



Centerline

A monthly publication dedicated to communicating the latest local & regional dressage news & information to enrich Oklahoma dressage riders' equestrian experience.

FEBRUARY

2020

USDF, Region 9 & TDF Updates

Hear some of the latest news from sister organizations!

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ODS & GCC 2020 Calendars

Mark your calendars now for an awesome 2020!

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ODS Recognized outstanding riders at the annual banquet.

See who's smiling now!

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ODS Members at Nationals & Regionals

Way to represent!

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Hurry! Feb 22

Don't miss this opportunity to fine tune your skills!

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ODS April Symposium

Come learn from Beth Baumert in April!!

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And So Much More!

Letter From The President

Greetings to you good folks of ODS!

Here we all are, heading into a new year with a new Board, new President, and lots of hopes and dreams for what may come in 2020. I would like to start off with my expression of gratitude to all of you who put in your time and effort at making ODS as successful as it is. Whether you take on a Board position, either for ODS or for the Green Country Chapter, or work diligently in the relative background, volunteering at shows or events, I am personally grateful for your all. That phrase, "it takes a village", is certainly true, and I'm glad I live in our village of people who are engaged with Dressage, at any and all levels. Thanks for being part of it!

There is a lot of word play with 2020 being a year of vision and clarity, but it sure can be true. It is no doubt good for us all to take time to think about, and clarify, what our dreams and goals are for the coming year. What is our (ODS) vision for the year? What is YOUR vision for the year? Maybe it is as purely simple as having harmonious, joyful rides on our horses (always my goal when I ride), or maybe it is stepping up your own personal game and getting into the show ring, be it schooling shows, a recognized show, or putting your eye on the Regional Championships. Whatever it may be, ODS is dedicated to creating opportunities to help you along your path.

We have three great educational programs scheduled for the year, and hopefully they have appeal across the spectrum of

riders. Feb 22 is a Judging Seminar that is definitely not just for judges. If you show, you will gain insights as to the standards of what judges look for. If you don't show, it is still valuable to see what "correct" is, because that will help with your everyday riding. Our Spring Symposium in April brings Beth Baumert, talking about the melding of riders with their horses. This sounds like harmony to me, and don't we all want that? The Summer Meeting will feature Florence Wetzel, a certified bit fitter discussing anatomy and the effect of bits, something that is important to all levels of riding. Find more information about these two events elsewhere in the newsletter, or on line. We of course have our two Level 3 Recognized Shows coming up, and thanks to GCC there is a full slate of schooling shows. In the Fall we will again offer our Free Clinic for Volunteers, because we so appreciate you and couldn't do all this without you.

So what are your visions for beyond 2020, for either yourself or ODS? We have a very exciting Board, and ideas have been flying around! There is a reformed Scholarship Committee that will be working on making that money more easily available, plus we have



Kay Kamish aboard Odakai

[continued on pg 25]



USDF Region 9 Summer Meeting

The Region 9 Summer Meeting will be held in the Dallas area on August 1, 2020. Please put it on your calendar. All attendees are eligible to vote on the various issues affecting our region. More information soon.



Region 9: Participating Member Nominations Open In All Regions

Deadline: April 15, 2020

A nominee MUST:

- Be a current USDF Participating Member
- Reside in the region for which they run for election
- Attend the 2020 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention in Omaha, NE

Email nominations to: nominations@usdf.org.



Continuing Education: Freestyle Seminar in Dallas

Dallas Dressage Club is offering a Freestyle Seminar with Joan Darnell February 8, 2020. Contact Becky at Becky.Brown6823@gmail.com



Two New Grant Funds From The Dressage Foundation

Max E. Gahwyler Instructor Education Fund Announced

We are honored to announce the new "Max E. Gahwyler Instructor Education Fund." The purpose of

this Fund is to provide financial support for educational events for dressage instructors.

"Dr. Max" was an early pioneer of dressage in the United States. He was a nationally and internationally recognized judge and was instrumental in bringing the best teaching and judging talent over from Europe. He passed away at the age of 92 in 2016.

His beloved wife, Doris, passed away at the age of 94 in 2019. This Fund was established with a gift that Doris left in her Will for the Foundation. She asked that her gift be used to provide financial support for the continuing education of dressage instructors in memory of Max.

