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Save the Date January 19, 2025 Annual Banquet

SEND IN YOUR SCORES FOR YEAR END AWARDS !!

SCORES we need your SCORES!!

Did you nominate yourself and your horse
for Year End Awards? Want to know how to
submit your scores? Keep reading....



IaDCTA is a USDF Group Member Organization (GMO), and all members are automatically USDF Group Members (GMs). For USDF Participating Membership, members must apply directly to USDF.

We're Online: www.iadcta.org or visit our Facebook page



YEAR END SCORES

RULES AND HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR SCORES



The IaDCTA Show Year runs from December 1st to November 30th

For all divisions The rider/handler must be an IaDCTA member. The rider/horse combination must be nominated in the specific division before the time qualifying scores are received. A rider is not allowed to enter more than one (1) division (i.e. cannot enter Open and AA).

For Dressage, Western Dressage, Musical Freestyle, and Sport Horse divisions Only scores of 60% or higher (Dressage or Western Dressage) or 70% or higher (Sport Horse) by an "L" Judge or better at shows within the State of Iowa will be counted toward IaDCTA year-end awards. **Equitation and Musical Freestyle will not be divided into AA, Senior, Junior, Open, or YR divisions.**

*****Multiple scores may be submitted, but the top three (3) scores used to determine awards must be obtained by participating in at least three (3) separate shows with at least two different judges.!! ******

Individuals riding at all levels (except INTRO and Walk Trot) will be required to ride and submit scores from at least three (3) tests of the chosen level with at least one (1) test submitted being the highest at the level.

For Dressage Introductory and Walk Trot Levels Individuals riding for dressage year-end awards at INTRO Level must ride/submit at least three (3), level C tests to qualify. For the young and/or inexperienced riders/horses, IaDCTA added a Walk Trot division to the year-end awards. The tests used for this division will be Intro A and Intro

For Eventing/Horse trials with 3 phase Horse Trials do not need to be in the state of Iowa to be counted toward IaDCTA year-end awards. Multiple scores may be submitted, but the top three (3) scores used to determine awards must be obtained by participating in at least three (3) separate events with at least two different judges.

DEFINITION OF RIDER DIVISIONS: A. Adult Amateur (AA): Competitors shall compete as adults from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of twenty-two B. Open (O) division is for professionals as described by USEF rule GR1306 C. Junior riders (JR) are 21 years and younger.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT for YEAR-END AWARDS This is an "on your honor requirement". Members will be asked to attest that the volunteer requirement of 7 hours time has been met prior to the Annual Meeting. Volunteer hours may be gifted from an IaDCTA member to another member and by non-member family to-family members. Please let me know if you have questions about this requirement. ANY volunteer service related to riding and/or horses is acceptable!

Report your scores by going to IaDCTA.org

Home page> Report End of Year Scores 2024



SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

Annual Meeting , Silent Auction, and Elections...

Iowa Dressage and Combined Training Association's Annual Meeting and Awards Presentation will be held January 19, 2025. **This meeting will be held at the Des Moines Golf and Country Club in West Des Moines.** Festivities will include a lunch, short business meeting, guest speaker **Rob Burk CEO of USEA**, door prizes, silent auction, and the presentation of Year end Awards! Please mark your calendar for this IaDCTA tradition.

Rob Burk has been involved with horses and passionate about the sport of Eventing nearly his entire life. In the past, he has been a member of the Fresno Pony Club in California, a Junior/Young Rider Preliminary Champion, an instructor at Otterbein University, a coach of the United States Naval Academy Equestrian Team, a competitor in the long format as an Adult at Morven Park, the Executive Director of the Maryland Horse Industry Board, a Senior Advisor to the USDA, and the USEA Senior Director of Programs. As the USEA's current Chief Executive Officer, his goals for the association include advancing rider and horse safety, maintaining reasonable costs to compete in and organize events, protecting land, and showing appreciation for those that are involved in our sport at all levels. Rob is knowledgeable, dynamic and approachable. He enjoys sharing his enthusiasm for the sport of Eventing.



Up coming Election News

Members will have the opportunity to vote for new Board Members and Officers. Board members are elected to three-year terms. This year there are three Board members whose terms expire. If you are interested in serving on the Board for a three year term beginning January 2025, please contact Rhea Allen cello2002@hotmail.com or Nena Denman nkdenman@gmail.com by November 15. Elections will take place at the meeting. New Board members will begin their terms after the Annual Meeting.

Terms expiring this year:

Nena Denman Treasurer

David Law Board Member

Derith Vogt Vice President

Serving on the board includes meeting by Zoom meeting once a month, helping with competitions that we sponsor, and volunteering to attend national meetings as our representative.

At this writing, both **Nena, Tobi** and **David** have indicated that they will run again and two members, with **Cassie Stowe and Mallory Huggins** indicating interest in serving on the board.

Any other members interested in running, please contact either Rhea Allen cello2002@hotmail.com or Nena Denman nkdenman@gmail.com

Have something you would like to donate to the Silent Auction??

