



Fall 2020 Newsletter

Issue #98

Hello to all my fellow MDS members!

I hope this letter finds you all happy and well. What a strange and scary year 2020 has turned out to be!

I'd like to take a moment to thank all of our show organizers, competitors and volunteers for being so flexible and willing to accommodate to social distancing rules and last-minute changes to our normal way of hosting shows.

MDS will be announcing some changes for our 2020 year-end award program. We will not be holding an in person banquet this year due to gathering restrictions. Please stay tuned to our Facebook page, website, and your e-mail for more information coming soon!

The USDF annual convention is virtual this year and free to all USDF/MDS members. Check the USDF website for instructions on how to register!

Word on the street is that 2021 USEF/USDF sanctioned events will have restrictions similar to this year. We will share on our Facebook page as more information is released.

It's Omnibus time!! Reminders have gone out for show listings for our 2021 omnibus. We'd love to feature your advertisement in the 2021 edition! If you'd like to advertise please contact me directly for more information and rates at rebeccareed52@gmail.com or 207-478-0954.

On a personal note, Sinatra and I have discovered his inner secret love of jumping!! Who'd have thought!! My passion still lies within the boards but I am excited to expand our 2021 season to include some events and two-phases. The 2020 season of staying at home has really helped me spend some quality time investing fully in helping my horse become the happiest athlete he's been thus far. Despite the crazy state of our world, I truly hope you all have been able to find this time to honor the wonderful relationship our equine partners provide us with.

Wishing you all straight centerlines, square halts, happy trails and clean jumps!

Rebecca Reed

Your TMDS President



News From the Board of Directors

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM BETH BRAINERD REGARDING YEAR END AWARDS FOR 2020:

2020 Covid-19 Amended Year End Awards

Due to Covid-19 concerns and restrictions we will not be having our annual banquet at the Senator Inn in January. We do however, want to make our awards season as rewarding as possible.

Barn/Club Options:

Our barn is going to collect our students awards and do our own little barn family, socially distanced awards ceremony so with that in mind we are offering the following options;

I will box all the awards, including trophies and larger awards as necessary, for each barn group or club and we can arrange for the box to be picked up or delivered.

There will be (and is included in this emailing) a revised Year Ends Award Report form that includes your barn or group where your award(s) can be sent. Please discuss and include a contact person for the awards for your group.

If you are 'on your own' your awards can be included in a box going to your area or I can mail ribbons and final results but not trophies or larger awards.

Also, when you send in your results we would like a digital picture of you and your horse (if you are so inclined). The plan is to create a slide show we can share at our barn events and hopefully, on facebook. At the least I can include the pictures in the program which I will include with the awards that are sent out.

Our plan is to have delivered all the awards by the last Sunday in January and then send out the digital program to the barn groups and clubs on the 31 st of January.

A reminder that the requirements for this years awards have been modified and are as follows:

Intro through 2nd Level: You will need at least 4 scores from two shows and two different judges.

3rd Level and above: You will need to submit at least 2 scores from 2 shows and 2 different judges.

Medal requirements have not changed. Specials Categories have also revised to match the above new requirements.

If you have any questions contact Beth at hbf@roadrunner.com.



United States Dressage Federation

Region 8

Connecticut Maine Massachusetts New Hampshire New York Rhode Island Vermont

Region 8 News

Our most recent regional meeting was done by zoom call on October 6th and was very productive in our discussions. Thank you Lendon Gray for providing the zoom! Since this report is mainly about the meeting, here are the minutes:

7:38pm - Call to order delayed due to Regional Director Inexperience with being leader of a zoom meeting. Luckily Lendon stepped in and save us all!

Attendance – Cindi Rose Wylie, Sally Davenport, Angela Rice, Fern Feldman, Lendon Gray, Stan Horton, Anita Jaffe, Beth Jenkins, Kate O'Connor, Kathy Hickerson, Rebecca Reed, Sophia Chavonelle, Sue McKeown, Darian Quinn, and Suzie Kent

Director Report

2020 Show season – Impact COVID-19 had a large impact as our region's show season did not even start until mid-July. The shows that did run had constraints with stabling etc. VERY tough year. 2021 Show Season – Discussion lead to believe the region will have a more 'normal' number of shows. It is fairly certain that COVID protocol will remain in effect which can again limited the number of stalls available etc...Fingers Cross!!!

