combination must not have shown in a Western Dressage Test at First Level or above.”

WD130 should be followed as written below *for the in* 2022 competition year:

1. Introductory Level. Tests provide an introduction to the discipline of Western Dressage; the horse performs only at the gaits of walk and jog. The rider may sit or post the jog. The rider should demonstrate correct basic position, use of basic aids, and understanding of the figures. The horse should show relaxation and harmony between horse and rider is important. The horse accepts the aids and influence of the rider. The jog should be a natural gait within the horse’s scope and should demonstrate a swinging back. **To be eligible for Intro Level, a horse/rider combination must not have shown in a Western Dressage Test at First Level or above in the same competition year.**

A standard rule change is in process to make this addition permanent, but if approved it will not be in effect until 2023, if approved.

Any questions regarding this Presidential Modification should be directed to Nicole Zerbee, National Breeds & Non-FEI Disciplines Operations Manager, at [nzerbee@usef.org](mailto:nzerbee@usef.org).

2. Please visit this link to access information on new USEF Amateur rules. [Important Member Updates from the November 2021 USEF Board of Directors Meeting | US Equestrian](#)
3. For all USEF Rule updates please refer to the following links, [Presidential Modifications | US Equestrian \(usef.org\)](#), [Rule Changes | US Equestrian \(usef.org\)](#), [Rulebook | US Equestrian \(usef.org\)](#)

---

## 2022 WDAA Test revisions

12-10-2021 Updated language on Level 5, Tests 1 & 3. No changes in the test pattern were made. The words “Left Lead” were added to movement #1 to clarify the lead to take from the halt.

---





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

[Join WDAA](#)



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

[Visit the Calendar](#)



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

[Visit the Directory](#)



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

[Visit the LMS](#)

**WESTERN DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION**  
OF AMERICA

