

Dear ODS Board,

This is a reminder of our upcoming ODS Board of Directors Conference Call which is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 PM.**

Conference call: (877) 746-4263

Participant Code: 02 37 329 #

## **RSVPs – Quorum is majority of directors in office at the time of the conference call, or 7.**

### *Yes:*

1. Rose Newman
2. Rachel Merusi
3. Lisa Koch (will be late)
4. Claire Evans

### *No*

1. Carolyn Wesolek

### *Unsure:*

1. Gaye McCabe
2. Christopher Main
3. Ed Miller
4. Jessica Rattner
5. Patty Armstrong
6. Anna Bigwood
7. Sharm Daggett

### *Non-voting Members:*

1. Corinne Stonier, Staff
2. Dolores Morgan, Chair of the ODS Sport Horse Committee and DSHB Awards Volunteer
3. Joyce Stride

## **Full Agenda:**

Meeting Called to Order

- 1.1. Introductions
- 1.2. Approval of March Conference Call Meeting Minutes - please review them here:  
<http://www.oregondressage.com/minutes.html>
- 1.3. Changes to / Adoption of agenda
- 1.4. Correspondence –
  - 1.4.1. see letter from Jane Baer after agenda (**ACTION: Rose to respond**)

Old Business (from previous agenda):

2. Status Report on Option for auto-pay for ODS membership renewal (see written report from Claire pasted below)

3. ODS sending a representative to the USEF Annual Meeting/Convention
4. Policies/Procedures Changes re. Nominating Committee from Ad-Hoc to Standing (see written report from Ed pasted below)
- 5.

New Business:

6. Western Dressage in ODS League Shows (see e-mail from Linda Coates-Markle to Gaye pasted below)
7. Youth Camp
  - 7.1. Name
  - 7.2. Logos/Website
8. South Coast Chapter

Final Business

9. Adjourn the Meeting

*Next Meetings:*

1. Saturday, May 11, 2013 – Location Wilsonville Chamber of Commerce; 10 am – 2 pm
  - a. Ed Miller will present the Alternative Qualification Proposal for the 2014 ODS Championship Show (at the request of Jeremy Steinberg)
  - b. Be thinking about Formation of 2013 Nominations Committee for Board of Directors (see PPM Chapter II, Pg 12)
  - c. Be thinking about Formation of 2013 Nominations Committee for ODS Officers (see PPM Chapter II, Pg 13)
  - d. Corinne/Patty/Gaye/Anna will report on Cvent event registration proposal to the board
  - e. Report/Update on proposal for a Business Owners Policy in ODS Insurance (per Feb meeting minutes)
  - f. Report/Update on moving Education Fund from Merrill Lynch to Chase (per Feb meeting minutes)
  - g. Chris/Corinne – report on online liability waiver
  - h.
2. Wednesday, June 12, 2013, 6:30 PM - Conference Call/Gotomeeting.com
3. Wednesday, July 10, 2013, 6:30 PM - Conference Call/Gotomeeting.com
4. August 3, 2013 – Location TBD; 10 am – 2 pm
5. Wednesday, August 14, 2013, 6:30 PM - Conference Call/Gotomeeting.com
6. Wednesday, September 11, 2013, 6:30 PM - Conference Call/Gotomeeting.com
7. Wednesday, October 9, 2013, 6:30 PM - Conference Call/Gotomeeting.com
8. Saturday, November 2, times TBA– Fall meetings; location TBA

Please let Rose Newman know if you have any questions ([rose\\_newman@yahoo.com](mailto:rose_newman@yahoo.com)).

Thank you.

Warmest Regards,  
Corinne Tindal Stonier  
Executive Director

Oregon Dressage Society, a registered non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization

[www.oregondressage.com](http://www.oregondressage.com)

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Office Hours Monday – Thursday from 9 AM – 1 PM or by Appointment

1.4.1 –

Dear O.D.S. Board Members:

I admit to being somewhat befuddled by the recent USEF Ruling regarding the scoring of the posting trot in the lower level tests, i.e. the "correct" diagonal.

I am a firm supporter and believer in the correct position of the rider, and correct use of the aids, but this Rule is not clear, and is quite ambiguous. For instance, my trainers and nationally ranked trainers/riders whose clinics I've audited teach that when performing lateral movements, i.e. leg-yield, the rider should post on the "wrong" diagonal as this facilitates the use of the rider's inside leg aid to encourage the horse to activate and move its hind leg over. So, does this mean that if I post the trot when performing a leg-yield in the First Level Tests I will lose points if I am on the "wrong" diagonal? (Please note I am not asking you to answer this question.)

A few years ago we were encouraged by and embraced the ruling allowing riders to post the trot at lower levels. I believe this new rule will discourage riders, particularly amateurs, from posting the trot as they will be concerned they will lose points if they are on the wrong diagonal. Yes, we all should be able to post on the correct diagonal but in the heat and nervous moments of competition is it truly a good idea to penalize the rider for the wrong diagonal? In equitation classes the rider should be posting correctly.