US Dressage Finals – Debra explained that USDF could not take the chance of a Covid positive case at the National Horse Show which is the week before at the KY Horse Park and park shutdown. Our riders travel too far and too expensive to take that chance. NHS also said they were not doing social distancing stalls in the heated barns, ie they would use every stall.

Are there any issues from our region to bring to the Executive Board – None at this time.

Financial Report – Sally reported the only income was \$155 which came from NEDA members donating to Region 8 on their membership application, and small amount of interest. No other activities for the year.

Reports

GMO Nominations – Kate reports GMO proxies are 'bysmal'. She thinks once the agenda for the virtual convention comes out it will be easier to push them to turn in these proxies. Debra said she would do her thing and contact the ones who are not answering when Kate needs the help!

NAYC – Bobbi was absent but Debra reported that Bobbi was the new Region 8 JrYR Coordinator. She also informed that April 10-11 Weatogue would hold JrYR clinic with George Williams. Bobbi will be contacting the Jr/YR of the region to fire them up for the clinic/

Raising Funds - Kate, Tabled

Competition Management – Anita reported that the committee had not been very active since there was not much shows happening or issue that could be solved.

Regional Championships – Debra reported that the 2020 Regional Championships were awesome

and that HITS could not of been friendlier and helpful. They had 361 entries with 350 verified Regional championship rides. All in all great time for all.

Beth reported for 2021 Regional Championships were a go at Saugerties with Sue McKeown as manager and Debra Reinhardt as Secretary.

GMO – Cindi reported 160 people participated in the new Recognition of Schooling show program, but Region 8 only had 8 participants.

Convention 2020 – Virtual with zoom calls. The agenda should be out shortly. Only one Regional Meeting during the convention for one hour and 15mins done after the committee meetings. At this point we are not going to schedule another meeting before the convention but if we don't finish business in that time allotted, we will schedule one later.

Normally the Region dresses in a color for the Board of Governors, but with this convention being virtual that will not have the impact. BUT Darian will create a background that we all can use with the Region 8 logo. She will send us all instructions on how to do it!

New Business – Education Programs? Will they be allowed. Debra reported that Kathie Robertson and she have been working with USEF. On 10/6, USEF COVID action plan allowed educational programs.

Spring Meeting date – April time frame but exactly date will be decided at convention.

Adjourn at 8:48pm with thank you to Lendon for allowing us to use her zoom account.

REALLY GREAT news is that every USDF member can and should attend the USDF Convention. It is virtual!!! Go to <https://www.usdf.org/convention/agenda.asp> to find the agenda and schedule your week. There are many educational events, round table discussions and YES of course...Board of Governors. You will be able to participate from your home. What a wonderful opportunity for all!

Next month's newsletter will be a very short report as not much is happening from now until then.

See you on the Centerline...

Debra Reinhardt

USDF Region 8 Director



MICHELLE ZAMBRANO

MUSICAL FREESTYLE AWARD

On May 29th, our dressage community suffered a great loss. Michelle was NMDA's rock, and she worked tirelessly to build and grow that chapter of our organization.

The Maine Dressage Society would like to announce The Michelle Zambrano Musical Freestyle Award. Beginning in 2021, we will recognize the highest scoring musical freestyle performance with a special award. Michelle loved the art of riding to music, and this award is intended to give riders incentive to compete and perform in this fun and challenging aspect of our sport.

Northern Maine Dressage Association

President: VACANT

Vice-President: Robin Brittelli 949-1950

Secretary: Laurie Harvey 343-1197

Treasurer: Kathleen Fox 668-6007

Show Chairs: Kaley Benner & Grace Jordan



Year end information can be sent to:

Kathleen Fox

335 Corinna Road

Dexter, ME 04930

Attn Members: The Banquet this year will be February 21st at Elisha Harvey's house, with a snow date of the following Saturday, February 28th. Contact Kathleen for more info.



President: Michele Marden

Vice-President: Lauren Taylor

Secretary: Kathy Jolin

Treasurer: Kitty Mitchell

ATTENTION ALL 2020 COMPETITORS

EMDA would like to remind all members of the changes to year-end award score reporting:

In order to qualify for EMDA year-end awards, members need to submit their top 4 scores from at least 2 judges at any EMDA show for Intro through First Level. Members need to submit their top two scores from at least two judges at any EMDA show for 2nd Level and higher. Competitors will no longer be required to submit all of their scores earned, only their top scores. This will hopefully encourage our members to attend more shows without fear of having a negative effect on their median score at the end of the season.

