



2019/2020 SEASON
FEBRUARY 2020
Issue 4

the
Dressage
Company



Dear Members & Dressage Enthusiasts –

With show season upon us I think it is a good time to think horsemanship during this time of the year.

After practicing for months, days and hours, it is very easy to get caught up in “show mode” shortly before the show date. This sometimes results in trying to take short cuts in our training to get the quick fix to be ready on show day. But as we all know - it just does not work! So let's keep fairness & fun in the training of our partners, even when we would all love to shine on show day in the end it should always be enough to have had a nice & safe day out with your horse, and be surrounded by friends.

So everybody, have fun out there and as always give your horse an extra carrot on show day!! Or maybe even 2, or 3..... 😊

And then there is the MUD....most of our non-farm friends are happy about the warmer temperatures but I am personally hoping for a few weeks of nice cold frost, and maybe the attached article can help a little...

Isi Brown

The Dressage Company Newsletter Editor

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2020 OFFICERS

President - Sue McBeth

513-459-9526 - Shakespeare1950@embargmail.com

Vice President – Isabelle Brown

513-884 3660 – isidressage@gmail.com

Treasurer - Carol Hartlaub

513-742-3782 - Chart3977@aol.com

Secretary – Sue Segerman

513-633-4921 – segermansue@cinci.rr.com

Sargent at Arms -Mary Lynn Griswold

513 – 706-8816 – marylynngriswold@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Melanie Stewart

513-310-9243 – rmstewart@fuse.net

Trustees

Edie Bryan

Trish Hammer

513-520-8373 – tricia.hammer@att.nett

Debbie Boeh

513-404-3485 – debbieboeh@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor - Isi Brown

513-884-3660 - isidressage@gmail.com

Historian/Social Media Chairs

Sue Segerman

513-633-4921 – segermansue@cinci.rr.com

HORSE EVENTS

- Sunday, January 9th, 10AM-3PM
Butler County 4-H Tack &
Treasure Sale
Butler County Fairgrounds
Hamilton, Ohio
- Sunday, March 1st, 9AM – 2PM
Preble County 4-H Tack Sale
Preble County Fairgrounds,
Eaton, Ohio
- Sunday, March 8th
Great Tack Exchange
Warren County Fairgrounds
Lebanon, Ohio
- April 23 – 26th – Landrover
Kentucky 3 Day Event
Kentucky Horse Park
- May 2nd – Kentucky Derby
Churchill Downs, Louisville, KY

NOTE:

The Dressage Company TM is a Group Member Organization of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF). Members are automatically USFS Group Members. We are located in Region 2.

For showing at recognized shows, make sure you have the correct membership to be qualified for all championships, awards etc.

FEBRUARY MEETING, Monday, 2/17/20

at the RUSTY BUCKET in a private room under "The Dressage Company".

Reservations made for 6:30PM

General Membership Meeting Agenda (7:00 start time, 6:30 if ordering food)

RUSTY BUCKET (next to Cobb Movie Theater) - 7524 Bales Street, Liberty Township, OH 45069.

Phone 513-463-2600 - It is the Liberty way exit # 24 off of I-75.

General Membership Meeting Agenda

- A. Approval of 1/20/20 Board and General meeting minutes
- B. Reports
 - Membership
 - Current roster
 - New members
 - Treasurer (quarterly – next one in April)
- C. Old Business
 - 1. Website update
 - Update from Isi about access to old website
 - Loading of forms and documents
 - Potential go-live date
 - 2. Use of \$500 for Scholarship or Clinic participation
 - 3. Nancy Nicholson Memorial Award
 - Carol and Sue will visit vendors and submit pricing and design
 - 4. Awards Dinner Feedback
 - Carol and Sue met with Barb McCarthy and will report at the meeting
- D. New Business
 - 1. Ideas for Educational events for 2020
 - Possible calendar from Isi for ideas already submitted
 - Any new ideas to add
 - 2. Other
 - 3. Next meeting

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.THEDRESSAGECOMPANY.COM

Got Mud?

In the horse world it often seems that these spring showers also bring the dreaded fetlock deep mud that mires our once grass-filled paddocks.

