

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March 2022 WDAA Newsletter



Dear Friends,

One of my favorite things about WDAA is that we are never stagnant. We are constantly looking for ways to improve member services.

I am excited to say that WDAA has commissioned another Mike Corcoran Harmony Award Saddle to be awarded at the 2022 WDAA World Championship Show! To be eligible to win it, riders must earn an "8" or higher for harmony on at least one test from the WDAA Online International Challenge and at least one test from the WDAA World Championship Show. There will be a drawing for the saddle. Eligible riders will get one chance for every "8" or above earned in Harmony from the two shows.

Also, because last year's classes were so large, WDAA is making a small change in the WDAA Online International Challenge. We will be dividing the Amateur Intro classes by rider age!

If you haven't looked at the Equitation Section rules in the USEF rulebook in awhile, take a look. We have made some recent changes to clarify what the judges are looking for and to require judges to use a score system. Also, horsemanship patterns have been updated to ensure all patterns can be done inside the dressage court. We hope this will promote better uniformity of the patterns, especially in online shows. Updated patterns can be found on the same WDAA website page where the tests are.

With respect to results from our membership poll on the subject, we are working to add "open" divisions in all equitation classes. These classes will also be eligible for USEF Horse of the Year awards.

We are using the new 2022 tests, including the new Level 5 at all shows now! Exhibitors are reporting much love for the new tests which makes all this hard work extra worthwhile.

The 2022 judges' seminar in Denver was fantastic! We have a very promising crop of new judge applicants. Changes to the seminar included a new host hotel which offers a free airport shuttle, a completely reworked judges' manual, and implementation of a central management plan which included backing up all presentations to minimize technical problems. Dr. Gail Hoff Carmona shared a systematic method of assigning scores to promote more consistency between judges.

The 2021 online judges' seminar has received rave reviews and is still available to all WDAA members via our website. We will be updating the online seminar for judges who need a maintenance seminar in 2022.

I am grateful beyond words for WDAA staff, contractors and volunteers who give their all to make our dreams come true. How lucky we all are to have such amazing people in our lives!

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

The 2022 WDAA Western Dressage Online International Challenge prize list is now posted!



[Click Here to see all information regarding the Online International.](#)

The show is open to WDAA members all over the world! We offer great prizes, including Division Champion buckles, Over All Champion saddle pads, and a personalized jacket to all class award winners, 1st-10th! Every single entry receives a collectable Online International patch (pictured). Plus, we offer unique designations, Century Rides through The Dressage Foundation, High Score Veteran, Breed High Score, Versatile Horse and High Score International Entry. There is something for everyone!



2022 Harmony Award Trophy Saddle



2nd Annual WDAA Harmony Award!

WDAA is very proud to announce the 2nd Annual WDAA Harmony Award!

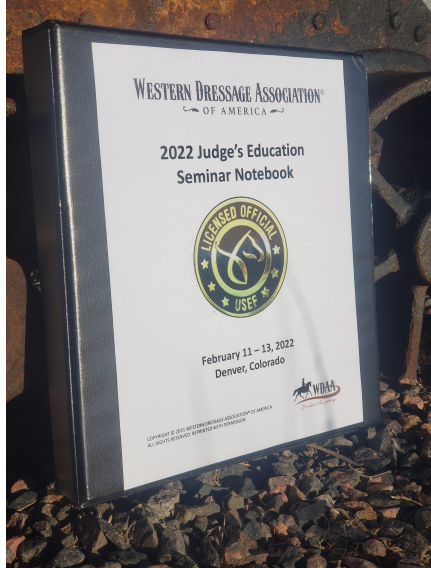
You can win a beautiful trophy saddle made by master saddle maker Mike Corcoran! Everyone who shows in both the WDAA Online International and the WDAA World Show can qualify. Click this link to see how!

Pictured is Patty Couch of Inola, OK the 2021 Harmony Award winner.