It would appear that there wasn't much thought or in depth discussion regarding the repercussions of this rule, and USEF should consider amending and/or re-wording this rule.

I hope that with member support, GMO's can lobby USDF to challenge this rule.

Sincerely,  
Jane Baer

## **2. ODS Membership Renewal Survey:**

Launched on April 1, the survey seeks to gauge interest among ODS members in multi-year membership packages as well as automatic payment options (automatic membership renewal payments by debiting a checking account or charging a credit card). By the end of last week, 159 members had participated in the survey. More than two-thirds (68%) favor a multi-year membership option with ODS. Of those, nearly equal numbers advocate two years as opposed to three years' membership (45% vs. 42%), with only 12% liking a five-year membership option. By far the most support to any question was for a single transaction to join ODS, USDF and USEF simultaneously: 78% like

this opportunity. However, opposition was quite pronounced to auto-pay mechanisms, whether by debiting a checking account (74% opposed) or billing a credit card (60% opposed).

Thirty-nine (39) individuals took the time to write in comments. The highest number of comments (9) underscored strong support for the single transaction to enroll in ODS, USDF and USEF (although two people expressed concern that this might be an additional and excessive burden to ODS staff). Five commented that they would participate in a multi-year membership with ODS only if a discount were offered. Four commented that they like the multi-year ODS membership option, and two wished a lifetime membership could be available. Credit card or banking security is a serious concern for four people, and another four said that while they favor an auto-pay option, they would like advance email notification before the transaction is processed.

## 5. Policy and Procedure Amendments for consideration at April telemeeting

Amendments to address changing Nominating Committee from Ad Hoc to Standing committee  
Chapter I. Section VII.B.

change by adding new paragraph 7. Nominating committee and redesignating existing paragraph 7 as paragraph C as follows:

### B. Standing Committees

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7. **Nominating Committee has the responsibility for identifying candidates for election as Directors at Large and Regional Representatives. The committee also has the responsibility to secure agreement from nominees to be included on the election ballot**

### C. Ad Hoc Committees

Grievance Committee  
Scholarship Committee  
Publications Committee

**Others as needed on a temporary basis**

Chapter II. Section X. Committee Procedures, Paragraph D. Specific Committee Procedures  
Add a new paragraph 9 Nominating Committee Procedures as follows:

### 9. Nominating Committee

1. **The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the ODS President. Committee members shall be dismissed following completion of its duties for the fall elections.**
2. **The nominating Committee shall submit a list of candidates for Directors at Large and Regional Representatives to the Board of Directors at a date specified by the Board with sufficient time to implement the Election process.**

3. The Committee will secure agreement from nominees to be included on the election ballot.

Chapter II. Section VI. B Election of Directors at Large and Regional Representatives

Revise to eliminate redundancies with the addition of new Paragraph 9 above.

A. **Election of Directors at Large and Regional Representatives**

1. **Ballots for Director at Large**

~~The Nominating Committee shall submit a list of candidates for Directors at Large to the Board of Directors by a specified date. All candidates must agree to be put on the ballot.~~ The Office Manger shall prepare a ballot with the names of the candidates and their biographies and distribute it to all ODS members in good standing no less than twenty-five (25) days prior to the last date on which the ballots must be cast.

2. **Election of Regional Representatives**

~~The Nominating Committee shall submit a list of candidates for Regional Representatives. All nominees must agree to be included on the ballot.~~ The Office Manager shall prepare ballots and distribute ballots to ODS members in good standing within the region of each nominee along with the ballot for Director at Large.

## 7. Western Dressage Discussion:

Gaye - I have done some research re the Western Dressage interest and opportunities and have experienced judging western dressage classes both in Colorado and here in Wenatchee. Significant differences seem to exist between the North American Western Dressage (NAWD) and the Western Dressage Assoc. of America (WDAA). Rule books are well developed for both and exist on their websites. Both pronounce affiliation with USEF.

The substantive differences in my mind are that the levels and tests for the NAWD appear more closely aligned with existing USEF/USDF dressage tests. WDAA tends to have more developed/difficult tests even at the basic levels. This has been hard for the younger horses that I have observed. The training pyramid appears to be more at the core of the principles in test development for the NAWD.

Interestingly, the Western Dressage tests on the USEF website are neither those of NAWD nor WDAA. They look more closely like NAWD but appear to be a hybrid.....this only adds to the confusion in my mind.

Also the WDAA allows the western curb bit from the very beginning levels and also allows for 2 hands on the curb. NAWD only allows the curb at the more advanced levels and only after successful scoring at the more basic levels in a snaffle. The curb may only be ridden with one hand as well. As a judge I found it concerning for a young horse to be ridden with 2 hands on a curb in a very basic test - very difficult to encourage a horse to stretch over the topline with a soft accepting contact with the bit in this situation (my observation).

