

UTAH DRESSAGE SOCIETY

September 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Meeting location: 3191 S 3300 E #230, SLC, UT 84109

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Nance Allen, President; MJ Babcock, Vice President; Alison Child, Treasurer; Carol Kounanis, Membership Director; Sari Stevens, Communications Director; Corinne Cody, Director of Competitions; Eva Adolphi, Special Advisor; Christine Celestino, Secretary. ABSENT: Cathleen Torina, Special Events

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:40pm

Motion to approve August meeting minutes: MJ motioned to approve. All in favor.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

FINANCIAL REPORT: Alison reports that all sponsorship money has been collected with one exception, for the Annual Show. The show totaled approximately \$19,000 in total income with approximately \$14,000 in expenses to date with the venue bill still pending. Overall, the show will make a profit.

Nance reports the establishment of a debit card for small UDS expenditures.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Carol reported 182 members, with 31 Jr/YRs. Carol also reported the following:

- One nomination has been submitted for the new unsung hero award.
- J/YRs cleaned 18 stalls at the Annual show, earning \$360 towards their October clinic.
- The J/YR tack sales earned over \$600 for the summer.
- Two newsletter articles were submitted for the GMO awards; Alison was nominated for USDF volunteer of the year.
- Shelly and Madison Bigler each applied for grants to attend the convention.

ADVISOR REPORT: See Annual Show comments below.

OLD BUSINESS

ANNUAL SHOW: Overall, the score report from the TD was good for everything except the food, and the survey results from the competitors showed positive results with all respondents except one stating that they would return next year. The following comments and recommendations were made regarding the annual show (organized by topic):

- Getting there:
 - Directions were needed for people traveling from multiple areas (Provo, Park City, etc.)
 - Signage also needed on the roads for people approaching the Event Center from different directions.

- Clarification needed regarding haul-in fee versus grounds fee.
- Getting around the show grounds:
 - Signs needed indicating where the Show office is located, what the concession hours are, where the warm-up is, where longeing can take place, and which warm-up areas are open or closed for riding.
 - Volunteers needed at all warm-up and longeing locations.
 - Gates are needed and need to be manned to prevent spectators walking through the warm-up to get to the competition arenas.
- Stabling:
 - Size and quality of the stalls was very good and complemented by many.
 - Availability of wash racks and cleaning tools was good.
 - Parking for the barn was good.
 - Bedding availability was good. Event center was notified on Wednesday of pre-orders and provided a locked stall with extra for those who did not pre-order.
 - Hours that the barn was open (6pm to 10pm) were good. There were no complaints or requests to keep the barn open longer.
 - \$20 cleaning fee was higher than last year and served as a good incentive for people to clean out their stalls. J/YR cleaned 18 stalls and earned \$360 towards their clinic. Only 13 stalls were left uncleaned by their owners or the J/YRs; most of these were day stalls.
 - We need to be consistent regarding whether the charge for stalls is per day or per night.
 - Additional signage was needed regarding Day stall availability
 - The USEF veterinarian needed a stall
 - There is a concern that the Event Center allowed outside boarder traveling through to stay for the night. Concerns include diseases and insurance.
 - In the future, the Event Center has asked us to consolidate the stalls into one area of the barn to reduce the amount of cleaning that they have to do after we leave, if we do not fill the barn.
- Food:
 - Food was noticeably better on Sunday than on the previous day(s), although the quality and selection was poor for the entire show.
 - Chairs and tables were needed near the concession stand.
 - Limited time that concessions was open (10am-2pm) was a problem. Breakfast and dinner were not covered.
 - Idea to provide free food in the barn with a donation box, but food handler's permits may be a stumbling block.
- Other:
 - There was one recommendation to move the judges to the side closest to the entrance. However, other board members stated that they disagreed with this idea. Corinne indicated that with the runners using a golf cart, the access to the judge is the same regardless of the side on which we place the judge's stand.
 - Footing may be further improved for next fall.
 - Bathrooms need more cleaning during the show.