Baskets of goodies, equipment, services, art work... all manner of items are welcome. You never know what will tickle someone's fancy. If you can let us know ahead of time so we can get enough tables set up that would be wonderful! RSVP to cello2002@hotmail.com



Emily Miles clinic at Tempo Farms



Emily Miles at IaDCTA Classic at MLEC in 2015 riding Wakeup



Tempo Farm hosts Maggie Mosman and Emmalee Walker



"Elbows at hips, you are keeping the box small. If you look over your shoulder to the right, it pushes the left hip down and the right hind can come out. Canter, walk, canter to strengthen. Your alignment is his. LOOK THROUGH THE EARS! Counter canter helps keep them straight. You do not fiddle them into contact, you push them into it. They have to accept it and become rounder. Shoulder in works the inside hind leg. Knees on means halt. "I tried to take notes and then later make sense of them all. There was so much to absorb during this two day clinic with Emily Miles. I will admit that my ability to take notes for the flying changes became muddled and did not make sense when re read.

Emily Miles, local to LaCygne, KS, is a dressage trainer, rider, and breeder. As she likes to say she's "been riding since before (she) was born," literally in the uterus of her mother. Emily is a graduate of the University of Kansas and now lives in Paola with her husband, Jeff, and their son, Oliver. Jeff and Ollie help manage the farm. Winner of the Dressage Foundation (TDF) \$25,000 Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize in 2022, we are so fortunate to that she enjoys giving clinics feeling that there is much to learn from her students.

Tempo Farm hosted Miles for a clinic and IaDCTA members Lisa Grove, Julie Kuhle, Kathy Roan, Molly Severn, Trudy Tatum, and Natalie Tomaras participated, while I audited. Without further ado ...

What level are you riding? What level are you aiming for? What were your top three takeaways from your lessons?

IaDCTA rider responses:

What level are you riding?

Natalie: First Level
Lisa: Training Level
Julie: Training Level
Molly: Second Level
Kathy: Second Level
Trudy: Third Level

What level are you aiming for?

Natalie: Second Level
Lisa: Preparing for First
Julie: Second Level
Molly: Third Level
Kathy: Third Level
Trudy: Fourth Level



Lisa Grove on Himalya SF

What were your top three takeaways from your lessons?

Natalie: --Think of the outside rein as a side rein and the inside rein as a bungee cord
- Get your horse's frame shorter until you feel like you are sitting on a rainbow
- It's the small changes that sustain you in dressage, not achieving the big, difficult movements

Lisa: --To sustain yourself in this sport you need to savor even the smallest good moments
- For my horse, ride straighter to the right and with more bend to the left
- In the sitting trot – move, move, move. Your belt buckle should move, have loose hips and put your feet/ankles on when needed

Julie: -- Ride into the halt without giving into the pressure until the horse stops and softens
- When you get a few steps that are good, reward by scratching with inside hand – this forces you to release that rein momentarily
- Think of the rainbow analogy where both ends push together to make the arc

Molly: - Keeping the outside rein/leg connection is just as important as the inside bend
- Start with lateral movements (shoulder-in, haunches-in) that transition straight into leg yields (to keep the horse on his toes – both mentally and physically)
- the rider should not be doing all the work

Kathy: - Look between the horse's ears
- Keep elbows heavy and by your side
- improve the connection by feeling when to give, how much to give and how long to give

Trudy: - Work on true connection with the outside rein and activating his inside hind leg
The use of multiple exercises to work on different movements was influential. Emily never drilled one particular movement, but incorporated multiple movements within an exercise. This helped improve the quality of the initial movement we were working on.

I



Julie Kuhle on Griff



Natalie Tomaras on Solo



Molly Severn on Remington



Trudy Tatum on Chauncy



Kathy Roan on Rocco



Emily Miles teaching

Member Spotlight on Peyton Burch



Hi, I'm Peyton Burch, a 13-year-old 8th Grader at Fort Madison JH/SH and have been riding since the age of 6. My riding experience started off as me constantly bugging my parents to take a lesson. My parents mistakenly found Flying Change Stables and Ali Glenn. I took one lesson, then two, then two a week, then my mom even started working at the barn. Soon, I wasn't only taking lessons, my parents purchased my first pony "Joey". Joey was my first best friend and the pony that taught me how to ride. At first, I disliked Joey, he wasn't easy to ride, and I cried a lot, later Joey was the only pony I wanted to ride. Joey and I did lots of things together. We joined the Pony Club, and went to camps, shows and clinics together. Joey showed me what it meant to be a thoughtful rider and compassionate human. Joey and I were honored with the Spirit Award for dressage in 2022 and our last show together was September 24th, 2023. Joey retired a very happy pony, and I loved him till the very end. I had to put my little man Joey to rest May 16th, 2023, he will forever be my heart pony, I love him very much.



