It's not too late!
Join the
Western Pennsylvania
Dressage Association

Membership covers the
2018 competition year
& includes:

• Participation in WPDA shows and clinics
• Individual membership in the USDF
• Eligibility for year-end awards
• Voting & office holding privileges
• WPDA Team competition for Juniors and Adults
• Social events
• Annual banquet
• WPDA Handbook
• Membership Directory*
• Monthly Newsletter

*Available on request.

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Stay cool my friends!
WPDA Board meeting will be held Monday, August 6, at Atria’s, 5517 PA-8, Gibsonia, 724-444-7333 at 7:00 p.m. Members are welcome to attend. Please let Pam McCready know if you plan to attend so accommodations can be made in advance.

*****

News Flash! We have broken the 100 member mark! How exciting! Don’t stop now, though. Keep inviting!!

*****

Editor’s Note: A belated Thank You!! to Jenn Neil for scribing at the July Schooling show!

We love our volunteers!

To our juniors who competed at D4K – Well done! These girls rode their best, tended to their horses and still made their way to watch their teammates ride. They are competitive, yet supportive of each other. They look out for and encourage one another. This event consists of a written test, an equitation test and finally, the dressage test. The combined scores determine their overall placing as well as division placement and team placement. There are other events in which the juniors participate, such as a pizza party and then some fun tests on the last day of the event. This event is an annual favorite of the juniors and they spent the last few months working hard to raise money and studying their required reading. We also had Carli Gifford, a junior from NY who joined us last year and again this year. The juniors welcomed her into their team. The temperatures were quite warm since it was mid-July and we did have to make sure everyone stayed hydrated – two-legged and four-legged critters, alike. You can be proud of our WPDA juniors and, a very supportive big brother – Shane Noone!

~ Tina
A big thank you to those who sponsored either a class or ring at our WPDA Dressage Schooling Show at Fair Haven on August 4!

Dawne Sohn
Marjorielu McManus
Todd Allen, CJF
IC Eventing, Pamela Grigsby McCready
IC Dressage, Krista Tyco Noone
The Basso Family
Jerri Anesetti
WPDA Sanctioned Schooling shows. Judges pending unless otherwise noted. The list will be updated as information is received.

AUG. - 08/04/2018 – WPDA & TREA Sanctioned Schooling Show,
Fair Haven Farms, Kristin Hermann, Judge
08/19/2018 – Sydmor – awaiting confirmation
08/26/2018 – Horse on Course
SEPT.– 9/16/2018 - Horse on Course
9/30/2018 – Coventry Equestrian Center

For more current info and pics, visit our website at https://www.wpda.club and our Facebook page at What’s New - Western Pennsylvania Dressage Association.
Biosecurity for Horse Owners Away and at Home

By Nancy S Loving DVM | 7/13/2018
REPRINTED FROM USRIDER

You know how you feel when you are in a close space with someone coughing and sneezing nearby? Do you ever wonder to yourself why that person didn’t just stay home? Similarly, you probably want to avoid circumstances that might get your horse sick, particularly during the busy riding season. At an event, disease can be transmitted through handling of many horses by judges, trainers, veterinarians and farriers, or by people petting various horses. Horses walked around the grounds might be inclined to sample piles of leftover hay, burying muzzles in places where other horse noses have been. Just like the sick person coughing in range of your personal space, each physical contact potentially passes viruses or bacteria between animals.

Whether you are at home with your horse or away, hygiene and management practices are critical to defending against the introduction and/or spread of infectious diseases. This strategy is known as biosecurity.

Steps to Contain Contagious Disease

Certain steps are instrumental in minimizing disease outbreaks when a new horse is introduced to a property or at events where horses originate from many geographic locations to comingle. Health testing is one practical biosecurity measure that helps to fend off spread of disease. On your farm, arrange for every horse to have a current negative Coggins test for equine infectious anemia (EIA) and a health exam and certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) within the immediate time period (3-10 days) prior to a horse’s travel to or from the farm. This is a requirement for interstate travel and for many shows, clinics and equestrian events. For new horses entering the farm, further diagnostic testing can be performed on a horse with a questionable medical background or one that originates from a farm with recent history of disease exposure.