By: Mary Pothier | April 12, 2011/HORSE CANADA (from internet)

April showers bring May flowers. Isn't that how the rhyme is supposed to go? In the horse world it often seems that these spring showers also bring the dreaded fetlock deep mud that mires our once grass-filled paddocks. Muddy pastures are more than just an annoyance; they are unsightly and, more importantly, they can cause health problems for our horses. What makes mud such a bad thing? Lurking in that muck are often bacteria and fungal organisms, which can cause such afflictions as mud fever, thrush and hoof abscesses, for example. Beyond that, a simple slip in the mud by a frolicking horse can cause pulled tendons and ligaments or lost shoes. So what's a good owner to do?

1. Create a sacrifice area.

One of the simplest ways to keep your pastures from being destroyed in mucky weather is to develop a sacrifice area where you can turn your horses out. If you have the space to do so, this means finding a small area with good drainage and fencing it off from any other pasture. Sacrifice areas are a region of your pasture that you allow horses to be turned out in during inclement weather; this keeps the horses' regular grazing area from being churned up into a muddy mess during the wet season. Excellent footing in your sacrifice area is very important because of high use in the most inclement seasons.

2. Examine the footing around high traffic areas.

Horse hooves have the amazing ability to cut up the ground that they regularly traverse; the top layers of earth are loosened while the layers beneath are compacted. Add in some horse manure and rainwater and you have the perfect recipe for mud.

In the ideal world, horse owners would be able to excavate and install proper drainage in high-traffic areas such as around gates, water troughs and hay feeders, but even if this is not an option for you don't despair. Adding gravel or sand to these areas can help build up the area and allow it to drain.

If you already have an existing mud problem consider adding this extra footing on a 1:1 ratio, that is for every one inch of mud add one inch of gravel or your chosen footing. Wood chips can also work in some circumstances, but remember that they are organic material and will naturally break down and require reapplication.

3. Divert roof runoff.

Gutters and downspouts are an easy way to redirect rainwater away from high-use areas in your pasture. Taking the time to ensure your gutters and downspouts are in good working order, or installing them on your barn if you don't currently have them are an easy investment to help rid yourself of excessive water. Rainwater can also be rerouted to a rain barrel so the water can be used for other tasks such as watering flowers. This can be a do-it-yourself project, or you can easily find a local installer.

4. Consider adding drains.

There are several different types of drainage systems that you may want to consider adding to your farm. You must take into consideration the layout and topography of your farm before you commit to a particular option. Drainage ditches can be dug around the perimeter of your pasture to help channel water runoff away from problem areas. French drains are also a popular alternative. This type of drain is simply a trench that has been covered with rocks or gravel that allows water to be diverted from a particular area. Perforated hollow pipes can also be added and buried in the gravel bed to help whisk away groundwater.

5. Plant native trees and shrubs.

Trees and shrubs have the potential to reduce mud because they absorb a lot of water to live and grow. A mature Douglas fir, for example, can use between 100-250 gallons of water per day! If you are planning to plant trees and shrubs directly in your horses' pasture, it is important to take the time to fence around them to protect them from curious horses that might be eager to chew on their bark. Adding trees and shrubs will also add to the aesthetic value of your property, but before you start planting make sure all plants are non-toxic to horses.

It may take a little extra time and effort to plan on your part to create a better environment for your horse, but with these tips you can help preserve your pasture area and have a mud-free season. Your horses will thank you for it!

SOME LOCAL SHOW DATES

THE DRESSAGE COMPANY SCHOOLING SHOW

June 20, 2020 at Majestic Farm

MAJESTIC FARM SCHOOLING SHOW DATES

SERIES 1

****Same horse/rider combination must show in 2 out of 4 to be eligible for year end awards****

January Blast- Jan 11

February Frolic- Feb 8

March Madness QCDC- March 7 & 8

April Adventures- April 25

SERIES 2

****Same horse/rider combination must show in 2 out of 4 to be eligible for year end awards****

May CT & Dressage- May 16th

July CT & Dressage- July 11

October CT & Dressage- October 10

Turkey Trot QCDC-November 7-8

QUEEN CITY DRESSAGE CIRCUIT SHOW DATES

November 9th & 10th, 2019 - Majestic Farm

March 7th & 8th – Majestic Farm (see above)

April 26th – Walnut Creek Stables

May 24th – Old Stone Riding Center

June 20th – The Dressage Company Show (see above)

July 18th – Walnut Creek Stables

August 8th – Walnut Creek Stables

August 23rd – Old Stone Riding Center

MAJESTIC FARM USDF/USEF RECOGNIZED SHOW DATES

April 4-5 ~ April Adventures I

May 2-3 ~ Ride for the Roses I & II

June 6-7 ~ Majestic View II & III

August 7, 8-9 ~ Hotter Than Blue Blazes I & II

October 24 ~ Harvest Thyme

2020 Membership Form Application/Renewal

The membership year runs from Nov 1, through Oct. 31.

