

## MINUTES OF ALASKA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION'S NOVEMBER 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 November 27, 2006 ADA board meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. with a quorum of Jennifer Lundberg, Marti Miller, Raena Schraer, Mary Kaye Hession, Peggy Bowker, and Linda Kelley. Carolyn Schultz and Deana Johnson also attended. Susie Kaiser, Emily Miner, and Jori Dittmer were not present.

**Minutes:** The September 2006 meeting minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Raena Schraer presented a treasurer's report showing current assets of \$11,339.05, with our only outstanding obligation the USDF roster payment of \$17 per member. We have 66 members at present.

**IRS non-profit status:** Marti Miller reported on how our 501(c)(3) non-profit filing magically got approved by the IRS. She called the CPA who had prepared our filing, then the IRS agent who had rejected it. She explained why we hadn't responded to the agent's last inquiry (we received it after the deadline). The agent expressed the opinion that ADA's role is not sufficiently "educational." When Marti pointed out that the USDF itself is also a 501(c)(3) corporation, the agent opined that USDF had been "misclassified." Undeterred, Marti persuaded the agent that even shows are educational: members use their tests to check that their riding and schooling are on the right track, as compared to national standards.

**Horse show software:** Jennifer Lundberg analyzed the Fox Village show software and concluded that it will work very well for us. It will do all the necessary reporting, including checking with USEF for correct member numbers. The cost has dropped to \$334, plus a \$35 renewal fee in subsequent years. The board approved the purchase.

**ASH Dressage Medal:** ASH's rules for the ASH Dressage Medal say that the scores are computed as for other dressage awards. ASH President Bill Turner reads that to mean that only the top 80% of scores count. The effect is that a rider can win this award with one horse's scores (if the other horse scores low, it

drops out of the equation). We need to hear from Susie Kaiser on this issue, but several board members, including Deana as the original sponsor, felt that this wasn't the original intent of the award. The purpose was to show that the rider could ably ride two different horses at two different levels. The most immediate need is to clarify that all scores count, not just the top 80%. Can we ask ASH dressage representative Sharon Sadlon to get that change made for 2007? Beyond that, board members had various suggestions to fine-tune the rule, something that will probably have to be done through ASH's normal rule change process. One option is to make the rider declare which level each horse will represent, in advance. Or, we could simply average the medians from all of the horses ridden. And, if both horses are ridden at two levels, e.g. Training and First, perhaps only one Test 4 score is needed at each level. Raena volunteered to draft the various rule change options and circulate them to the board.

**Addresses:** Linda Kelley reported she never received a ballot this fall. After the Post Office changed addresses in her area, she updated her address with ADA but the change got missed in the ballot labels.

**Show committee:**

- Carolyn Schultz reported that our USDF licensing is done for 2007 (June 2-3, Aug. 11-12) and 2008 (June 7-8, Aug. 9-10).
- We'll plan on a clinic June 4-5 with Betty Gosling after our June 2007 show.
- Because new tests will be used this year, we hope to offer three days of clinics around the May schooling show, with a licensed official giving us tips on how to ride the new tests. Wayne Quarles? Jennifer Schraer? Carrie McLain?
- Deana ordered the USDF DVD on riding the new tests to show at our spring meeting.
- Our August 2006 TD Veronica Holt felt we should not give refunds for shows cancelled due to an act of God, and should start counting championship classes for year-end awards. On the Show Committee's recommendation, the board decided not to make these changes in our show policies.
- On the Show Committee's recommendation, the board approved the following ad rates for the *Omnibus*: \$100 for a full page, half-page \$50, quarter-page \$30, business card size \$15, no color ads. Those choosing the \$100 rate will be listed as *Omnibus* "sponsors" and if they have a website, we'll provide a link to it.

**Handbook revision:** The board approved the most recent draft of the Handbook as amended, with two further changes:

- When computing Rider/Horse of the Year rankings, the board decided that there should be no score adjustments for Training Level, but an added 1% for scores earned at First Level, 2% for Second Level, 3% for Third Level, and 4% for Fourth Level.

- Ties may occur in median scores for Horse or Rider of the Year awards. In that case we will go to the mean. If still tied, we will use the mode (rounded to the nearest integer).

**Next meeting:** The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. Our next meeting will be Monday, Jan. 22 at 6 p.m. at Huffman.