Consider only attending equine events that require both a negative Coggins within the past 6-12 months as well as a current health certificate. By all horses having to comply with these regulations, it provides a measure of security for all attending the event. This strategy won’t catch every possible disease issue due to incubation times before disease is evident, but it is better than not having any hands-on veterinary inspection at all. To maximize disease resistance, administer vaccine boosters at least 2–3 weeks in advance of anticipated exposure. Viral respiratory vaccines should be boosted twice a year to confer the best protection. All horses on your property should be vaccinated with the same products and at the same intervals.
to maximize herd immunity. And keep parasite control measures up-to-date as determined by annual fecal egg counts.

To minimize disease transmission, avoid nose-to-nose contact between horses. Avoid sharing of hay or feed between horses. Instead, supply each horse with its own feed and water bucket. Don’t permit your horse to drink from common water sources. In addition, avoid filling small buckets from large tanks contaminated by other horses, or using a hose that has been dunked into a common-use water tank. Also, refrain from dunking wash sponges, bits or hands into communal water tanks. Use a separate bucket of water specifically for that purpose, then discard the fouled water. If your horse is stabled in an area used by other horses prior to your arrival, take measures to disinfect as many surfaces as possible and remove used bedding before your horse is moved into the stall or paddock. Avoid sharing tack, equipment, grooming tools, blankets or gear between horses, and if equipment has been shared, thoroughly clean and disinfect it.

Resist the urge to pet other people’s horses. Wash your hands thoroughly before handling horses and carry a container of antiseptic hand gel to use after hand washing removes organic debris. Upon arrival at home, shower and change into clean clothes and shoes before mingling with the resident horses. It is also advisable to blow your nose, as it is possible to bring infectious organisms not just on your person, but also from within.

Biosecurity at Home

Protective measures at home begin with the introduction of every new horse to the farm as well as competition horses that come and go from the premises. Every new horse should be put in an isolation area that keeps the newcomer separate from resident horses. The isolation area must be located a sufficient distance apart—a shared fence line doesn’t provide an adequate barrier between a newcomer and the general population. Maintain this separation for 2-3 weeks. Mark isolation boundaries with signs and limit access only to necessary personnel. Clearly communicate biosecurity measures to all personnel on the farm, including boarders, visiting veterinarians, farriers, and feed and bedding suppliers.

Monitor all horses carefully for signs of disease, particularly when horses are away from home at an event, as well as those returning after co-mingling with outside horses and those in isolation. Check rectal temperature morning and night using a separate thermometer for each horse. Monitor appetite and feed intake, manure and urine output, and general well-being. Record all this data in a daily log. Observe carefully for signs of disease, such as cough, nasal discharge, loose feces or fever. Immediately consult with your veterinarian about any abnormalities. If you suspect a horse is sick, quarantine him away from all other horses until your veterinarian releases him. Any persons in contact with a sick horse should follow hygienic biosecurity practices before interacting with other horses on property. Prevent contact between horses in isolation and others on the farm not only by physical separation, but also with consideration of objects such as animals (including dogs) or people that might move between isolated and resident horses. This includes controlling movement of feeding, cleaning, tack and grooming equipment about the farm. Keep equipment, tools, bedding, buckets and feed containers used for newcomers separate from resident horses. It helps to label tack and
equipment so it is not shared inadvertently with other horses. Feed and water resident horses first, leaving chores for new or sick horses until last. Better yet, assign a specific caretaker to handle only those horses in isolation. Non-porous boots and overalls are useful to maximize biosecurity measures. Antiseptic foot baths or booties are another means of disinfecting before entering and upon leaving a stall. Keep drinking water sources separate, and carefully dispose of contaminated cleaning solutions and bedding. Use a separate transport system to remove soiled bedding and another to deliver feed. Exercise resident and new horses in separate areas when possible.

