



June Newsletter



I have talked about this before, but I just want to say again how much I appreciate everyone who volunteers their time and energy to equine pursuits. Whether you donate your time at horse shows, for rescues, to association committees or any other way, the equine industry could not survive without you.

We all have limited time to give and there are so many things we have to do, competing for that precious time. So, when any person makes the decision to dedicate time to serve the horse industry, it is a gift to all of us who partake in the joy of horses.

The work our WDAA volunteers have done to create a training system anyone can use to teach horses is incredibly valuable as a tool for horse owners. However, there are many ways to serve the horse industry. We all have different talents we can offer and many opportunities just require a little time or muscle.

Yesterday, I judged a horse show run only by volunteers. Whoever wasn't showing in the current division would run in and ring steward for a few classes and people took turns announcing. Riders jumped off their horses to close gates and setup patterns and trail courses. The participants all helped because that's what it takes to keep their shows alive.

Do you want shows or trails near you, horses to be rescued, equine organizations to offer services, horse fairs, riding clinics, equine therapy or just that there is still a place for horses in our World? If your answer is "yes", then I encourage you to support that word with action. Clear some time in your schedule to volunteer to preserve the things you care about. It doesn't have to be a lot, just as much as you have to offer. Every drop in a bucket makes a difference.

I live my life with a "to do list" and a calendar, as I'm sure many of you do. Sometimes, I get so overwhelmed by all the tasks I have to complete that it just feels impossible. However, I donate more time anyway because if I don't make an effort to preserve a World with horses in it, I am contributing to a World with no horses in it.

Our industry is shrinking. It is up to us to preserve it. If we don't support it and bring new people into it, our industry will disappear and horses will disappear. Can you live with that? I don't think I can.... So, to all of you who bring life to the horse industry, even a little, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Enjoy the Journey,
Cindy Butler, Your President

WDAA Membership News

Online International Challenge



Thank you to Show Manager and Equipment Checker Francie Newsom, Show Secretaries Susan Peacock and Julia Peacock, and all participants who braved the heat to get their videos filmed!

We are also grateful to the judges now reviewing your tests:

- Cindy Butler, WD R
- Corinne Bridgeman, WD R
- Melissa Creswick, WD R
- Katharina Nowotny-Boles, WD R
- Susan Posner, WD R
- Nell Tekampe, WD R
- Patricia Thompson, WD R
- Charlotte Trentelman, WD R
- Glenda Warner, WD R
- Barbara Wood, WD R
- Robin Nunnally, WD R

Phase 3 judging runs June 18 - July 1, 2026.

We are currently in Phase 3 of the WDAA OIC. The judges are scoring the tests now. When your tests have been scored, the test scores will show up on your ONLINE WDAA dashboard (to the right of where you placed your YouTube links). You can click on the test score and view your score sheet with comments. When the class has been placed, your placing will appear to the right of the score. Please be patient on the larger classes as it may take a few days for the judge to complete an entire class and the placing to display.

The public RESULTS button on the show page on ShowSecretary.com will display the entire show results on 7/3/2026.

Watch for your email invitation to the Online Awards Ceremony on July 5, 2026 via Zoom at 5:00 PM Mountain Time.

Invitations will be sent following the close of judging!

2026 WDAA World Championship Show Entries OPEN July 27th



The WDAA World Championship Show is just around the corner, and entries open in ONE MONTH!

 **Entries Open:** July 27

 **Entries Close:** August 25

View the prize list here: <https://www.showsecretary.com/2026PL/2026WDAWorld.pdf>

Please make sure to read the prize list thoroughly; it has all the information you need to enter and show!

Pattern Booklet Released for 2026 USEF Western Dressage Seat Medal Final



The [2026 USEF Western Dressage Seat Medal Final](#) will be hosted at the WDAA World Championship Show in Guthrie, Okla., on September 15, 2026.

Established in 2025, the USEF Western Dressage Seat Medal program spotlights the growing discipline of Western Dressage and celebrates the correct training and equitation that goes into a successful partnership. The final is conducted in the format of a Combined Equitation class, with both an On The Rail section and a Horsemanship pattern, each of which contributes 50% of the rider's final score. Please note, the qualifying period for the 2026 Final will end August 31, 2026.

The five pattern options have been curated specially for the Western Dressage Seat Medal Final, with the selected pattern to be determined by the judge in September. The patterns can be found [here](#).