Lynn Palm Establishes Western Dressage Grant Fund at TDF

Lynn Palm has established a new Grant Fund in celebration of her 50 years as a professional equestrian and to give back to the sport she loves. Lynn believes that the classical training principles of dressage are applicable and beneficial to all levels of riders, breeds of horses and riding disciplines.

This Fund will provide financial support for Western Dressage educational events such as clinics, camps and symposia, with clinicians of choice.

"My goal for this Fund is for it to help grow the sport of Western Dressage," Lynn shared. "I believe that education is how this can be accomplished!"

Full details about these and other grant funds are available at www.dressagefoundation.org.



NEW
& IMPROVED FORMULA



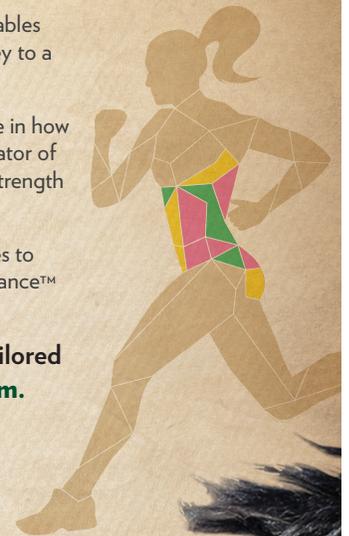
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Events

2020 CALENDAR

Our calendar is shaping up nicely for the coming year! We have a variety of Educational events planned, as well as our two Recognized Shows. Green Country Chapter will be organizing and running our Schooling Shows. Come join us for the fun!

Events marked with * are interesting events from out of state, or are USDF events.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| *January 20-21 | USDF Trainers Conference, Loxahatchee, Florida
(see the USDF webpage for information) |
| January 25 | ODS Annual General Meeting
Tulsa Country Club
(See announcement in this newsletter) |
| *February 8 | Dallas Dressage Club: Freestyle Judging Seminar
CE for "L" Graduates; Certification for Judges
(see the DDC webpage for information/registration) |
| February 22 | ODS Judging Seminar with Beverly Rogers , Belle Isle Public Library, OKC
>Special session for Juniors<
CE for "L" Graduates; Approved by USDF. USDF University Credit
(See registration form in this newsletter) |
| April 4-5 | ODS Spring Symposium with Beth Baumer
"Dressage Dynamics ~ Developing Unity Between Horse and Rider" |
| May 2-3 | ODS Spring Dressage Show I and II USEF Level 3 Competition
Tulsa Expo Center
(prize list: www.showsecretary.com) |
| June 13-14 | Green Country Dressage Classic I and II USEF Level 3 Competition
Claremore Expo Center
(prize list: www.showsecretary.com) |
| July 18 | ODS Summer Meeting and Education, Tulsa
"The Anatomy of the Horse and Fitting of Bits"
Florence Wetzel , Certified Bit Fitter |
| July 19 | Bit Fitting Clinic with Florence Wetzel
>>looking for a host barn in Tulsa and/or OKC area!<< |
| *August 1 | Region 9 Summer Meeting, Dallas |
| September | FREE ODS Volunteers Clinic |
| *October 1-4 | Region 9 Championships, Houston, Texas |
| *November 5-8 | US Dressage Finals, Lexington, Kentucky |
| *December 2-6 | USDF Annual Convention, Omaha, Nebraska |



<Contact Education Coordinator Kay Kamish for further information on Educational Events>
kkamishods@aol.com



Events

Green Country Chapter of Oklahoma Dressage Society 2020 Schooling Show Schedule



March 28, 2020

Joyful Noise Farm, 3166 S 432 Rd, Pryor, OK 74361

Judge – Roberta Clark

April 18, 2020

Sonrise Stables, 13401 S 129th E Ave, Broken Arrow, OK 74011

Judge – Kay Kamish

May 16, 2020 – Premier Dressage, 18597 Highway 51B, Coweta, OK 74429

Judge – Gail Matheus

July 25, 2020 – TBD

Judge – Lyn Francik

September 19, 2020

Sonrise Stables, 13401 S 129th E Ave, Broken Arrow, OK 74011

Judge – Sherry Guess

October 17, 2020

Joyful Noise Farm, 3166 S 432 Rd, Pryor, OK 74361

Judge – TBD

November 14, 2020

Joyful Noise Farm, 3166 S 432 Rd, Pryor, OK 74361

Judge – Wanja Gerlach

2020 Green Country Dressage Classic

June 13-14, 2020

Claremore Expo Center -- 400 Veterans Pkwy, Claremore, OK 74017

Judges – Dorie Vlatten-Schmitz (S) & Sue Kolstad (S)

TD – Susan Lang

Announcements



ODS Trailer Gets An Overhaul!