Peyton and Joey



Peyton and Miss



Work comes with the territory

In December of 2023, I started riding one of the lesson ponies at my barn, Miss. Miss taught me a lot. Mostly, Miss taught me patience. Unlike Joey, Miss, was not a forgiving ride, Miss taught me perseverance and the true meaning of GRIT. We had our good days, and we had our bad days, but all the days were great if I got to ride. Riding, no matter what horse I was on, was what made me happy. No matter what kind of day I have, riding always makes it better. I rode Miss for about a year, and we too went to camps, clinics and shows. Miss and I even

In February 2024, my parents and I set off on an adventure to South Carolina for a 5-day trip to find me my next forever horse. There, I met Elegante "Ellie". I will admit, when I first set eyes and saddle on Ellie, I wasn't impressed. My coach and trainer, Ali Glen, showed me otherwise. Ali viewed all the videos and photos and took all my mom's calls and texts with all our concerns and questions. Ultimately, the decision was made that Ellie was SAFE for me, and Ellie came home to Iowa.



Prairie Jumpers Pony Club

The trip home with Ellie was not an easy one. We stayed over in Kentucky, halfway, to help break up the drive and stress Ellie. Ellie didn't want to get back on the trailer. We had to call for additional assistance getting Ellie to load which took over 2 hours, some tears and a lot of stress not to mention it was cold. When we arrived at our barn, Flying Change Stables, was a huge relief. I remember thinking that if Ellie never gets back on a trailer I know why.



Elegante



Unfortunately for Ellie, two weeks later, we were off to our first show and clinic at Tamarack Stables for Dressage. I rode for two days with Matt McLaughlin and then in a school show on the last day. Ellie did great and I was so happy that things went smoothly. From this point, we didn't quit, we have gone to numerous shows and clinics this past summer and I even received my 1st level scores towards my bronze riding medal. In the short period of time, I have had Ellie I have gone from Training Level rider to schooling and competing in 1st and 2nd level in dressage.



Peyton and Ellie at IaDCTA Championships



Peyton and Ellie at Marina Paris –Woodhead clinic



Kit Kat to start lessons.



With trainer Ali Glenn and barn mate Nancy Brown

Ellie has taught me that hard work pays off when you put in the time. I currently ride 5 days a week, have lessons 2 days a week and I also work at the barn caring for the horses.

UPDATE: on Sunday September 15th I re-certified for my C1 and I got it. I am officially a C1 with Pony Club. I also went to the fall show at Tamarack Stables, and I completed my 1st level and one of my 2nd level tests scores for my Bronze medals. I even got high points in the Jr. Division for the rated show. It was a amazing end to my show season for 2024.

My parents are to thank for my ability to have this dream. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be able to go to the places or do the things I can do with horses. I have big goals, I'd like to join dressage for kids, get into FEI and young riders. Dressage and Eventing are my two favorite disciplines and are my biggest goals.

After High School I plan to attend Iowa State and hopefully be accepted into the veterinarian program. Id like to become an equine vet and of course continue to ride.



Peyton and Miss

Reminder... hunting season is upon us so be sure to wear something **orange** as many of our parks are open to public hunting.



RETURN TO THE SHOW RING BY TAMMY LISI

To say that my last four years have been anything less than a period of extreme challenge, and tragic loss would be a denial of the opportunity for growth and change in many areas of my life. I wanted to share my return to the show arena and the story of why it is so different for me than it was 5 years ago. I used to struggle with chaotic moments. Those moments when the horse spooks, bucks, or is otherwise distracted by the outside world. Like everyone else, I learned to soften the inside rein, send the horse forward, and hope I stayed on. Watching me ride, you couldn't tell how much everything outside the ring was bothering me. Inside my head, it bothered me a lot.

I noticed the people waving things around, the dogs on leashes hanging out by the arena... the people I was sure were picking apart my horse, and my skills... etc. Then a bunch of things happened in my life I could not control, and I believe most people would consider them catastrophic. From the loss of our buildings and home to winds, to my mom dying from strokes caused by a vaccine, the death of my first horse who I owned for 31 years, someone I considered my friend stealing significant amount of money from my business that I will never get back... and the list goes on with something major and tragic every couple of months for 4 years.

My response was to become an avid audible subscriber. Listening to book after book on all sorts of subjects. From military members talking about how they survived, to self-reflection, search for meaning, and books on finding beauty in death of loved ones. I learned that the only control I had was control of the now in front of me. I couldn't alter the weather, or what other people did. I could only change how I handled the situation, and of course I got to have lots of practice with this.

I learned to take responsibility for my own peace in chaos. Just a short time ago, I decided to try on my tall boots (they haven't been comfortable since the foot cyst ordeal. Been riding in tennis shoes because of the pain in that foot). Then I decided to show again. I picked a familiar to me recognized show, asked if I could enter late, borrowed a horse I helped train, and then made plans (including inviting a few people I coach). Of course challenges tried to give me excuses to not show: infected sliver in my left palm and a nice deep cut on my right index finger and let's not forget the trailer needs new axles. Just more chaos for the last week and a half before the show.

As I prepared to enter the ring, the voices inside my head again taunted "What are you trying to prove?" or my favorite "You have forgotten your test". The thinking brain strikes over and over if you allow it. I rode anyway, and I mainly walked with short questions to make sure my horse and I were ready for the questions being asked in the test.