Additional biosecurity efforts include disinfection of equipment possibly contaminated with disease-causing agents. While it might be tempting to use wheeled equipment such as horse trailers, tractors, wheel barrows or manure spreaders throughout the farm, this could spread disease if precautions aren’t taken. Disinfect wheels, tires and external parts of tractors, wheelbarrows and manure spreaders. After returning a horse trailer from an event, park it away from the barns and paddocks and clean it thoroughly, disinfecting inside and out with Chlorox (1/4 cup per gallon of water), VirKonS, Tek-trol, or One Stroke Environ solutions. Dispose of hay that has been in contact with horses, and compost trailer shavings.

Another focus point to address is the removal of rodent and varmint attractants. These creatures serve as disease vectors by carrying bacteria and parasites on their mobile bodies. Discourage their presence with rodent-proof storage containers made of metal or heavy plastic and secured with lids. Lock feed storage containers away from opossum or raccoon access to prevent feed contamination with feces that could transmit diseases such as equine protozoal myelitis (EPM). Sweep daily to remove debris and spillage. Secure garbage and discard it regularly--these materials are attractants for varmint nesting or consumption. Clean and eliminate areas, holes and cracks that create hidden nesting sites for small animals. Set out traps and use the valuable resource of barn cats to keep rodent populations in check.

The Best Results

The smallest management details often have the greatest impact on your horses' general wellness. A comprehensive anti-disease program along with biosecurity measures provides the most healthful environment for your horses. Science is continually evolving to provide updated strategies in equine health care. With that in mind, consult regularly with your veterinarian to achieve the best results from preventive health care strategies.

Categories: Tips (/hauling-tips)
Tags: Equine Health (http://www.usrider.org/tag/Equine%20Health)
Words can’t describe how lucky and happy I was to be able to spend a weekend with 12 amazing teammates at the 20th anniversary of Lendon Gray’s Dressage 4 Kids Youth Dressage Festival. From the adventurous car rides to and from Saugerties New York, decorating our stalls, our crazy rides, cramming for the written test, packing a ton of people onto golf carts and so on; we made many exciting memories that will be remembered in the years to come. It was a pleasure to spend time with everyone there and get to know people better. Our theme that we came up with this year was the Roaring 20’s to honor the 20th anniversary of the show. We had a fun time coming up with decorations and dressing up in flapper dresses, sunglasses, hats, feather boas, and beads. Our different team names were the Great Gatsby Riders, the Bees Knees, the Flappers, and the Aristocrats. The people on the Great Gatsby Riders team included Emma Teff, Karli Gifford (a rider from New York), Erin Vensel, and Alli Salt. The people on the Bees Knees were Hanna Hudec, Olivia Kleeman, and Maggie Goddard. The riders on the Flappers team were Ava Noone, Grace Baierl, and Vanessa Miller. And finally, the people on the Aristocrats team were comprised of Maddie Goddard, Sierra Mock, and Mia Basso. Our teams ended up doing really well, with two of them ending up placing in the medals. I am so proud of how everyone did this year. Everyone put forth their best effort and rode well. I have to give a little shout out to Vanessa for winning her division. It is quite an impressive accomplishment. One of the things I am especially proud of is how supportive everyone was. If one of the riders had a difficult test, everyone would surround them and make them feel better. It is such a cool experience because you are on a team and that doesn’t usually occur when you travel places. Going to this show would not be possible without the help and backing from some wonderful people. I would like to thank everyone who made going to this show possible. To Pam and Krista who gave up their time to come and coach us, Miss Nina who organized everything, the people who donated, and the parents and friends of all the riders who drove us and were supportive. This show is a show like no other and I know it’s one we wouldn’t want to miss. ~ Grace Baierl
2019 Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Dressage Championship Dates and Locations Selected

Lexington, KY (May 10, 2018) – The United States Dressage Federation™ (USDF) has selected the dates and locations for the 2019 Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Dressage Championships, presented by SmartPak.

