



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

December 2022 WDAA Newsletter



Dear Friends,

Living in the Midwest, my show season is over for a few months. I like to take this time to reflect and prepare for the upcoming show season.

Even when it's cold out, I can renew my memberships, review rules, and attend in-person or online seminars to keep current. WDAA offers some great educational tools including free material available to members through the Learning Management System on our website and the online judges' education seminar. The online judges' education seminar as well as the in-person judges' seminar is open to anyone, not just those hoping to become judges or renew their licenses. The courses are great for anyone who wants a leg up showing or training their Western Dressage horses.

There are distinct advantages to both judges' education seminars. The online judges' seminar can be saved and reviewed over and over as often as you please. You can watch it at your convenience, starting, stopping and rewinding whenever you want. However, you can meet your judges and other exhibitors at the in-person seminar and ask questions live. We don't get to hang out with each other very often during show season because we all have horses to take care of and planes to catch. We see each other briefly, hug and run along our separate ways. So, I look forward to spending a little more time with old and new friends at the judges' seminar and the USEF Annual meeting.

The USEF Annual meeting in Lexington, KY is open to anyone and WDAA is hosting a special session there on Thursday, January 12th to update everyone on the state of WDAA. We will record the session in case you can't make it in person.

In other news, I would like to announce that I have appointed Cliff Swanson to be the WDAA Board of Directors' liaison to our State Affiliates. Cliff is currently the President of the Arizona affiliate as well. He will be working with Kathy Newcomb to set-up State Affiliate Zoom meetings where affiliates can share best practices, concerns, and ideas.

I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for being part of WDAA. I appreciate each and every one of you.

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



Interested in learning what judges are looking for?

The best place to find out is the 2023 WDAA/USEF Western Dressage Judges Seminar

Friday, February 10 through Sunday, February 12
Held @the Embassy Suites Denver International Airport Hotel
7001 Yampa Street, Denver, CO 80249

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

This invaluable seminar is 3 full days of intensive training which is also open to AUDITORS. All that hard work is balanced with great camaraderie, networking, and lively discussion. Lunch is provided plus the hotel offers Happy Hour every night! Topics include evaluating horse and rider combinations, scoring tests, and providing comments with additional focus on clarifying and broadening a judge's perception of gaits, impulsion, willing cooperation, rider position and seat, the rider's correct and effective use of aids and harmony between rider and horses of different styles. The seminar also provides an overview of judging Rail Classes, Equitation, Freestyles and Gaited Horses.



We hope to see you there!

Here are just a few attendee comments from the 2022 Judges seminar.

"...the education WDAA provides is easily the best money I've spent on my horsemanship education."

"Just wanted to shout out to the organizers and folks of the WDAA who worked wonders to put on the absolutely WONDERFUL judges seminar in Denver."

"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."

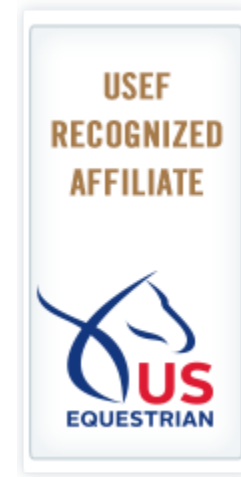
"...how cool is it to be listening in to the discussion of the very judges we show to? To hear how they are seeing us as competitors! SO very helpful."

Plan now to attend!

WDAA will be holding an "Annual Report" meeting at the 2023 USEF Annual Meeting in Lexington, KY on Thursday, January 12th at 8:30am.

For all events scheduled visit <https://www.usef.org/annual-meeting/schedule>

We will record this event and will place it in your WDAA member portal on the Learning Management System (LMS) if you are unable to attend. We hope to see you there! WDAA will be in the house to cheer on all of our Western Dressage USEF Horse of the Year award winners!!



The 2023 WDAA World Championship Show will be held at the Lazy E Arena in Guthrie, OK September 26-30

Your Honorable judges will be;

- Lillian Evaniew-Phelan
- Susan Lang
- Brian MacMahon
- Joyce Swanson - also judging rail classes
- Charlotte Trentelman



Keep an eye open for the announcement in future emails that the new prize list is posted on www.wdaaworldshow.org

WDAA is very proud to announce a new sponsor for the 2023 WDAA Harmony Award, Schleese Saddlery!



Everyone who shows in both the WDAA Online International and the WDAA World Show can qualify to win a beautiful saddle donated by Schleese. For all information concerning the 2023 WDAA Harmony Award please visit the following link: <https://wdaa.memberclicks.net/wdaa-harmony-award>



Your chance to compete with entries from around the world!

WDAA Online International Challenge

[Phase 1 - Entries Accepted](#)

May 22 - June 5, 2023

[Phase 2 - Videos Submission Accepted](#)

Once Entry Is Accepted) - June 19, 2023

[Phase 3 - Judging and Score Board](#)

June 21 - July 5, 2023

[Online Awards Ceremony](#)

July 9, 2023

Keep an eye open for the announcement in future emails that the new prize list and judges are posted on <https://wdaa.memberclicks.net/wdaa-western-dressage-online-international-challenge>

Attention professionals! Do not forget to opt into the FREE Professional's Directory on your WDAA member profile. Any WD clinics you participate in need to be posted on the WDAA Calendar of events. People are looking for you!



Check out the updated Western Dressage Seat Equitation patterns posted now on our website!



[View the All-New Tests Here](#)

The new Equitation Division consists of three classes:

- Western Dressage Seat Equitation on the Rail
- Western Dressage Seat Horsemanship
- Western Dressage Seat Combined Equitation

The new tests are:

- 2023 WDAA Equitation Walk-Jog Test A and B
- 2023 WDAA Equitation Intermediate Test A and B
- 2023 WDAA Equitation Advanced Test A and B

For all rules refer to WD-12 in the USEF rulebook



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 \(usef.org\)](#)

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.
- 2022 Western Dressage Equitation Tests: 11/30/2022 Tests Retired.
- 2023 Western Dressage Equitation Tests: 12/1/2022 Added using the new Walk-Jog, Intermediate, and Advanced categories.



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.

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WESTERN DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