Suddenly, the time comes to ride down centerline. Second level test 1, and the medium trot sitting "You don't have enough air to finish this test now" I whispered back "Walk break coming in 2 letters". Then I did that canter to trot to walk and porcelain off one of my crowns got knocked loose for some crunchy oral moments (meh, I already had that quoted for repair). Then back to medium trot for the final time and again "You might fall off from lack of air- quit now", I whispered back "Liar, I'm finishing this". Halt and salute may have been me sucking air in more than the younger more fit riders, but I didn't care. It was a clean test. With all the requirements accomplished.

Taking responsibility for my own inner peace, riding to the best of my ability in this now, shutting down my own inner chaotic voice, and succeeding anyway. That is the gift I have created for myself out of the rubble of the past 4 years.

The next time you find yourself getting upset about something, remember you can only control your reaction. Your reaction can be a gift or a curse for the next moment... choose wisely.

Some of the books I highly recommend from my Audible list:

Man's Search for Meaning By Viktor E Frankl

Don't Believe Everything You Think By Joseph Nguyen

Overcome By Jason Redman

The Beauty of What Remains By Steve Leder

Unbreakable By Thom Shea

The End of Average by Todd Rose

Breath By James Nestor



*Tammy Lisi and Bragai...
Mooches smooches*



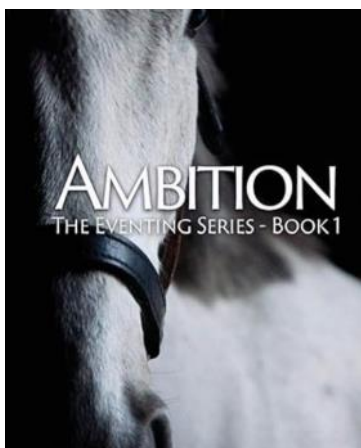
Book Review for "Ambition" by Natalie Keller Reinhart

Reviewed by Kaelin Schildmier

"Ambition" by Natalie Keller Reinhart is a captivating exploration of the relentless pursuit of dreams and the sacrifices that accompany it. The first of eight in the Eventing series, this book follows a determined up and coming eventing professional who navigates the complexities of ambition in a demanding equestrian world filled with both opportunity and adversity. Reinhart is a wonderful storyteller, painting a vivid picture of the equestrian world set in central Florida.

The characters are well-developed; Jules, the main character faces unrelenting challenges as she sets off to pursue her professional career in the wild world of Eventing, and meeting up with Pete, also trying to set himself apart from his family equestrian business. The narrative weaves together themes of resilience, self-discovery, and the moral dilemmas that arise when success comes at a cost. The pacing is perfect, keeping readers engaged watching as each character confronts setbacks and triumphs all wrapped up in a horse centered story!

Reinhart's insights into the equestrian world come from personal experience. She is native to the horsey capital of Florida and has a broad background working in the business. "Ambition" is a must-read for anyone striving for greatness and grappling with the intricate balance between aspiration and reality. A solid five-star read whether you event or prefer to dance in the sandbox!



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- **ISBN-10** : 108795387
- **ISBN-13** : 978-1087953878

Executive Board for 2024

Rhea Allen President : cello2002@hotmail.com

Derith Vogt VP : hartvogt@netins.net

Nena Denman Treasurer: nkdenaman@gmail.com

Carmen Pierce Secretary: crpierce1977@gmail.com



Catalpa Corner Charity Horse Trials



Susan Brigham and Jim McNutt hosted the USEA recognized Catalpa Corner Charity Horse Trial (One Day Event) on their beautiful property near West Branch on August 3, 2024. This year, the weather gods smiled upon the competition. Riders were treated to the cross country course designed by William Robertson of Kentucky.

In a One Day Event, riders start with their dressage test before switching tack and coming back to ride the stadium course and after a short break, finishing with the cross country course. IaDCTA members Julie Kuhle, Kelli Rose Brown, Evan Fleck, Peyton Burch, and Mallory Huggins. Mallory managed to ride three horses winning the Senior Beginner Novice on Egg.



Thanks to the tireless volunteers who make this horse trial possible. Ali Hayford and Sophia Petrin did much of the heavy lifting to get ready for the competitors.



IaDCTA and Tamarack Championships



2024 Tamarack and IaDCTA Championships was a successful event. This year we tried something a little different and added a USEF/USEF level 1 show on Sunday. We also eliminated jumping rounds (mainly due to footing issues outside at the Iowa Equestrian Center), coupled with lack of time to change over the dressage arena in the main ring. The changes had some different riders come in from both in the state of Iowa and outside of Iowa, but our numbers were down overall for the show weekend. Despite the number of horses/riders in attendance being lower, we still had full days of showing with the Friday IaDCTA Schooling Show which had a noon start and was over after 10pm. The Saturday Championship, as well as a Tamarack Schooling show started at 7am and was over after 9pm. Sunday was the USEF/USDF show which was over in about 5 hours.

Overwhelmingly, riders prefer the schooling show events. For this reason, in 2025 we will change format for this weekend to Friday IaDCTA Schooling Show, Saturday Tamarack Schooling Show, and Sunday Championships. This way there will be plenty of time for presentation of awards in the main arena with victory laps and take some pressure off the Saturday judging schedule. Hopefully this would allow us to have clearer prize lists for easier competitor entry too!

