# WHY BECOME A MEMBER?



- Recognized National Affiliate for the Western Dressage Discipline
- WDAA's mission statement is to build an equine community that combines the Western traditions of horse and rider with Classical Dressage
- Honors the horse
- Values the partnership between horse and rider
- Celebrates the legacy of the American West



+2,100 members 5 employees



300+ WDAA Recognized Competitions

Over +550 horses enrolled in the WDAA Horse Lifetime

Points and Awards Program



- Provides an environment that protects the safety and welfare of our athletes & horses
- Provides fair and consistent rules for our competition environment
- Provides fair and impartial hearing/regulatory process
- Manages competition calendar to maximize participation in events
- Recognizes only one National Affiliate per breed/discipline
- Recognized on federal level as expert in equestrian sport and the voice of equestrian sport



29 Breeds + Disciplines Over 190,000 members 155 employees



Over 200,000 horses recorded



2,400+ competitions licensed 116 National Championships

### VALUABLE MEMBER BENEFITS AND RESOURCES



110+ Awards 8 Levels of the WDAA Lifetime Awards Programs



25+ Member benefit opportunities



Engaged Social Media Outlets +15,000 Facebook followers +5 Active Facebook member groups and Website forums



Online Show Recognition Opportunities



#### Member Education Portal

Tools include learning videos, quizzes, levels of competition, free Ride a Test for all junior members and more



USEF Annual Points towards Horse of the Year Awards, 20 Pegasus Awards



28 MemberPerks

**Insurance** for the individual, family or small business at substantial discounts



USEF Network +200,000 viewers, 50+ events 80+ Learning Center Videos Award-winning US Equestrian Magazine printed 5x yearly Equestrian Weekly E-Newsletter +800,000 Social Media followers



**200+ athlete and affiliate grants** across multiple breeds and disciplines



3,600+ High School Lettering Athletes, 6 Educational Partners – IEA, IHSA, NCEA

# A SNAPSHOT:

Equestrians wishing to compete in recognized Western Dressage classes at USEF competitions obtain memberships to two organizations – US Equestrian and the WDAA. These organizations have complementary and collaborative roles that help to ensure fairness, safety and welfare, while promoting and providing education for the sport and the Western Dressage Discipline. The following summarizes their unique and complementary roles.

# WDAA

**WDAA is the Recognized National Affiliate** for the Western Dressage discipline under USEF

**WDAA's mission** is to build an equine community that combines the Western traditions of horse and rider with classic Dressage through various educational opportunities.

**WDAA** proposes rules to the USEF for approval. Note: Rule changes may originate from individual members, WDAA committees/task forces/working groups, or from the USEF.

WDAA does not have a disciplinary or regulatory role.

**WDAA has developed** a series of tests that represent a systematic and progressive system of training for the Western horse and rider in traditional stock tack with the purpose of enjoying a safe, pleasurable, versatile, and useful working horse. Members are an active part of determining the direction of WDAA and the Western Dressage discipline.

**WDAA educates and informs** members through the WDAA Learning Management System. Members have access to countless Judges perspective videos and interactive instructional programs. Members also connect on the popular WDAA Facebook group, Social Corral. A Question of the Month survey is sent out for member input on important topics.

**WDAA educates** Licensed Officials through a three part training program which consists of an Annual Judges Seminar, Apprentice Judging, and an Online Video Exam.

**WDAA** is a Partner of Operation Wild Horse, which provides military veterans and their families with equine riding and therapeutic services using rescued mustangs.

**WDAA** provides a place for horses and exhibitors that may be on their second or third "career" in the world of horse sport. All shapes, sizes and ages, both human and horse, are welcome!

## **US EQUESTRIAN**

**USEF is the National Governing Body of equestrian sport** for the U.S. under the USOPC and the USA National Federation for equestrian sport under the FEI.

**USEF provides access to and increases participation in equestrian sport** at all levels by ensuring fairness, safety, and welfare for 29 breeds and disciplines working with their affiliate organizations, like the WDAA.

**USEF manages the USEF Official Rulebook and** *oversees the rule change process,* including the final review and approval of all rule changes through the USEF Councils and Board of Directors.

**USEF enforces the rules** for fairness, safety, and welfare through the Licensed Officials Department, Regulation Department and Compliance Department.

**USEF licences** over 2,400 competitions, tracks points and results for ranking lists for all USEF competitions and USEF Horse of the Year Awards, and monitors competition standards for safety, welfare and fairness. USEF also licenses and promotes over 116 USEF National Championships.

**USEF educates and informs** Competing and Subscriber Members through the US Equestian Learning Center, SafeSport Training, US Equestrian Magazine, Equestrian Weekly, and USEF Network livestreams and on-demand content.

**USEF licenses** officials, provides education for stewards and technical delegates, and manages SafeSport Training and criminal background checks for all USEF officials.

*The USET Foundation raises funds* to support developing and High Performance programs in the eight FEI disciplines. USEF also facilitates and manages numerous donations/grants and sponsorships to fund National Championships. The USEF Equine Disaster Relief Fund aids horses impacted by natural disasters.

*USEF selects and supports our United States Equestrian Teams*, and USEF works with WDAA to create opportunities along athlete pathways.