



# Alpha Dressage News

September 2020

## Editor's Note

COVID-19 impacted life as we knew it and the club regrettably had to cancel the shows scheduled for March and April. On the brighter side we have regrouped and are now offering three schooling shows for the remainder of our show season and awards year.

Plans include two shows at a new venue (Tarawin Farm in Parrish) and hiring judges with WDAA members in mind. Show dates are now set for September 27, November 1, and November 22. We are also planning some Halloween fun with several costume classes that will be held at our November 1<sup>st</sup> show.

The prize list for our September 27<sup>th</sup> show will be sent along with the newsletter for your information. However, please note that **only online entries will be accepted going forward.**

ADA will be enforcing new COVID-19 preventive measures at all our events per the USEF and USDF guidelines. Safe horse showing is possible if we all work together. The Board has been working hard looking into new ways to keep everyone safe. We are asking for your compliance in the safety measures and for your flexibility in this difficult time. All procedures will be outlined in the show bill.

## November Elections – Call for Nominations!

At our November meeting we will be electing our Board and Officers for 2021. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact Robin Segó ASAP. We are always looking for members who are willing to volunteer for these important roles.

Robin's Contact Info:  
(941) 322-0494  
sego1@juno.com

*"The rider must listen into the horse, in order to judge when the moment for an aid has come, which aid is needed and how intense it must be. He must know how to create or wait for the right circumstances, to prepare the horse."  
~ Gustav von Dreyhausen*

*"It is important in training to always start with easy exercises and also to end with easy exercises that the rider and horse understand. This helps build confidence in both horse and rider." - Klaus Balkenhol*

## Member Spotlight – Suzi Jennings - ADA Vice-President



ADA Vice President Suzi Jennings is a local freelance riding Instructor for dressage and jumping. (@SuziDressage) and has earned her USDF Silver, Silver Bar and Bronze medals. She grew up in Great Britain with BHS (British Horse Society) BRC (British Riding Club) and PCUK (Pony Club) gaining much experience and many qualifications through these organizations. Suzi loves dressage most of all, but also loves jumping, fox hunting, eventing, hunter paces and trail riding.

### Website and Facebook Updates

We will be refreshing content on our website soon. We would love to include more photos of our own members with or without their horses. If you have a photo you would like to share with our online community please send it to [info@alphadressage.org](mailto:info@alphadressage.org) (Note: This is different email address associated with our website. Using it will help the webmaster and newsletter editor greatly.)

Find us on Facebook at **Alpha Dressage Association**. As we firm up show schedules, dates, and other events this will be the first place you will see the updates. A huge thank you to Danielle for taking on the Admin role for us!

## Request for a Volunteer

Robin Segó just received the following email from the Sara Weiss of The Dressage Foundation (TDF). We would love to have someone volunteer from our GMO. ***Could that someone be you???*** Please let Robin know if you would be willing help in this capacity. We'd really appreciate it!

We here at [The Dressage Foundation](#) (TDF) wanted to follow up with an email we sent a few months ago regarding a new GMO representative program. Just like you, TDF is dedicated to supporting and growing dressage. With your assistance, we can work together to provide more opportunities for education and sport.

### **What is the new GMO Rep program?**

TDF is looking for people to help spread the word about the wide variety of grants that TDF provides for youth, amateurs, professionals, breeders, and GMOs like yours. TDF is looking for a representative from each GMO nationwide. This program will take the place of our former state rep program.

### **How does this program work?**

Reps will be our "on the ground" support to spread TDF information through flyers, posters, banners, and social media. Each rep will receive a packet of marketing materials to take to their local shows, clinics, and other events.

### **Why should you help TDF?**

As a donor-supported non-profit, TDF's mission is to support people and GMOs like yours to grow dressage. The more we work together the deeper impact we can have. Being a part of this program also keeps you updated on grant deadlines and new opportunities.

### **GMO Reps for TDF receive:**

- TDF branded gift (more details coming soon!)
- Special monthly e-newsletter for GMO Reps only
- Meet-Ups and invitations to TDF special events including those only for our GMO reps
- Recognition on TDF website
- Inclusion in GMO rep only Facebook group (great for networking!)