For all information regarding the USEF Western Dressage Seat Medal Final please visit [The USEF Western Dressage Seat Medal Final | US Equestrian](#)

Youth Scholarship Deadline July 15th



The Western Dressage Association of America (WDAA) is proud to offer \$500 scholarships — funded by a youth grant from US Equestrian Federation — to support young equestrians looking to expand their Western Dressage education.

These scholarships can be used for clinics, camps, or other educational experiences and/or non-show events. Applications are accepted year-round, with awards given in April, August, and December.

Congratulations to Avery Aswad on the December 2025 WDAA Youth Scholarship and Keira Farmer on the April 2026 Scholarship.

Keira attended a Western Dressage camp at Hidden Oaks in Joseph, Oregon, run by Marina and Jessie Woodhead, both FEI trainers.

 Next deadline: July 15th

Apply today  <https://wdaa.memberclicks.net/wdaa-youth-educational-scholarship-program>

Western Dressage Riders: Funding is Available!



*Application
Deadline:
July 20*

Upcoming Grant Application Deadline



TDF's Western Dressage Fund for Individuals

Provides funding for Western dressage riders to receive additional training outside of the horse and rider's typical training plan (clinics, camps, additional lessons) in Western dressage.

Learn more and apply at www.dressagefoundation.org

The application deadline for [The Dressage Foundation's Western Dressage Fund](http://www.dressagefoundation.org) is approaching!

Established through the generosity of Lynn Palm and supporters of Western Dressage, this fund provides \$1,000 grants to help riders (youth, adult amateurs, and professionals) pursue educational opportunities that strengthen their skills, deepen their knowledge, and advance their goals in Western Dressage.

Whether you're looking to attend a clinic, work with a respected instructor, or take the next step in your Western Dressage journey, this grant may help make that opportunity possible.

Application Deadline: July 20

Apply today and take a step toward achieving your Western Dressage goals!

Learn more and apply: <https://bit.ly/3SbVU5y>

Any questions? We're here to help! Contact us at info@dressagefoundation.org or at 402-434-8585
Photo of 2025 grant recipient Leah Borders. Photo by Vince LeMaster Photography.

Apply Here!

WDAA Highlights: A Day of Partnership in Tulsa



This month, the WDAA team headed to the Tulsa Expo Center for the Pinto World Championship Show. This event remains a great opportunity to reach riders who are looking to expand their horse repertoire into Western Dressage.

Growing the Community: Our presence near the Ford Arena allowed us to bridge the gap for new riders. We spent the day sharing resources and showing how the discipline fits perfectly into any multi-discipline training

program.

Getting Started: Are you or someone you know looking to try Western Dressage with your own horse? Download our [Getting Started Guide](#) to learn the basics of arena setup, test patterns, and the Training Wheel philosophy.

Celebrating Success: We were honored to recognize excellence in the arena by presenting two High Point awards, made possible by beautiful gift baskets created by ISE Equine Endeavors of Princeton, TX. We extend a special congratulations to **Stacy Chambliss & Spook Me Never**, who tried Western Dressage for the first time at this show and delivered an exceptional performance with a **High Point score of 78.611%**. **Kathryn Stedham and Larkin' So Creamy** earned a competitive **Reserve High Point score of 78.2%**. Additionally, our barn bucket raffle—packed with goodies from our partners at Absorbine and Purina—was won by Kim, who is now eagerly planning her future in Western Dressage.

A Partnership in Hospitality: We are incredibly grateful to the Pinto Horse Association for their warm welcome and support. Learn more about their breed registries and upcoming events at pinto.org.

As we look toward the WDAA World Championship Show in September, we are energized by the enthusiasm of the riders we met in Tulsa. See you in the arena!

Huge thanks go to Candy Hill for manning the booth and representing WDAA and Western Dressage so beautifully!



WDAA is looking for class and division sponsorships for the World Show!

Why should you sponsor a class or division?

1. Visibility - your name or your business' name will be listed in the official show program as a sponsor
2. Affordability - sponsorships help to keep costs reasonable for exhibitors
3. Appreciation of the sport - you simply love Western Dressage!

Become a sponsor today! Follow this link to view the available options: <https://wdaaworldshow.org/product-category/class-sponsorship/>



Help Us Update the WDAA Professionals Directory

WDAA is working to improve the Professionals Directory so members can more easily find and connect with Western Dressage resources in their area, including trainers, instructors, clinicians, and Western Dressage judges.