The volunteer chip program encouraged several new volunteers. For every 2 hours they received a custom-made poker chip. They could turn in the poker chip to win gift cards, OR they could keep them to turn in as payment for dressage tests in 2025 (4 chips for a test).

The Iowa Equestrian Center is a great place for the final show of the year. We are stuck with whatever dates they offer us as the facility has events every weekend (except in January). Hopefully we get the same weekend next year. It is an expensive facility, and unfortunately, we will be raising the rates slightly in 2025. Tack stall prices will go up to \$60 (from \$50), but we will try to keep the weekend stall to \$100 for the entire weekend.

We do have our spring date for the weekend of March 14, 2025 at the Iowa Equestrian Center, and are looking forward to a great weekend to kick off the 2025 Show season!

Tammy Lisi

Congratulations Karen Bright

The Dressage Foundation (TDF) is pleased to announce that four recipients have been chosen from its Military Grant Fund. The recipients are Ashley Adams (UT), **Karen Bright (IA)**, Molly Carnahan (SC), and Melissa Jamison (KS). Each will receive a \$1,000 grant to continue their dressage education.



Karen and Chapiro

IADCTA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2024 Iowa Classic Championship held at the Tamarack Fall Show at The Iowa Equestrian Center, Kirkwood Community College was attended by many equine enthusiasts.

Riders qualified at previous events and competed on Saturday for IADCTA Classic prizes and ribbons. The IADCTA is happy to announce and congratulate the 2024 winners!



USEF/USDF Intro C

Open Champions – PJ Koehler on VRI Mad You Look

Adult Amateur Champions – Tom Koehler and Cleopatra

Adult Amateur Reserve CH– Julie Bloom on Wulfgar CCA

JR/YR Champion- Emmalynn Brown on Captain Jack Sparrow

USEF/USDF Training Level

Adult Amateur Champions – Shannon Soot and Horizon

Adult Amateur Reserve CH– Sydney Burlingham on Bliss Oak Spyder

Junior Champions – Kaili Soot on JP

USEF/USDF First Level

Open Champion – Katie Hall on Irish Gypsy Doc

Adult Amateur Champions – Terri Malloy on Smokey's Gentle Spirit

JR/YR Champion—Evy Thompson on Theodore

USEF/USDF Amateur Handler

Champions – Leann Nelson and VR I Made You Look

USEF/USDF Equitation Walk Trot Canter

Adult Amateur Champions- – Leslie MacBride and Fritz NHH

Adult Amateur Reserve CH– Karen Bright on Chapiro

Musical Freestyle

Adult Amateur Champions– David Law on Jake

Adult Amateur Reserve CH- Leslie MacBride and Fritz NHH

USEF/USDF Second Level

Adult Amateur Champions– Leslie MacBride and Fritz NHH

JR/YR Champions– Carolyn Woodring on Pool Boy

USEF/USDF Sporthorse Prospect in Hand

Open Champion– Michelle Blackler and Enya in Remembrance of Trees

Open Reserve CH– Laurel Burns and Willow

Adult Amateur Champions – Terry Malloy with Smokey's Gentle Spirit

WDAA Basic Level

Adult Amateur Champions– Andrea Barton on Reco Suave

JR/YR Champions– Sophia Erickson on Hocus Pocus

JR/YR Reserve CH– Jackson Williams on Atlas

Junior Champions – Jackson Williams and Atlas

WDAA Intro

Adult Amateur Champions – Cassie Stowe on VR The Love Bug

Adult Amateur Reserve CH– Faye Murray on Drop Your Guns

Thank you to all participating riders and a special thank you to Tamarack Farm for partnering with IADCTA to host this show again!!

My Journey to Wybie by Caroline Woodring

My quarter horse JP turned 27 in 2023, I knew his show days were numbered, and he deserved a life of green pastures and endless carrots. The hard part was letting him and finding a new dance partner in the ring. JP was my heart horse. JP gave me the confidence to love riding again after a bad fall. JP taught me to trust the process. He is the horse every kid needs and deserves.



Carolyn and JP at his last show and retirement Fall of 2023



First day of horse camp at Greenbriar

I started riding at Greenbriar Riding Academy when I was five. I brushed my first pony, and I was addicted. Every horse I rode for the past 8 years taught me something I take with me and use today. Every horse I didn't want to ride, but my instructors knew better, taught me something. Everything I learned at that barn, out of the saddle taught me the most. My first dressage show I was eliminated after falling off. No one said this horse journey was fast or easy. But after the fall, I got back on and tried again. All those lesson horses and JP brought me to Pool Boy, aka, Wybie.

At the suggestion of a barn mate at Northern Lights, we went with my trainer, Hannah Owens, to Quandahl Farms to look at Pool Boy. He was everything I never wanted in a horse; he didn't check any of my boxes. I wanted a horse over 16 hands, he was 15.1. I wanted a horse that was chunky and thick, he was sporty and slender. I wanted a kick ride, and he had a big go button.