Our Annual Awards Banquet will be held on Sunday, February 7th at 10:00 AM at Horse Gait Stables in Dixmont. Members are encouraged to attend and bring potluck style brunch items. Hope to see you there!

EMDA ANNOUNCES NEW VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2021!

EMDA shows would not be possible without volunteers who donate their time and skills. We appreciate you and want to give back!

For the 2021 show season, EMDA will sponsor three separate \$100 scholarships that will be awarded to a volunteer from each of our three venues:

Puckerbrush Farm

Infinity Farm

Peppergrass Farm

Any person who volunteers at a show will have the opportunity to put their name in for the drawing at the end of the season. Each venue will randomly select a recipient at the 2021 awards banquet. The scholarships can be used for lessons or other expenses related to dressage education. The more you volunteer, the better your chances of winning!



2020 CMDA Year-End Awards Requirements

****These requirements are for the 2020 competition season ONLY****

Rider must be a current CMDA member at the time scores are earned. Re-ride tests do NOT count toward year end awards. All scores must be earned at shows listed in the current year's TMSD Omnibus, and be given by a judge with a rating of "L" or higher ("r", "R", "s") Horse and Rider combinations are eligible for awards at two (2) consecutive levels. Should a combination qualify for three, the scores at the lowest level will be forfeit.

Year-end scores will be calculated by the level. If four (4) scores are submitted, the two middle scores will be averaged for a final score. If two (2) scores are submitted, the two scores are averaged for a final score. A final score of 55% or higher is required to qualify for an award.

To qualify for Grand Champion, or Reserve Grand Champion, one (1) of the scores submitted must be from the highest test of the level ridden.

Riders are required to submit a CMDA score report form, as well as a copy of the front of each test. Score submissions must be post marked by November 30th of the current competition year, for award consideration.

Introductory, Training, First and Second Levels: To qualify at each level, the horse & rider combination must submit four (4) scores earned at two (2) shows from two (2) different judges. One score must be from a CMDA show.

Third and Fourth Levels: To qualify at each level, the horse & rider combination must submit two (2) scores earned at two (2) different shows from two (2) different judges. One score must be from a CMDA show.

FEI (Prix St. Georges, Intermediate, Grand Prix): To qualify at each level, the horse & rider combination must submit two (2) scores earned at two (2) shows from two (2) different judges. One score must be from a CMDA show.

Western Dressage: To qualify at a level, the horse & rider combination must submit four (4) scores earned at two (2) different shows from two (2) different judges. One score must be from a CMDA show. Separation of divisions by junior/young rider, amateur, open and by levels will be at the discretion of the awards program manager.

Freestyles: To qualify, the horse & rider combination must submit two (2) scores earned at two (2) different shows from two (2) different judges. One score must be from a CMDA show.

Combined Test: To qualify, the horse & rider combination must submit two (2) scores earned at two (2) different shows from two (2) different judges. Due to only one CMDA show holding Combined Test classes, both scores can be from any show listed in the 2020 MDS Omnibus.



President: Matt Baillargeon

Vice-President: Amanda Flanders

Secretary: Marcie Hilden

Treasurer: Beth Brainerd

WMDA Year End Awards Guidelines for Competition Year 2020:

Due to Covid-19 concerns and restrictions WMDA will follow TMDS Options:

A box will be made up for each barn or group so that we can all still have a small version of an awards ceremony with our own barn family. Of course, please continue to follow the recommended guidelines, mask, social distancing...

Each box can be picked up at a designated location or delivered depending on the situation. If you are "on your own", please choose the barn where you would be comfortable picking up your award or make arrangements with Cassi. Please make a note on your Score Report Form which barn or group with which you want your awards included.

All the awards will be ready to be picked up or delivered by January 31, 2021.

Modified Requirements:

Intro through 2nd Level: You will need at least 4 scores from two shows and two different judges.

3rd Level and above: You will need to submit at least 2 scores from 2 shows and 2 different judges.

Medal requirements have not changed.

Specials Categories have also revised to match the above new requirements.

Thank you, hope you all had a great show season, and hang in there while we all navigate this new world!

The Maine Dressage Society

2020 Board of Directors:

President: Rebecca Reed

Vice President: Beth Brainerd

Secretary: Bryn Walsh

Treasurer: Kathleen Fox

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