### **Next Steps:**

- Identify who from your GMO would make a great TDF rep
- Forward this email to this person or have them contact Sara at 402-434-8585 or [sara@dressagefoundation.org](mailto:sara@dressagefoundation.org)
- Or send us a name and contact info of interested rep
- [Link to sign-up for GMO Rep Program](#)

We cannot thank you enough for everything that you already do for our dressage community. We are so excited to continue to build our sport and support the amazing people in dressage.

Sara Weiss  
Director of Grants and Programs  
The Dressage Foundation  
1314 'O' Street, Suite 305  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
  
402-434-8585

## Costume Class Information – Plan ahead!

For our Halloween show on November 1<sup>st</sup> we will be offering two types of fun classes; a costume class either mounted or unmounted, and a “free-for-all” musical freestyle class, which will be offered in addition to the regular USDF freestyle class. **There will be prizes!**

### **Parade classes:**

Costumes can range from very simple to the very elaborate. Group costumes are welcome. There doesn't have to be a horse with every person, but there must be a horse. There will be an unmounted and mounted class for the safety of participants.

Classes will run parade style at a walk during the lunch break. To ensure safety of everyone, the mounted and unmounted classes will run separately. Awards will be given for best adult and junior (18 Years old and younger) costume in each category (mounted, unmounted) as voted by judges and spectator fans. Entry fees are: \$10 per individual entry or \$20 for teams.

### **Freestyle classes:**

Also available is the Halloween “Free-for-all” Musical Freestyle with pas de deux and quadrille freestyle option. Costumes or regular attire are permitted. This class does not count for Year End Awards. Any choreography is permitted, movements **do not** have to be level specific (ex. Training level figures with a flying change is permitted). The maximum time limit will be 5 minutes, there is no minimum time requirement. Time begins when the horse moves forward after the competitor's first halt and salute and ends with the final halt and salute. The CD should have only the freestyle ride on it. It should be clearly labeled with the competitor's name.

An improvised score sheet will be used. The freestyle will be judged according to technical execution (execution of movements) and artistic impression (harmony, choreography, degree of difficulty, music, and interpretation). Points for difficulty are only awarded when the attempt is performed well. Movements, figures, and transitions may be constructed into any combination or pattern of the rider's choosing. The class will be held in a standard 20m x 60m arena. Riders must salute during the halt at the beginning and end of the freestyle. The first and final halt must be on the centerline facing C. Reins in one hand are allowed.



  
**Alpha Dressage Officers****President**

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**Vice President & Events****Coordinator**

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**Members At Large**

Betty Brown  
Deb Herbert  
Sue Slaubaugh  
Donna Sloben

We're on the Web!

*See us at:*

[www.alphadressage.org](http://www.alphadressage.org)

## Upcoming Events...

Fall schooling show dates are below! All will be approved for the USDF Regional Schooling Show awards program. The September date is approved for the WDAA program. All will help you qualify for ADA Awards if you are a member!

September 27, 2020 at Triple J – Heather Stalker (R) – USDF & WDAA

November 1, 2020 at Tarawin Farm – Bill Woods (R) – USDF

November 22 at Tarawin Farm – Leslie O'Sullivan (L with distinction)

## Awards Year Change

Due to the show cancellations earlier this spring we are extending our club's award year until November 30, 2020. Our annual meeting where we elect new officers, will still be held in November. An awards banquet will be held in January. Again, more details will follow as we adjust our schedule for the remainder of the year.



**Alpha Dressage Association**

**Membership application for 2020**

**Membership runs from Dec. 1, 2019 – Nov. 30, 2020**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Junior (18 & under) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth for juniors \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES**

Adult: \$40.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Junior \$30.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose \$10.00 for a group subscription to HORSE & PONY \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(If wanted) TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to *Alpha Dressage Association*.

Alpha Dressage Association is a USDF Group Member Organization; its members are automatically USDF Group Members.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

GUARDIAN SIGNATURE OF JUNIOR APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

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