Wybie demonstrating his big "go button"



But then I got on and cantered him, and I was in love. He had the most beautiful gaits and was so fun to ride. He was everything I never knew I wanted and more. I was ready for him to be mine. Hannah and my parents lied to me and said he failed his PP exam. But a few weeks later surprised me and there he was at my barn with a big read bow. Wybie and have been together for a year now. He is being brought back slowly into consistent work. We are learning all the things together with the help of great trainers and clinicians. We are letting Wybie set the pace.

My favorite times with him are the times we spend together on the ground learning from each other, and earning his trust, creating a connection and bonding. Wybie has been a great teacher for me as well. He had not been in the dressage ring for a few years, but in our first season together he has kept it together and confirmed my belief that I can take him anywhere if we take slow and trust the process. Just like when I rode all those lesson horses. In the future, I hope to earn my bronze medal on Wybie. But I'm letting him lead the way. The joy isn't in the medals or ribbons. The joy for me is in the journey with this boy and the connection and partnership we are creating. A partnership that I couldn't have had, and a horse I couldn't have ridden, without all those years learning from lesson horses and JP. I've learned that every horse has something to teach you. Either about life or riding, or both. I would tell any kid starting out, ride every horse you can. Take advantage of what they can teach you. I can't wait to see what my next 8 years of riding brings.



Festival of Champions at Lamplight by Adalynn Nelson

I had the privilege of qualifying and attending Festival of Champions this year in the FEI Children's division with my horse Custom Made. The show took place at Lamplight Equestrian Center in Wayne, Illinois. This was my first competition that I had to complete a FEI jog/veterinarian inspection prior to competing. The jog was something I had been looking forward to. It was fun picking out an outfit and getting to participate in a jog.



The show grounds at Lamplight Equestrian Center are extremely well cared for with beautiful trails and arenas. I arrived several days before my competition to school and support my other teammates. Arriving early and being able to school multiple days in the Grand Prix arena helped me prepare and feel confident in the show arena. The Grand Prix arena can be overwhelming since it is sunken down with stands all around it, and a big screen.

Seeing your name and face on the "BIG SCREEN" for the first time

One of my favorite parts of the week was the Youth Pizza party at the show grounds sponsored by Discover Dressage. It was fun to meet the other youth competitors and listen to George Williams speak. It was also incredibly special to have two other teammates from my barn competing at Festival.

I competed over two days. My first day was the Children's Team Test. Custom and I were second to last to show and we knocked it out of the park with a PB of 79%. I was so incredibly excited to be ranked 1st after day one. The second day I competed the FEI Children's Individual Test.

Adalynn and Custom in the last class of the day, the individual test



It was a lot more mentally challenging for me being ranked 1st and the last to compete. I put a lot of pressure on myself. Unfortunately, we had a few mistakes in our test and ended up with a 71.871. The final ranking is determined by adding the two scores together and dividing by 2. Custom and I ended with a 75.624% and 3rd place overall in the FEI Children's Championship. I am so happy with how Custom and I placed especially since we had only been a partnership for less than a year.



Adalynn and Custom with trainer Tillie Jones



Adalynn and Custom with all that blue!



3rd place over all in FEI Children's Division CH

Children's has helped with my future goals by introducing me to the FEI path and larger more competitive atmospheres. My goal for next year is to become solid in 3rd level and work towards FEI Juniors. I am very excited for off season training to learn new skills and all the exciting things coming in 2025!



IN OTHER NEWS

MEMBERS OUT AND ABOUT THIS SUMMER AND FALL



~Tamarack and Marina Paris Woodhead clinic and July Show at Greenbriar~



Ashlyn Ward on Warwick



Carolyn Woodring on Poolboy



David Law on Jake



Kaili Soot on JP



Leslie MacBride on Fritz



Peyton Burch on Ellie



Shannon Soot on Horizon



Leslie MacBride and Shivaz



Sophia Erickson on Hocus Pocus



Derith Vogt on Lucina



Jackson Williams on Atlas



Jenna Lovett on Zeke



Karen Bright on Chapiro



Katie Hall on Gypsy



Sydney Burlingham on Spyder



Catalpa Corner Charity Horse Trials at Catalpa Corner Equestrian Park



Kelli Rose-Brown on Rifle



Mallory Huggins on Egg



Julie Kuhle on Griff



Evan Fleck on Ari



Mallory Huggins on Valor



Mallory Huggins on Hillcreek Grace

~Otter Creek Farm Fall Horse Trial Trails Celebrates it's 25th Year !!! ~



Meaghan Marinovich Burdick and Liz Lund's gift to Lena and Mark Warner



Julie Kuhle on Griff



Kelli Rose Brown and Meaghan Marinovich- Burdick



Kelli Rose Brown on Rifle



Meaghan Marinovich- Burdick on Lenny



Meaghan Marinovich- Burdick on Ipi



Show secretary Betsy Jones and Lena Warner handle more than the awards while Steve Kath, Dawn Roberts, and Bob Owen keep the sound going and keep us safe.