- A third boxcar for manure is needed.
- Photographer needed onsite all three days.
- One recommendation to have separate ribbons for the owner and rider was voted down due to the expense of the ribbons. The horse owner receives all awards and decides what to give or not give to their horse's trainer/rider.
- Banner of donors should be more visible.
- Speakers in the barn would be helpful to alert competitors to who is riding at any given time and any other announcements.
- The hats and pins were a hit. People really liked them. A policy regarding the procedure for multiple wins is needed at the prize table.
- We need to talk to Wasatch Pony Club about arranging the calendar so that our shows do no conflict.
- Next year, show fees will likely increase by over 100% (from \$0.45 to \$1.50 per completed test) for the USDF/USEF recognized shows in order to match the hunter/jumper show fees.
- **Name change:** The three days of showing (short tour + two days of recognized shows) will all be managed by Two-White Feet next year. The Board decided to call this weekend of shows at the Events Center the "UDS Annual Show Days".

ANNUAL BANQUET : The board discussed awards. There will not be separate ribbons for owners and riders. Additional, more for-fun awards that were proposed will not be included.

WEBSITE DESIGN: Sari reported that the website is on the new server and will soon resolve to .org. The new site should be up by the end of this month.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD POSITIONS: President, Membership Director, Secretary, and Events are all up for election. Ballots go out by October 6th.

DEBIT CARD: A debit card has been established for use by the Events Director and Competitions Director. \$1,500 will be available on the card at any given time. Use requires prior approval by the UDS President. The Treasurer will include debit card expenses as a line-item in the budget report each month. MJ suggested making sure that the card is PIN protected. Nance suggested dropping the limit to \$1,000. MJ motioned to approve the card and spending limit at \$1,000. All were in favor.

PROPOSALS: Nance put forth four proposals for consideration. These proposals are found in their full form in the September meeting agenda. Discussion was as follows:

- #1 Proposal: A New Name:
 - Discussion was very positive towards developing a name for all three days. Corinne will check with Heather to ensure that this does not violate USEF/USDF rules. Name "UDS Annual Show Days" was proposed and agreed upon.
- #2 A Single Annual Show Management Team for ST Championship and Annual Shows:
 - This has been done. Heather Petersen and Simone Windeler (2 White Feet) will manage all three shows in the future.

- #3 Proposal to host Region 5 Championship in 2015:
 - Paperwork would need to be filed in February 2014.
 - Collectives is not interested in taking this on.
 - Decided 2015 is too soon. UDS needs to strengthen and develop its Annual Show and get more enthusiasm locally before it can host the Region Championships.
- #4 Marketing Director position to become Education Director instead:
 - Discussion regarding what would happen to the Omnibus. Website should be the base of all of this information. Competitions Director, Short Tour and Hoofprints (Nance and MJ) all work together to collect show information. Sari can assemble it into a document. We would disseminate a less flashy omnibus with the same information.
 - Education director would be an odd year position. We would need to fill it for the coming year and then have elections next fall.
 - Needs to be announced at the Annual Meeting and in a system-wide email.
 - Alison motioned to approve. All were in favor.
- #5 One Day Level One Competition:
 - The idea is for a local STS venue to put on a level one competition with three opportunity classes for individuals interested in trying a rated show.
 - Challenge would be money. Funding a judge could be done by sharing the cost with another show on the same weekend.
 - Is the role of the UDS to offer shows?
 - There is also concern about the perception of the board preferring one barn over others in choosing the venue. The venue could rotate each year.
 - Competitions Director would have to be in charge. This would be a challenge given the individual's work-load for the Annual Show as it already exists.
 - Nance expressed that if the board does not want the UDS to do this, she will likely do it as a Hoofprints show at Lynnleigh instead.
 - Alison motioned to deny. All were in agreement against this proposal.
- #6 Immediate Past President Board position:
 - Position would be like the special advisor position but with voting privileges.
 - Concern of adding a voting position which would create an even number of votes and potential for ties.
 - Some raised the opinion that they would rather have a new working position than a new position only for voting.
 - Some other GMOs do have this position.
 - Could instead have a President Elect position in the future allowing the outgoing president time to train the incoming president.
 - Concern was raised that all voting positions should be electable by the UDS membership.
 - Nance motioned to approve. None in favor. The motion did not pass.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:40PM

NEXT MEETING, October 2nd 6:30PM <--update: Meeting moved to October 9th so that a

quorum of members could be in attendance.