As part of this update, we ask all members who have opted in to the Professionals Directory to please review their listing and make sure it reflects a Western Dressage-related professional role. While we know our members bring many wonderful talents and professional backgrounds to the WDAA community, this directory is not intended as a general professional networking directory. Listings such as “Primary School Educator” or “Architectural Engineer,” while valuable, would not be considered Western Dressage professional listings.

Please remember that members listed in the Professionals Directory may be contacted by the general public seeking Western Dressage lessons, training, guidance, or other related support and we will ensure that only emails and general location are shared. Thank you for helping us keep this resource clear, useful, and focused for our Western Dressage community!

To edit your member profile, just log in and hit this link -

https://www.westerndressageassociation.org/index.php?option=com_community&view=profile#/profile

WDAA Points





YEHP Buckles Have Been Delivered!

Skyline Vaquero has notified us that all the orders for the National 2025 YEHP Buckles have been shipped. International YEHP buckles To all those who ordered- Thank you! We hope you enjoy your beautiful buckle, and thank you for supporting our WDAA Points Programs!

Save the Date! WHLPAP Award Banquet

WHL PAP Members- it's getting close to that time of the year again! We're excited to announce that our annual WDAA Horse Lifetime Points and Awards Program Award Banquet at the WDAA World Championship Show will take place on **Tuesday, September 15th, 2026!** This will be our first year hosting the new Equinity Center at the Lazy E, so if you are attending the World Show you won't want to miss out. **More information as well as the link to purchase your tickets will be announced as we approach closer to the banquet date.**

Quick reminder for all of those striving to earn an achievement in time for this year's ceremony:

The deadline for points for the 2026 WHLPAP Award Processing cycle is July 31st, 2026!

If you'd like to receive your awards this year in September/October, make sure you stay on top of your points!

Best of luck and Happy Showing!

-The WDAA Points Team

[WDAA Points Website](#)

[WHL PAP vs YEHP Comparison](#)

[Enroll for a WDAA Horse Number](#)

WDAA Gaited Committee News



Attention riders of gaited horses and gaited mules who will be competing at this year's WDAA World Championship Show in Guthrie, OK. After receiving a steady increase in the number of Gaited entries over recent years at the World show, WDAA is excited to announce the expansion of the Division Championship awards from three to seven this year!

The overall Division Championship awards for gaited horses/mules will be as follows:

- Gaited Horse Introductory Level Amateur/Junior Rider
- Gaited Horse Introductory Level Open Rider
- Gaited Horse Basic Level Amateur/Junior Rider
- Gaited Horse Basic Level Open Rider
- Gaited Horse Level 1 Amateur/Junior Rider
- Gaited Horse Level 1 Open Rider
- Gaited Horse Level 2 - Level 5 Open Rider

And do not forget there is also an award offered for the highest scoring gaited rider and several gaited breed specific awards offered as well! Western Dressage is beneficial to all breeds of horses, mules and ponies and WDAA celebrates the variety of breeds that compete in this exciting and welcoming sport.

For complete information on this year's world show please visit: www.wdaaworldshow.org/



New World Screwworm



Attention WDAA Members, on June 3, 2026, the U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed New World Screwworm in the umbilical area of a calf in Zavala County, Texas. This expansion into the United States is alarming and US Equestrian wants to make sure you know about the potential risks of this parasitic fly to horses.

Learn more and stay updated with USEF: <https://www.usef.org/compete/regulation/drugs-medications/new-world-screwworm>

Replay of the USEF's horse owner webinar: <https://youtu.be/cE7XhBIOdWU>

Check out Dr. Flynn's breakdown: <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1BPPVUnz6n/>

Informational guidelines about New World Screwworm for

Horse Owners: <https://www.usef.org/compete/regulation/drugs-medications/new-world-screwworm/horse-owners>

And Competition Organizers: <https://www.usef.org/compete/regulation/drugs-medications/new-world-screwworm/competition-manager>

Read More Here

WDAA Test Revisions to Date

UPDATE

- 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.
 - 2023 Western Dressage Equitation Patterns: 02/22/2023 Changed the word "test" to "pattern".
 - 2024 Western Dressage Equitation patterns: 01/18/2024 Movement #4 Lope to Halt movement changed to "Halt through the Jog."
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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](#)



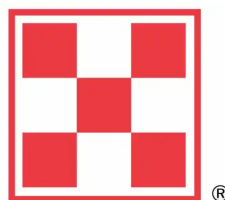
Take advantage of this free member benefit! Professional directory to connect potential clients with professionals.

[Visit the Directory](#)



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

[Visit the LMS](#)



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