~Tamarack and IaDCTA Schooling Show and Championships~



Leslie MacBride on NHH Fritz



Peyton Burch on Ellie



Shannon Soot on Horizon



Kaili Soot on JP



David Law on Jake



Jackson Williams on Atlas



Sophia Erickson on Hocus Pocus



PJ Koehler on This Magic Moment



Faye Murray on Drop Your Guns



Leann Nelson and VRI Made You Look



PJ Koehler on VRI Made You Look



Tom Koehler on Oh Cleopatra



Carolyn Woodring on Pool Boy



Cassie Stowe on VR The Love Bug



Grace Stodola on Buzz



Connie Conis on Pan



Jenna Lovett on Easton



Rhea Allen on MHR's Camelot



Julie Bloom on CCA Wulfgar



Karen Bright on Chapiro



Katie Hall on Irish Gypsy Doc



Leslie MacBride on Shivaz



Sydney Burlingham on Blissoak Spyder



Trudy Tatum on Sonnenhall



Becky Fuller and One Last Time

*This show was very special for
of our member Kaili Soot*

*Her horse, **Just a Plain
Horse**, was retired with
this show.*



Kaili Soot and Jackson Williams



~Sorensen Equestrian Park~



Sydney Burlingham on Blissoak Spyder
PC Michelle Franke Photography



Tammy Lisi with Blissoak Spyder



Tammy Lisi on Bragai PC Michelle Franke Photography



Sydney Burlingham and Blissoak Spyder



Ask the Judge Questions about Dressage With Amy McElroy

Amy McElroy is an FEI competitor, and a USEF S judge. She is qualified to officiate at any USEF recognized national show at all dressage levels. She rides, trains and teaches at Fair Lane Farm in Aiken and judges between 15 and 20 dressage and eventing shows each year.

Dear Amy,

I am planning to compete at recognized dressage shows this summer in Aiken. I have a few questions that I hope you can answer for me. First, with this heat, I am not planning to wear my show jacket, which I know is legal, assuming that jackets are waived at the show. But is it mandatory to wear a belt? If I do wear a belt, are there color restrictions? Also, the sun bothers my eyes, and I wonder if wearing sunglasses and/or an oversized visor is OK. That white dressage arena footing has a lot of glare!

Next, I know a caller is permitted when riding your test, but do judges frown upon that? Will it affect my score? Lastly, is it true that you can be eliminated after you finish your test? Why would that happen?

Hot Topics

Dear Hot Topics,

You bring up some interesting questions. I can understand not wanting to wear a jacket on these hot summer days, and that is perfectly fine as long as jackets are waived at the show in which you are competing. There currently is no ruling on the wearing of a belt. Surprisingly, there isn't a rule that you have to tuck your shirt in, either. Ultimately, you want your appearance to look neat and professional, however. If you are comfortable with a belt, you should absolutely wear one, whether you're wearing your show coat or not. A belt that matches your helmet, coat (if you are wearing one), or saddle pad would look lovely, but there is no ruling on this. I would stay away from too much bling, though – glittery things distract the eye and you want your judge to focus on your ride. But whether you wear a belt or not will not affect whatsoever on your score, so this is completely optional. As far as sunglasses go, yes they are permitted since there is no rule banning them. If you do wear a pair, please make sure they fit securely and are not falling down over your nose, because this would be distracting for everyone. However, there are some rules about helmet visors. A legal ASTM safety helmet that is securely fitted may have a wide brim as long as the brim is an integral part of the helmet. Unfortunately, you cannot add any visors, sunshields or anything else to your helmet. In fact, any added attachment is illegal and may be a reason to be eliminated.

Regarding having your test read to you as you ride, you are correct that you are allowed a caller for tests fourth level and below. (They are illegal for tests over fourth level.) The use of a reader will have no influence on your judge or on your score. There may be an issue, however, if your reader does any talking other than reading the test as written or makes noises such as clucking as you ride by. This could be considered outside help and possibly be a cause for elimination. Another interesting note: your caller must read you the test as written in English: you are not allowed to use a different language unless you have obtained permission in advance.

Even if you do have a reader, be sure that you are familiar with your test so that the reader is reminding you where to go, not telling you for the first time. Your reader should be knowledgeable about the arena, and especially to know where the letters are. Try to have someone who reads loudly and clearly and is an asset to your ride.

Finally, and unfortunately: it is definitely true that you could be eliminated after the completion of a ride, even if it was a great one. This could happen for a variety of reasons. One possibility could be because of using illegal equipment. For instance, your whip could be too long, or you might forget to take off your horse's boots or bell boots, which are legal in the warmup, but illegal in the arena. Rider attire can also be an issue, for example not wearing a coat when coats are not waived, having bold patterns on your clothing, not having a collar or sleeves on your shirt. Sometimes, something you innocently put on your horse, like a lucky feather or good luck charm in the mane, or a questionable design or bling on your saddle pad can be an issue. If there is any blood on your horse, whether from spurs, a cut in the mouth or even if your horse kicks himself, this could be a reason for elimination. Any type of outside assistance is not acceptable.

