



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2022 WDAA Newsletter



Dear Friends,

I'd like to take a moment to remind everyone that above all Western Dressage is about our own journeys with our horses. Even though horse shows may offer awards and placings, we are all winners when we focus on competing against our own best performances more than against other exhibitors. After all, we can always improve each time we ride, developing better trained horses as we move up through the levels.

Western Dressage is based on methods that embrace training in a logical, systematic way. If we are diligent and do the work, we can instill training in a horse that benefits the horse the rest of his life. On the other hand, if we keep drilling a horse and on the same things over and over, it's like the never-ending task of cleaning a house; and a house never stays clean, at least not for very long. So, let's set our horses up for success and stop cleaning house!

Sometimes at the bigger shows, exhibitors may enter upper level horses into lower level classes, or keep horses at a lower level longer than necessary. Since we cannot control what anyone else does, the only thing we can do is resolve to not be like those exhibitors. We do a disservice to a horse by not giving him an opportunity to move on to the next level after consistently earning scores above 70%. More importantly, we should recognize and validate each other's journeys with good sportsmanship as well as we all take the trip down the centerline.

It is up to us to keep horse shows a fun learning experience for everyone. Let's foster an environment that gives everyone sense of pride, knowing that they have developed a well-trained horse recognized by judges and other equestrians. Now go ride your horse!

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

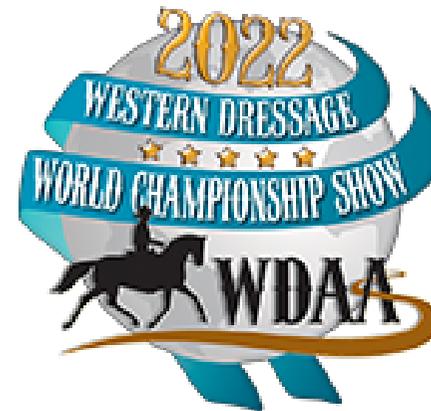
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# The WDAA World Show Needs You!

The 2022 Western Dressage Association World Championship Show is only a few months away, but there is still time to become a sponsor. Your sponsorship allows Western Dressage to be more accessible, by helping keep the costs of running a competition down.

The Western Dressage Association of America (WDAA) is a non-profit organization that depends on donations and sponsorships. Contingent on the level of sponsorship, the WDAA will recognize an individual or organization's generosity in several ways, including adding your name to prizes, banners, printed and electronic media. Sponsorship packages start at \$50 and go up to \$10,000.

Help WDAA continue to promote the Western Dressage journey. Consider supporting the 2022 WDAA World Championship Show. [Visit WDAA World Championship Show website](#) and go to "Support the Show" to see all the sponsorship options.



VISIT THE WORLD SHOW  
WEBSITE



## The Results Are In: 2022 WDAA International Challenge

The 2022 Western Dressage of America (WDAA) Online International Challenge is a wrap! The WDAA recognized the accomplishments of exhibitors at the Awards Celebration via Zoom, Sunday, July 10. The show had 1037 rides with a total of 352 entries, including 181 amateur, 46 junior, and 181 open riders; and represented 6 countries and 67 breeds of horses. More than 100 rider horse combinations are on the way to winning the 2nd Annual WDAA Harmony award saddle by earning an 8.0 or above in harmony.

[For all Harmony Award information please visit 2022 Harmony Award Webpage.](#)

The WDAA is also happy to recognize the Overall High Score Champions:  
Riley Whittaker riding LNR Gambling Smart, Junior Rider 13 and under, 84.773  
Hailey Prinster riding Shining Bueno Bar, Junior Rider 14-17, 78.182  
Haley Whittaker riding Al Clear, Amateur Rider 18-39, 86.250  
Barbara Paier riding Rosealita Acres, Amateur Rider 40-59, 83.000  
Jan Halter riding Smart Dual Olena, Amateur Rider 60 and up, 84.800  
Tamara Turgeon riding Nannes Brandia Dancer, Open Rider 18-39, 84.750  
Melissa Ashmore riding Rumba, Open Rider 40 and up, 88.846  
Jamie Rushton riding Boonafide Flirt, Exceptional Rider, 75.476

[You can look at all the results at ShowSecretary.com.](#)

To see the recording of the awards celebration, visit [WDAA Western Dressage Online International Challenge](#).