The Board recently voted to repaint the faithful ODS arena trailer. We took it to Mike White, who had also painted horse trailers for Kay Kamish and Marta Koenig. He did a splendid job and had decals made and applied them. He also resealed all the seams in the trailer so we won't have any leakage problems. This is a trailer that will last us for many more years and will be an attractive representative of ODS.



Congrats, ODS Year-End Award Winners!

At the ODS Annual General Meeting & Awards Banquet in Tulsa in January, several members were honored with ribbons and swag for their hard work in the show arena. Congrats on a job well done in 2019!



Announcements



**More Scenes
From The
Year-End
Award Banquet!**

Announcements



OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY

CONGRATULATES ANOTHER ODS RIDER WHO WENT TO REGIONAL FINALS !!!

We didn't have Anna Droegemueller's picture last month, but here she is with her Florianna. They showed at Training Level at the Region 4



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OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY

CONGRATULATES OUR ODS RIDERS WHO WENT TO REGIONAL and NATIONAL FINALS !!!



Nancy Burba on Just A London Lady
 *7th Open Training Level
 Region 4 Championships, Iowa
Kyrianna Beard on Nancy's horse,
 Checkers
 *Reserve Champion 14 and Under
 Dressage Equitation



Mimi Benton on Holly Luke's
 Dior Region 9
 *(66.5%) Second Level
National Finals
 *(65.1%) in the Top 10

Kristin Knutson on Vashti

Region 9

SWDC Grand Prix Champion
 GAIG Intermediate 2 Champion
 GAIG Grand Prix Reserve Champion
 GAIG Grand Prix Freestyle Reserve Champion

US Dressage National Finals

Reserve Champion at Intermediate 2
 Reserve Champion at Grand Prix Freestyle
 10th at Grand Prix





Bay Greenhill on Licelliano (Leo)

*4th Open Intermediare I
Region 4 Championships, Iowa



Bay's Student,
Nicole Bossler went to Region 4 with two horses

Commandant (Caper)

* 6th Training Level Jr/YR
*9th First Level Jr/YR

and

Kelico

*3rd Third Level Jr/YR



**KUDOS TO ALL THESE RIDERS FOR THEIR TIME, EFFORT, EXPENSE AND COMMITMENT
YOU ARE AN INSPIRATION TO US ALL. WELL DONE!!!**



USDF APPROVED
for
"L" Graduate CE



USDF
University
Credit
Approved!

UPGRADE YOUR JUDGING EYE 1

Judging Seminar with Beverly Rogers "S"
Saturday, February 22, 2020

<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Location</u>
0900	Registration	OKC Public Library Belle Isle Branch 5501 N. Ville Avenue OKC, OK 73112
0930-1015	Program focused on Junior Riders	
1030	Full program begins Introductory Training Level	
1230-130	Lunch	
130 - 330	First Level Second Level	
330 - 430	Tests of Choice Freestyle	
430 -500	Wrap up and Questions	

<u>Fees</u>	
<u>{Non-ODS Members add \$5.00}</u>	
Participating "L"	\$50.00 {\$55}
Auditors	\$35.00 {\$40}
Juniors	\$25.00 {\$30}

Registration

Name _____ ODS Member? Y N
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Registering as:

Participating "L"	_____
Auditor	_____
Junior	_____
Non-member (add \$5.00)	_____
University Credit (Free with this Program)	Y ___ N ___
Total	_____

Mail Registration and Check made to: Oklahoma Dressage Society to:

Kay Kamish 25395 S. 4130 Road #B, Claremore, Oklahoma 74019
kkamishods@aol.com 918.808.6128



Events



OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY
presents

2020 SPRING SYMPOSIUM

****Mustang Arena, Tulsa Expo Center****
15th Street, Gate 7 Between Yale and Harvard Ave

APRIL 4 - 5
with

BETH BAUMERT

**“DRESSAGE DYNAMICS ~ ~
DEVELOPING UNITY BETWEEN HORSE AND RIDER”**

Beth is the familiar author of numerous articles in Dressage Today, where she was the original Editor, and Technical Editor for 15 years. The position gave her access to some of the top Dressage Riders of the World. She is currently the President of **The Dressage Foundation**, and is dedicated to facilitating the accessibility of Education for all riders.