[Click to Learn More About the Harmony Award!](#)

2022 WDAA Judges Seminar

February saw the WDAA Judges Seminar return to an in-person event and was held at the Embassy Suites in Denver, Colorado. This year, we ushered in a new format by presenting a panel of distinguished instructors. The panel included current WDAA President Cindy Butler, Judges Education Committee chair Joanne Coy, Gail Hoff, Julie Haugen, Cliff Swanson and WDAA Judges Education Administrator Gail Matheus. This panel provided a unique opportunity for all people that attended, which included licensed USEF WD judges, WD judge applicants and auditors.



Here are a few of the messages we received following the seminar.

- "By far the best training I've been to!"
- "The education WDAA provides is easily the best money I've spent on my horsemanship education."
- "How cool is it to be listening in to the discussion of the very judges we show to! To hear how they are seeing us as competitors! SO very helpful."
- "Kudos to all the presenters - they all were excellent, and it was overall very well done."
- "I have never felt so at home with an organization. What an incredible group of people! Thank you for everything that you continue to do and the events and programs you continue to offer."
- "Truly the WDAA is the most organized and professional horse group I've ever had the pleasure to be associated with. I am hopeful to continue to participate in their programs."

Needless to say, we are so thankful for our enthusiast attendees, and panelists!

Online WDAA Judges Seminar

An Online version of the WDAA Judges Seminar was developed in 2021 and it has been such a huge success we will continue to offer it year-round to all WDAA members. From Western Dressage newbies to R Western Dressage judges, they have found it to be invaluable for the in-depth educational content it offers. Once you purchase this online seminar it is yours to keep and refer to at your leisure.

[You can find registration information here.](#)

January Question of the Month results

The members of WDAA have spoken, and we have learned an important lesson!



A few months ago, we asked in a survey "How do you like to learn?"

Below are the results.
492 response choices in total
#1 - In person clinics (93)
#2 - One on one in person lessons (88)
#3 - Video - online pre-recorded content (87)
#4 - Online Articles and Blogs (69)
#5 - Zoom webinar - interactive (54)
#6 - Print magazine (36)
#7 - Podcasts (35)
#8 - Virtual one on one lessons (30)

What this survey tells us is that all of you professionals need to get out there and give clinics! If you haven't already, please consider opting into our WDAA Professionals Directory on the WDAA member portal, get yourself listed, people are searching for you! WDAA has the Member Learning Management System packed full of video content so please take advantage of that member benefit. This is a new Text block. Change the text.

News concerning USEF rulebook WD102



WD102. 8. WDAA Membership.
a. To be eligible to participate and/or compete as an exhibitor, owner, lessee, agent, coach, or trainer in any Western Dressage class or at any Western Dressage [USEF] Federation Licensed Competition persons must be active members of WDAA or pay a non-member fee equal to the price of an annual membership for each competition....

PLEASE NOTE - Lite shows are an exception to this rule, no WDAA membership is required to show at USEF lite shows (although we would appreciate it!)

Visit this link for USEF lite show information - https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/tbNdNR_jw1YI/western-dressage-usef-lite-information

To stay up to date on all USEF rule changes- scroll to the bottom of this page To stay up to date on all USEF rule changes- scroll to the bottom of this page <https://www.usef.org/compete/resources-forms/rules-regulations/rulebook>

Scroll to "Additional Resources" There you will find ALL rule change proposals and Presidential Modifications.

Standard Rule Changes will be considered by the USEF Board of Directors at their 2022 Mid-Year Board of Directors meeting.

The deadlines for the submission of rule change proposals are:

Changes to General Rules for USEF Committees and USEF Affiliates - September 1, 2021

Changes to General Rules and Breeds/Disciplines for Members - September 1, 2021

Changes to Breeds/Disciplines for USEF Committees and USEF Affiliates - March 1, 2022

USEF Members may submit rule change proposals by logging in to their member account and using the online form, found here <https://www.usef.org/compete/resources-forms/rules-regulations/rule-changes>

WDAA Test Revisions

2022 Level 2 Test 2 revised 02/15/2022

2022 Level 2 Test 4 revised 02/15/2022

2022 Freestyle Level 4 revised 2/21/2022



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.

[Join WDAA](#)

[Visit the Calendar](#)

[Visit the Directory](#)

[Visit the LMS](#)

WESTERN DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