The WDAA appreciates everyone for supporting this new show venue and aims to improve the on-line show experience. Look out for the exhibitor survey coming soon via e-mail.

## WDAA Membership Up

The Western Dressage Association has continued to grow at phenomenal rates. So far, new memberships increased by 63% this year with 2,491 (an increase of 16%) total memberships as of July 14.

WDAA memberships (all categories):

2019- 1567

2020- 1851, 18% increase

2021- 2155, 16% increase

2022- 2491 (as of July 14), 16% increase

New memberships (% increase from previous year)

2019: 125

2020: 216, 73% increase

2021: 428, 98% increase

2022: (as of July 14): 697, 63% increase

The WDAA's mission is to build an equine community that combines the western traditions of horse and rider with classical dressage to honor the horse and its relationship to the rider in a way that celebrates the legacy of the American west. It's all about the journey, and the WDAA hopes to continue promoting western dressage world-wide in the future.

## WDAA Becomes Partners with United States Pony Club

The Western Dressage Association of America (WDAA) is thrilled to announce it has formed an alliance with the United States Pony Club (USPC) in efforts to support one another and promote western dressage. The USPC will include western dressage in its competitions and other activities. To learn more about the USPC, [visit their website](#).



[READ THE PRESS RELEASE](#)

## Lynn Palm Future Star Award for Youth Increased for 2022 World Championship Show

Lynn Palm has increased the Future Star Award for Youth to \$2,000 for the 2022 Western Dressage Association (WDAA) World Championship Show! All youth riders at the show are eligible for the award, presented through the Lynn Palm Fund of the Dressage Foundation to the youth rider earning the highest score in any one test at Basic Level or above.



This award is offered to encourage youth riders to set and reach goals, becoming stars themselves. Anna Droegemueller of Sperry, OK, with her horse Pendragon, claimed top honors at the show in 2021. Check out her winning ride here, <https://youtu.be/KpYoZTPK8Hk>.

The WDAA looks forward to seeing the next generation of Western Dressage riders at this year's WDAA World Championship Show.

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## News concerning USEF

Find all USEF rule change proposals here [Rule Changes | US Equestrian \(usef.org\)](#)

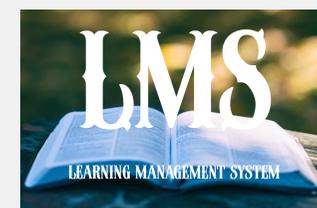
Find all USEF Presidential Rule Modifications here [Presidential Modifications | US Equestrian \(usef.org\)](#)



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## WDAA Test Revisions to Date

- Level 1 Freestyle: 4/5/2022 Total points correction on cover page only.
- Level 2 Test 2: 3/30/2022 Movement 15 clarification that the collect jog begins at V. Changed sidepass from 4 steps to 4 strides.
- Level 2 Test 2: 5/23/2022 Changed sidepass from # of strides to go to the first quarter line.
- Level 2 Test 4: 2/15/2022 Changed sidepass from 4 steps to 4 strides.
- Level 2 Test 4: 5/23/2022 Changed sidepass from # of strides to go to the first quarter line.
- Level 2 Freestyle: 1/7/2022 Movement 10 has had the verbiage "through the jog" removed. And now states only "Simple change of lead".
- Level 3 Freestyle: 4/26/2022 Total points correction on cover page only.
- Level 4 Freestyle: 4/26/2022 Added L|R to movements 9 & 10. Removed L|R from box 11. Corrected total points on cover page.
- Level 5 Test 1: 12/10/2021 Added "Left Lead" to movement #1 to clarify the lead to take from the halt.
- Level 5 Test 3: 12/10/2021 Added "Left Lead" 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

