

Minutes of the Meeting: Valley Oaks Chapter, California Dressage Society

February 26, 2026, 7:00 pm via Zoom

Members Present: Cathy Divodi, Cayla Divodi, Michelle Cihak, Julie Wood, Liz Banga, Becky Pennington, Joan Cinquini

Minutes of Previous Meeting: approved

Treasurer's Report: We have \$5755.36 including the payment of \$465 to CDS for two clinic spots and the insurance for the cavaletti clinic. Rachel has sent the 2025 financial report to CDS.

Old Business

1. We have a contract with Erika Janssen for a one day clinic on Aug. 15, 2026, at PEC. The format will be 4 groups of up to 5 riders each for \$1200. Additional riders or groups may be added for \$60 per rider.
2. The cost per rider will be \$110 for VO and Pony Club members and \$125 for all others. There will be no early bird discounts. We will provide snacks and drinks for all and lunch for Erika.
3. Our Converge payment site will be activated on June 1. Sheilah will update clinic and payment information on our website by then. Michelle will begin this process by May 1.
4. Cayla will update the clinic flyer, including a "save the date" reminder for initial distribution so that people can email us with questions. The Foothills chapter will place the flyer on their website; members are urged to share it on their personal sites. We will begin advertising in March. Michelle will post this flyer at several locations; members are requested to download the flyer and post it at feed stores, shows, barns, bulletin boards, etc. Cayla will coordinate ads on social media. Liz said that Pony Club is very interested in participating.

New Business

1. Sheilah Dabb is our adult clinic participant. Liz Banga agreed to be the alternate. The clinic is on March 28-29 at Starr Vaughn. Patty Mayer is the clinician. The junior clinic is not organized as yet but we have paid for a place in it.
2. The Matchy Madness online Facebook photo contest will begin on March 15. Michelle has collected photos, releases, prizes, and gift cards. She will probably limit the contest to 16 with 3 days allowed for each of the 4 voting rounds.
3. October clinic: This clinic will concentrate on show preparation. Michelle had recommendations for the topics to be covered and the people who will present them. We will conduct a poll online in June and July to determine which topics would be the most interesting. We can use the Lucky B for this and change a per person fee with some of the fee remitted to Kallie Bowles for the venue use.

4. Yearly Social Event: Suggestions included a group Jeopardy contest or watch party. Kalli can play FEI events on a large flatscreen in her recreation room.
5. Silent Auction: The silent auction will be held online July 1-12. Michelle has looked into the Give Butter auction site. The service is free if we include an option for a donation to them on our auction site. Michelle asked each board member to donate 3-5 items for the auction and stressed that they do not have to be horse related. We can contact service providers and any business connection. She will attend the Horse Expo on the first Sunday in June to request additional donations from the vendors and would like someone to accompany her.
6. Next Meeting: March 26, 2026, at 7:00 pm via Zoom