Why would you be allowed to start and complete your test if there is something about your horse, equipment or presentation that calls for your elimination? There are several possible reasons. First, the problem might be recognized by your judge during your ride, in which case he or she has the option to stop your test and excuse you immediately. Or, he or she may stop you and give you the option to complete the ride, but not have the score count. Or the judge might not recognize the problem until the end of the ride, or might contact the technical delegate to look into any issue, and tell you the bad news after your ride is finished. Another possibility occurs when the ring steward performs a tack inspection after you ride.

I hope this does not happen: No judge wants to eliminate you! It is always advisable to read the dressage section in the USEF Rulebook as well as the handbook offered from USDF and USEF called the Visual Guide to Attire and Equipment. This is very informative: It even has colored pictures of everything that is allowed and not allowed.

I hope this helps you to be confident and comfortable in you presentation, while staying as cool as possible, keeping the sun out of your eyes, and remaining in compliance with all the clothing and equipment regulations. Feel free to have a reader, and always stay updated on the rules.

Enjoy your shows and good luck!



When one of our members has not been seen this year we had to check in on her!

From the injured list: Hey Friends! I have missed seeing you, and cheering for your triumphs this past show season and the end of 2023. I still cheer you on, just from home for now. For those that do not know I have had a few challenges that I had to hurdle. July of 2023 my mare Mishka, came up severely lame. She had a full work up and we could not find the issue. Rads were clean. Her medical team and I opted to inject joints and give her rest. She is now sound however, I am not. I had a surgery December of 2023. Which ended up infected. The doctor put me on an antibiotic (Levofloxacin) if you want to google it. It destroyed all the nerves and tendons in both of my forearms. I was very disabled. I could not eat, write, do anything that involved using my fingers and arms. It was a long slow recovery. I am mostly healed, my left arm still isn't 100%. I slowly have started doing things with my horses again. I have not had much ride time beyond loose rein trail rides. I am hopeful that I will make a 100% recovery and see you all back in the show ring cheering you on in person for 2025. Jaimie Iles- Westrum



*Jaimie and Mishka and
Dakota*



Jaimie and Dakota

Treasurer's Report

September 2024

Beginning Checking Acct.Bal. \$18,425.27

<u>CREDITS:</u>	This period:	Prior period	Total To Date
Horse Nominations -Cash	\$32.00	\$380.00	\$412.00
Membership Dues - Cash	\$50.00	\$1,075.00	\$1,125.00
Horse Nomination - PayPal	\$59.10	\$341.52	\$400.62
Membership - PayPal	\$100.00	\$766	\$865.53
Sponsorships	\$0.00	\$280	\$280.00
Silent Auction	\$0.00	\$929.48	\$929.48
Award Fund - Raffle	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annual Banquet	\$0.00	\$1,613.36	\$1,613.36
Show	\$0.00	\$676.82	\$676.82
Clinic	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc. Advertising/Arena Rental	\$20.37	\$0.00	\$20.37
Misc. interest CDs	\$37.28	\$294.66	\$331.94
TOTAL CREDITS	\$298.75	\$6,356.37	\$6,655.12

<u>DEBITS:</u>			
Operations: Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Banquet DMGCC	\$0.00	-\$2,180.32	-\$2,180.32
Website Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Banquet Misc.	\$0.00	-\$58.03	-\$58.03
Awards/Ribbons	\$0.00	-\$956.05	-\$956.05
Education - Clinic	\$0.00	-\$500.00	-\$500.00
Shows	\$0.00	-\$404.66	-\$404.66
Insurance	\$0.00	-\$150.00	-\$150.00
Membership dues-USDF	\$0.00	-\$1,040.35	-\$1,040.35
Conference, Convention, Meeting	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc. - office supplies/License	-\$21.00	-\$49.01	-\$70.01
TOTAL DEBITS	-\$21.00	-\$5,338.42	-\$5,359.42

NET INCOME	\$277.75	\$1,017.95	\$1,295.70
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Treasurer's Report con't

RESERVES/
DESIGNATIONS:

Betsy Coester Grant	\$0.00	\$574.80	\$574.80
Clinic/Educ/Con/Trophies	\$0.00	\$132.08	\$132.08

**TOTAL RESERVES/
DESIGNATIONS**

\$706.88

SAVINGS	\$0.00	\$2,203.48	\$2,203.48
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Checking Acct Balance- current	\$18,703.02			
Total Reserves/Designations	\$706.88			
Outstanding Debits	\$199.17			
Daily Operating Balance	\$0.00			
Checking				\$18,703.02
Certificate of Deposit	\$0.00		\$10,931.73	\$10,931.73
Savings	\$0.00		2,203.48	\$2,203.48
Total Bank Balances				\$31,838.23



To submit ideas for articles , member photos , or corrections if we got something wrong, please contact us!

OUR MEMBERS SERVICES



Steffen Veterinary Services (SVS) Chiropractic Care offers veterinary chiropractic care to both large and small animals throughout the state of Iowa. Contact Dr. Amanda Steffen at 515-729-0271 or dvmsteffen@gmail.com for additional information or to schedule an appointment.

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