Dates and Locations*

Region 1 (October 3-6) at the Senator Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center, Williamston, NC
Region 2 (September 11-15) at the Waterloo Hunt Club, Grass Lake, MI
Region 3 (October 11-13) at the Georgia International Horse Park, Conyers, GA
Region 4 (September 26-29) at the Maffitt Lake Equestrian Center, Cumming, IA
Region 5 (September 19-22) at the Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO
Region 6 (September 19-22) at the Devonwood Equestrian Center, Sherwood, OR
Region 7 (September 19-22) at the Murieta Equestrian Center, Rancho Murieta, CA
Region 8 (September 19-22) at HITS on the Hudson, Saugerties, NY
Region 9 (October 3-6) at the Great Southwest Equestrian Center, Katy, TX

*This information may be subject to change.

These championships recognize the outstanding efforts of riders in each USDF region and provide an excellent opportunity for spectators to view the top competitors in their respective regions. Additionally, the top amateur and open riders at each of the championships, who have submitted a declaration of intent, and completed all other requirements, will receive an invitation to compete at the US Dressage Finals presented by Adequan®.

Kathy Sedlak of Great American Insurance Group added, “Our role as title sponsor of the regional championships has afforded a great opportunity to acknowledge outstanding individuals and the sport of dressage.”

Competitors qualify for Great American/USDF Regional Championships by competing in designated qualifying classes throughout the year at USDF-recognized dressage competitions. For more information on the regional championship program, or the US Dressage Finals presented by Adequan®, visit the USDF website at www.usdf.org or contact regchamps@usdf.org.

Founded in 1973, the United States Dressage Federation is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to education, recognition of achievement, and promotion of dressage. For more information about USDF membership or programs, visit www.usdf.org, email usdressage@usdf.org, or call (859) 971-2277.
Paparazzi Pics!

[Images of people and horses]
WPDA Officers:

Pam McCready, President (2018) , Silver Crest Equestrian Center, pgm1208@aol.com

Jerri Anesetti, Vice President (2018 + 2019), Skyline Stables, janesetti17@gmail.com

Barbara Wozniak, Treasurer (2018 + 2019), Silver Crest Equestrian Center, barbara@wozniaks.net

Fran Mocker, Secretary (2018), Greenmoor Commons Equestrian Center, dakotaequineenterprises@gmail.com

Board Directors:

Jan Baumann (2018), Greenmoor Commons Equestrian Center, jgbaumann@comcast.net

Nancy Sholtz (2018 + 2019), Silver Crest Equestrian Center, nancy.sholtz@lhh.com

Stephanie Bitz (2018 + 2019), Headacres Farm, sjbitz@gmail.com

Tina Vensel (2018), sewdressage@aol.com

Committees

Recognized Shows – Needs a new Chair
Sanctioned Schooling Shows – Jerri Annesetti
Adult Clinic – Stephanie Bitz
    Awards – Stephanie Bitz
Hospitality – Nancy Sholtz,
    Membership – Nancy Sholtz
Banquet – Nancy Sholtz
Education – Jan Baumann
Committees – cont’d

Junior/YR Team – Nina Teff, cnteff@zoominternet.net
Website and Social Media – Kaley Tomsic, kaleytomsic@gmail.com
Canter Cash – Kim Baierl, kbaierl@zoominternet.net
Newsletter & Communications – Tina Vensel

WPDA Junior Officers:

Jr. President – Erin Vensel, ravinchickiwi@aol.com
Jr. Team Competition Chair – Grace Baierl, catskillnola@icloud.com
Jr. Team Education Chair – Emma Teff, eteff@zoominternet.net
Jr. Finance & Fundraising Chair – Allison Salt, allie.alsmorgan.salt71@gmail.com
Jr. Social Chair – Hanna Hudec, hudechanna@gmail.com
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Send all advertising for the NewsBits to Tina Vensel (sewdressage@aol.com), with “WPDA AD” in the subject line. If you have any questions, call or text 724.554.0532.