Dues are \$45.00/year for Senior members and \$30.00/year for Junior members (a rider who has not reached their 21st birthday before November 1st of the membership year). The dues include an affiliate USDF membership fee.

Are you a USDF member through another organization? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please include you membership number: _____

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Change of Address

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____ DOB _____

SIGNATURE _____

Make check payable to The Dressage Company and mail this completed form to:

Mail to: Melanie Stewart
8736 Apple Blossom Lane
West Chester, OH 45069

Email questions or inquiries to: rmstewart@fuse.net

Advertising Rates:

Members:

Up to 5 lines Free
¼ Page: \$2.50
½ Page: \$5.00
Full Page: \$10.00

Non-Members:

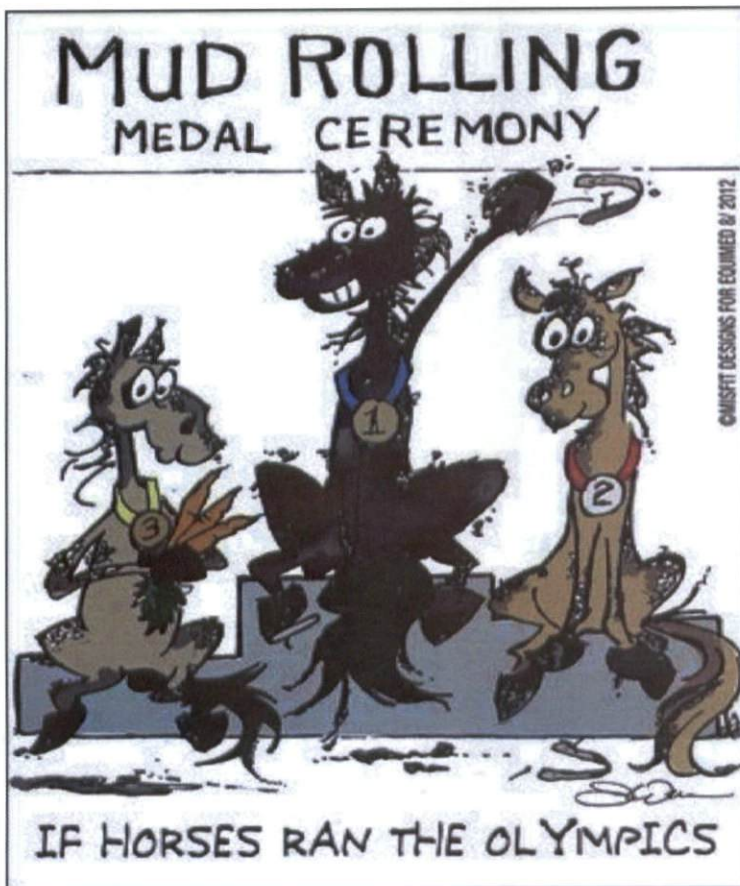
Up to ¼ Page: \$5.00
½ Page: \$10.00
Full Page: \$15.00

Information must be received by the 25th to be included in the next month's newsletter.

SALES CORNER

If you have anything horse related for sale, please send me details to isidressage@gmail.com and a picture, and we put it in our sales corner.

Remember for members up to 5 lines are free, beyond that please see rates to the left.



Dressage Quotes

Note from Editor:

I am hoping that for 2020 I will be able to get more organized and spruce up our newsletter better. Please let me have your ideas what you would like to see, f. ex.

- Ask the Vet Corner
- Dressage Exercises & Tips from local trainers
- Sales Corner
- Meet our Horses

So if you have any ideas, please send them to my email at isidressage@gmail.com. Have a wonderful month, Isi