

MINUTES OF ALASKA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION'S FEBRUARY 2006 MEETING

PRESIDENT: SUSIE KAISER, 346-2351	SEC'Y.: MARY KAYE HESSION, 345-1090
VICE-PRESIDENT: MARTI MILLER, 694-6123, 786-7437 (w)	SHOW COMM.: JENNIFER LUNDBERG, 301-2738
TREASURER: RAENA SCHRAER, 830- 9882	AWARDS: RAENA SCHRAER, 830-9882
PROMOTIONS/FUNDRAISING: PEGGY BOWKER 373-2330	OMNIBUS EDITOR: LINDA KELLEY, 746-5994
JUNIOR BOARD: EMILY MINER, 336- 2383, 632-4762(c)	JUNIOR BOARD: JORI DITTMER, 349-3949

Attendance: The February 27, 2006 ADA board meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. with a quorum of Marti Miller, Raena Schraer, Linda Kelley, Mary Kaye Hession, Susie Kaiser, Jori Dittmer, and Emily Miner. Carolyn Schultz and Jayne Dittmer were also present. Jennifer Lundberg and Peggy Bowker could not attend.

Minutes: The January 2006 meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: No new treasurer's report was presented, but new treasurer Raena Schraer plans to meet with our former treasurer Deana Johnson. Nor is there any news on our nonprofit filing with the IRS; the IRS review was expected to take until mid-April.

Show committee:

- Carolyn Schultz will try to round up judges' bios to give Linda for the Omnibus.
- Linda said she would need to produce the Omnibus in hard copy because some of its pages are PDF forms she had to annotate by hand. Mary Kaye will re-scan those pages for the website version.
- Susie requested that Alaska Professional Volunteers (paramedics) cover our shows but they have not yet confirmed. AESAH will serve as show veterinarians. Josh Morris will be our farrier for both Saturdays and for Sunday afternoon, Aug. 13; Kelly Ward will cover the morning of Aug. 13.
- Carolyn reported that the show committee plans to organize a group meal at each show: a picnic during the awards presentation for the June show, and a Saturday dinner at Ardene Eaton's or Sue Mues' house for the August show. Food might be catered (Carolyn will research Twigs). Riders/guests would sign up and pay for the dinner, perhaps \$10 for the picnic, up to \$20 for the August dinner. It would be publicized in the Omnibus, newsletter, etc. USEF rules do not prohibit competitors from having dinner with a judge during a show in this type of group setting.
- Carolyn also proposed that we decorate the Chamberlin dressage arena with potted flowers for the summer shows. Raena volunteered to ask her father to help; he enjoys gardening.

- Jayne Dittmer will schedule Pony Clubbers for the Patty Russell clinic on the Friday before the May schooling show; Raena will schedule ADA riders for Sunday sessions. On behalf of the Pony Club, Jayne will host Patty at her home, and Pony Club had also volunteered to cover a third of Patty's air fare. ADA had been told we'd pay \$15 arena rent for each rider (although Susie thought this rate might be higher than what the Anchorage Horse Council really intended—we'll check this), plus \$45 for the clinician. But those two fees, plus a share of air fare costs, add up to too much for many of the Pony Clubbers. The board subsequently decided that ADA will pay for Patty's travel, so that Pony Club riders need only cover their share of the clinician's fee and arena rentals. For non-Pony Clubbers, ADA will charge \$70 per 45-minute session for juniors, \$90 for seniors.
- Linda reported that the Midsummer show (Valley Circuit) will have Training Level classes on an "exhibition" basis at the end of each day. Entrants in these classes or Introductory Level classes will be exempt from the usual requirements for membership fees and a horse ID number (although they must still pay entry fees, office fees, and the USEF drug fee).
- Midsummer will be judged by Brent Hicks, an "r" judge. With this rating, he cannot judge classes above Second Level that count for USDF awards. They could count for local awards, however, if ASH and ADA granted an exemption. The board decided that for 2006 only, scores earned before an "r" judge at Third Level and above will count for ADA awards. We will recommend that ASH grant a similar exemption.
- The board decided to sponsor junior and senior awards at each level for Midsummer. Linda Kelley will sponsor awards for the exhibition classes.
- Susie planned to attend the Feb. 20 Anchorage Horse Council meeting to explain the need to replace our worn-out show tent at Chamberlin, but the meeting was held a week early. AHC Vice-President Debbie Erickson still wants the information to discuss with AHC Treasurer Lori Carr. Susie found that the price of a 10' x 14' relocatable building from Lowe's has gone up to about \$3,800; she has checked three or four other options too. It's also time to replace the plastic uprights (three dozen or so, at least \$20 each) that hold the arena railing, and the timbers that keep the footing in place.

Membership outreach: It's time to organize our annual spring meeting for the general membership. The board decided to go with the same format as last year—an afternoon meal at Bella Vista that will cover paperwork requirements for the upcoming show season—on Sunday, April 23. (The April board meeting will take place after the general membership meeting.) Raena plans to send out another issue of the newsletter and will include the meeting invitation. Meantime, Peggy Bowker has come up with a number of fundraising ideas and wants to head up a sponsorship committee (the board gratefully accepted). Deana can send her the new list of sponsors for 2006.

Bylaws/Handbook revision: Carolyn Schultz reported as the chair of the bylaws/handbook revision committee. Jennifer McLeod is drafting proposed revisions to the bylaws and Carolyn is drafting proposed changes to the handbook. The committee found that ADA's bylaws do not require any of our officers to be a board member! At the committee's request, attorney John Strachan reviewed the bylaws and confirmed this conclusion. He also pointed out that the bylaws do not say how officers are elected. (John declined to submit a bill for his review, but the board decided to list him as a 2006 sponsor.) The committee recommends that the bylaws be revised to require that officers be board members, and to drop the "assistant" treasurer and "assistant" secretary positions: if necessary, a committee could be set up to aid an officer who needs help. (The handbook says there's a "membership committee," which creates an ideal post for Deana Johnson's role of preparing the USDF roster, soliciting renewals and donations, etc.) The committee also questioned the bylaws' directive that if ADA is ever dissolved, its assets will go to ASH. The board decided that this should be changed to Alaska Equine Rescue. Marti Miller volunteered to research the state process for bylaw revisions.

Next meeting: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 27, 2006 at Huffman Horse Center.