

MINUTES OF ALASKA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION'S AUGUST 2009 MEETING

PRESIDENT/OMNIBUS EDITOR: LINDA KELLEY, 746-5994	VICE-PRESIDENT: MARTI MILLER, 694- 6123, 786-7437 (w)
TREASURER: RAENA SCHRAER, 830-9882	SEC'Y./WEBMASTER/ <i>Centerline</i> Editor: MARY KAYE HESSION, 345-1090
FUNDRAISING/AWARDS: PEGGY BOWKER, 373-2330	SENIOR BOARD: CHARLENE COHEN, 345-9074
	SENIOR BOARD: SUSAN RITTER, 245-1747
JUNIOR BOARD: AIMEE RITTER, 245-1747	JUNIOR BOARD: SHELBIE FREDENHAGEN, 243-5214

Attendance: The August 17, 2009 ADA board meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. with a quorum of Linda Kelley, Raena Schraer, Peggy Bowker, Mary Kaye Hession, Marti Miller, and Shelbie Fredenhagen. Susan Ritter and Charlene Cohen arrived later. Aimee Ritter was not present.

Minutes: The July meeting minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's report: Raena Schraer reported that we made about \$200 at the July schooling show. However, we lost \$1416 at Biggest Event. The judge's hotel costs (\$769.44) were our biggest single expense, although she billed us for only one day's judging. We should try to find another moderate-cost B & B to house show officials in case Robin's place is not available. Our show tab problem continued to the tune of about \$50. Next year's class fee increase of \$5 will offset some of our losses from our licensed shows, along with money we make at schooling shows and via donations.

AHC/WCCEC:

- Our list of dressage building projects remains, including our continued hunt for a portable mike for our sound system. It was decided to set up an ADA wish list on our website for such items; Linda Kelley volunteered to be the contact point for people to respond to.
- Susan Ritter suggested getting another clock, to be visible from the warmup area, to display the official showtime.
- Victoria Fredenhagen will paint the floorboards of the bleachers using the grey stain donated by Linda. The seat backs and seat boards are holding up fine.
- Susan will call Lori Hackenberger to find out if the Anchorage Horse Council plans to hold a fall cleanup day. If it doesn't, we need to set our own. We need to take down the dressage arena for winter storage, maybe clear some junk from the storage stall, and repaint the fading red tabs that mark the letter locations.

Show committee:

- Next year Erin Downey will do contracting and other tasks that Susie Merritt used to do. Both Susie and Carolyn Schultz wish to "retire."
- Susan Ritter reported that our August show ran smoothly. We fell behind schedule one morning but caught up. Peggy Bowker, our bit checker, caught one bit not allowed by the rules, a roller on a French link. The TD helped her explain the situation to the rider and trainer. Our licensed officials were very aware of horse welfare issues as well.

The TD clarified that nosebands must not be so tight as to make a groove in the horse's skin. And the judge and TD together said that one horse's throatlatch must be loosened or the horse would not be allowed to show the next day.

- Susie Merritt and ASH President Brena Doolen discussed ASH's proposal that we give up our 2010 Spring Festival show date or the WCCEC dressage show date in favor of a combined hunter/jumper/dressage show in Palmer. She declined ASH's offer. In fact, the concept of combined shows may be questionable: TD Debbie Moloznik thought USEF would be shocked to learn that Alaska shows let a horse enter three dressage tests (the maximum number) plus an unlimited number of hunter/jumper classes, all in the same day. Marti Miller will call USEF and ask about this to avoid the possibility of a USEF fine.
- Next year's schooling shows: If we offer a July 2010 show, we might ask Dr. Julie Grohs to judge again—her generous scores were much appreciated. (Lynn Paterna hopes we'll offer Prix Caprilli classes too, which her students would love.) For our Margaret Adams judge, another idea is Wayne Quarles, who would work well for the Pony Club to use too, maybe better than Shari Humble-Lamb. The schooling show entry form needs a place for the horse's name.
- We've heard that AHC does not want to offer dressage at next year's WCCEC Annual Show, as this year's classes were not well attended. Raena will discuss with AHC whether it would hold another, separate show if asked. Or perhaps ASH would be interested in holding a dressage show.
- If dressage remains at the WCCEC Annual Show, we won't need to consider a dressage show at the first weekend of State Fair—we'll have our four shows. If not, we need another candidate. Raena said that there would be a show committee meeting next week and she will let us know what happens.
- TD Debbie Moloznik suggests we offer pony dressage classes (a separate division) next year. Ponies would need to be measured, but many Alaska show ponies already have a measurement card so that they can compete in pony hunter/jumper classes.

Awards and banquet

- Linda prepared statistics on the effects of different floors for show awards and year-end awards. The board decided to require a minimum score of 58% for both types of awards, including HOY, ROY, musicals, and Prix Caprilli. The only exception is the Introductory division (for show awards only), where the minimum score for an award will remain at 55%.
- Peggy Bowker said everything is on track for securing year-end awards. Raena will confirm what the awards budget is. Peggy estimated she needs about \$1500.
- Our silent auction committee needs to know in advance what items people will donate so that they can prepare. Marti will talk to them to make sure there are some smaller items offered too along with large baskets. Peggy will be our awards MC again this year, and Shelbie Fredenhagen will again hand out awards. Does anyone want to take photos? Raena will double-check that O'Malley's knows our event is Oct. 24, and will check on this year's banquet fees too in case we need to change the ticket price.
- Circuit awards for the 2009 schooling shows (including ADA's shows) will be presented at the last Valley schooling show, but the winners' names can be reannounced at our banquet.
- Our ADA members who are also Pony Clubbers have made great progress this year, including Shelbie Fredenhagen earning her HB rating and Aimee Ritter her C+ for both

dressage and show jumping. Several youngsters from Midnite Run participated in the East Coast Pony Club Championships and one competed in the Pacific Coast Championships. Linda asked for a presentation of their achievements at the banquet. Susan promised to work on this; perhaps Midnite Run DC Jayne Dittmer can read it.

Board elections

- Three senior board terms and both junior terms expire this year. The three “expiring” seniors are willing to run again, in Peggy Bowker's case with our agreement that there can be some flexibility on meeting dates. We don't know about the juniors yet.
- Carolyn Schultz declines to head the nominating committee this year. Erin Downey, Ceri Benet, Kerri Geppert, Laurie Ryan, and August Axtell were suggested as possible members of the nominating committee; Marti will contact them to try to form a committee. Our whole nominating and election cycle will need to run early this year because the banquet is early. Raena can provide contact phone numbers for the nominating committee, plus a set of labels to mail out the ballots.

Next meeting: The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m. The next meeting will take place Monday, Sept. 28, 6:30 p.m., at Linda Kelley's house. Linda will email directions, and board members should consider carpooling. We should also be thinking of other places to meet this winter.