

Dear ODS Members, Business Partners, Junior Members and Patrons,

I have been attending various conference calls with USEF and local show organizers regarding this year's show possibilities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on the information we have received—as well as our concern about the health and safety of our members, officials, staff, and volunteers needed to run shows—the Executive Board met and voted to cancel the Summer Solstice League show (new dates were August 14-16), the ODS Open and Championship shows September 11-13, and the ODS 2020 Awards Banquet September 12. Awards will still be sent by mail for those who were able to participate in the beginning of the year and in any other shows that may be scheduled.

This was a difficult decision for us to make but one we feel is in the best interests of our members. We will focus our show efforts toward an amazing 2021 comeback season, which includes celebrating ODS's 50th Anniversary!

Chapters may still opt to move forward with their Licensed and League shows. This is up to the chapters and how they can meet the **state/county and USEF guidelines** for events during COVID.

There is a better chance that these guidelines can be fulfilled, for example, at private venues with perhaps just a haul in option and careful scheduling. (Chapter Officers and organizers, please see link below for USEF toolkit.)

We also encourage chapters to explore organizing clinics, perhaps with local judges, because many officials aren't flying or staying in hotels these days.

Ride-a-Tests are popular and can be scheduled in a way so there are not a lot of people in one place. Check out the [local L](#) and [licensed judges](#), who can potentially do this type of event. You can search on the USDF website under Region 6 by clicking the above links.

Moving forward in 2020, we are planning some events for you to take advantage of:

- ODS Webinar No.2- June xx-Positive Reinforcement with Alyssa Gordon;
- Trainers Workshop October 16- 17 with Catherine Haddad- Staller; and
- Adult Amateur Workshop-November 14-15- Paula Lacy.

Please check the calendar as we add date changes, cancellations and new events.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we navigate through this difficult time. Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Stay safe,

Lisa Koch

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Chapter/Organizers: [USEF Toolkit](#)