Also the use of the voice is permitted by the WDAA but penalized by 1/2 pt deductions in the NAWD.

Lots of discussion about a working jog (WDAA) versus a jog-trot (NAWD) as well.

There may be more subtle differences between the two groups as well but these were the ones that I have confronted as a judge. For me and the competitors I judged using the WDAA tests and rules caused some confusion and raised concerns about alignment with the basics for developing a horse using the principles of dressage.

Gaye - this of course is only my opinion. Please bear in mind that I have a grounded and well-studied dressage background and have trained and shown a western reining horse to national finals in Oklahoma City. This mare is now performing reining freestyles (exhibition-only) that encompass dressage and reining movements. In order to improve the reining maneuvers (and make them more rideable for me), I trained the mare using the principles of dressage. Reiners are ridden typically in curbs with high ports, so I understand the dramatic influence a curb bit can have on a horse especially in uneducated hands.

I fully support Western Dressage classes at League shows but I also think that if Western Dressage classes are to be promoted in this manner that ODS should be encouraged to do further research regarding affiliation with a specific western dressage association and state explicitly the tests to be used and the rules associated with these tests.

Thanks for the consideration.

Linda Coates-Markle

mccabe@juno.com

Date: Sun, 7 Apr 2013 20:28:41 +0000

To: linda\_coates-markle@hotmail.com

Subject: information on ODS Western Dressage

In the ODS green "league show pages)

#### WESTERN DRESSAGE

USEF Western Dressage classes are offered according to the rules defined by the Western Dressage Association and USEF. For further details, see [http://www.westerndress-](http://www.westerndressageassociation.org/get-involved/western-dressage-rules-tests/)

[sageassociation.org/get-involved/western-dressage-rules-tests/](http://www.westerndressageassociation.org/get-involved/western-dressage-rules-tests/). Note: helmet use still applies to these tests

Link from ODS to these tests.

[http://www.usef.org/\\_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/breeds/morgan/WesternDressageTests.aspx](http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/breeds/morgan/WesternDressageTests.aspx)

information re Morgan HS rule change

<http://www.usef.org/documents/ruleChanges/378-12.pdf>

USEF Dressage Department

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<http://www.usef.org/documents/competitions/WesternDressageExhibitionClassesatUSEFDressageCompetitions.pdf>

March

19, 2013

### Western Dressage Exhibition Classes at USEF Dressage Competitions

Western Dressage classes are not permitted in USEF Dressage Competitions except as an Exhibition Class.

### Important Points

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Cross

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entry between Western Dressage Exhibition Classes and Dressage Classes is not permitted since DR121.16 requires compliance to all saddlery and equipment rules from the time of arrival on the designated competition g



rounds.

In order to keep the competition fair

for all competitions, horses competing in Western Dressage Exhibition Classes where different saddlery and equipment is used, cannot enter into a Dressage Class.

DR121.16: The provisions of DR121 (saddlery ru

les) apply to both competing and non

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competing dressage horses from the time horses are admitted to the grounds which are designated for the Dressage Competition.

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Only one exhibition class may be held per licensed competition day and the results cannot be counted for Federation or Federation affiliate awards per GR 120.2e.

GR 120.2e: At Federation licensed Dressage, Hunter, Jum

per or Hunter/Jumper

competitions, only one exhibition or demonstration class may be held per licensed competition day and the results of such classes cannot be counted for Federation or

Federation affiliate awards.

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Protective Headgear as defined in DR 1

20 is required for Western Dressage Exhibition

classes in USEF Dressage Competitions

Minutes re Western Dressage:

<http://oregondressage.com/minutes/2012/%282012%29AugBoardMeetingMinutes8-18-2012.pdf>

26.

Discussion about Western Dressage at ODS League Shows

-- Rose Newman

There have been some Western dressage classes at ODS League Shows this year, and they have been well

received as "fun" classes. The question is, do these classes count as one ride for the USEF three-ride-per-day limit? Presently a show committee of two does not agree, Rose reported. She further noted that rule

USEF DR 119 defines those classes that are excluded from the three-class-per-day limit (dressage seat equitation, quadrille, pas de deux and materiale). Ed observed that the rule exists for the welfare of the horse, and this should hold across any and all classes. Chris related that a show management committee on which he sat decided that, since the same expectations are made of the horse as for a "regular"

dressage test, the USEF rule should apply. The Board concurred.

Rachel expressed concern and hoped that all rules are being applied at Western dressage classes (concerning bits, helmets, etc.). Chris explained that certain conditions must be well understood by the show management (i.e., one hand with curb bit, one or both hands with snaffle bridle, warm-up restrictions).

Gaye McCabe

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