This Symposium will offer three lectures by Beth (open to Riders and Auditors) and semi-private mounted sessions designed to offer valuable instruction to the riders, while addressing Auditors as well. Beth will draw from her well known book, and handouts will be given to riders and auditors.

FEES	
Riders	\$300 (ODS Members) \$350 (non-members)
Auditors	ODS Members \$50/1 day \$80/2 days
	Non-members \$60/1 day \$90/2 days



OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY PRESENTS THE:

Spring Dressage Show I & II

MAY 2-3 • 2020

TULSA EXPO CENTER • TULSA, OK
A USEF LEVEL 3 COMPETITION*

CLIMATE
CONTROLLED
ARENAS

FRI NIGHT
STALL
CRAWL

SAT NIGHT
DERBY PARTY
& SILENT
AUCTION

Judges

Scott Peterson "S" (Penn Yan, NY)

Kem Barbosa "S" (Princeton, NJ)

Julie Madriguera "R" (Pilot Point, TX)

TD: Joyce Hardesty "R" (Kansas City, MO)

Qualifier For

2020 Great American/USDF Regional Championships

2020 Southwest Dressage Championship

2020 Oklahoma Dressage Society Year-End Awards Program

*Applied for developing program qualifiers
(JR/YR/YA, YH & DH)

DRESSAGEOKLAHOMA.ORG
SHOWSECRETARY.COM

Opening Date: March 1, 2020

Closing Date: April 12, 2020

Show Features:

Freestyle Competition • Champion & High Score Awards • Thoroughbred Incentive Program
Opportunity Classes • Para-Equestrian Classes • NDPC Pony Partner Show • AQHA Dressage Program
Friday Night Stall Crawl • Saturday Evening Derby Party • Silent Auction • Climate Controlled Arenas





Region 9 Youth Schooling Show Challenge

A certificate program offered to the Youth of Region 9.

Award:

A customized certificate featuring all five Region 9 states with the Youth's state highlighted will be e-mailed at no cost. In addition, an embroidered patch can be purchased for \$15 if desired.

Requirements:

- Region 9 Youth are eligible for one certificate per level per year (December 1-November 30)
- Must be under 21 during the current membership year in which scores were earned
- Must be a current member of a Region 9 Group Member Organization (GMO) **or** live in Region 9 and be a member of a GMO in another region if that GMO is closer to the youth's home.
- Scores must be earned in one membership year
- Scores may be earned on one or multiple horses per level
- Four (4) minimum scores from schooling shows only with at least one score being from the highest test of the level from three different judges (L graduate or above)

Levels and minimum scores:

Intro 64%	1 st 60%
Training 62%	2 nd and above 58%

How to apply:

Send copies of front of each test showing Youth name, date, location, score, and judge's signature to the Region 9 Youth Programs representative. The tests must be from schooling shows, not recognized shows. The tests can either be sent by mail or scanned and e-mailed. A separate form must be sent for each level achieved. Contact information for the Region 9 Youth Programs representative can be found on the Region 9 webpage www.usdfregion9.org. If a patch is desired, send a check payable to Region 9 Youth Fund to the Region 9 Youth Program representative along with the application. Please send application by December 31 or notify the Region 9 Youth Programs representative if application will be coming shortly afterwards.

Youth application:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Age _____ Level _____ GMO _____

Horse name(s) _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Parent/Guardian phone and/or e-mail _____

Updated 1/2020



How To Use The ODS Website: Passwords

We have heard from a number of members that they can't sign in because they don't know their password. Here is how to deal with that issue.

Try to sign in. If you have forgotten your password, click on the forgot password link. That will send a message to Sue Twitty, our webmaster. She will then go onto the website where there is a "button" she clicks on and you will receive an email with a new temporary password. Keep in mind that Sue may not see your message immediately. So please give her some time.

Once you get the temporary password. Sign in and go to your profile. That link is under your name in the upper right corner of the website.

Go to the website section in the right column. In that box click on the user name/password link. A box will open showing your user name and boxes to reset your password. Enter a new password.

Make sure you write it down somewhere. Then make sure you check the box below the new password, that says "remember me on this device". That way every time you sign in on that device you don't have to remember your password. The system will automatically sign you in.

I have three devices I use, my phone, my iPad, and my desktop. That is why I say write your password down. You will need it to sign in from a new device until you sign in from all of your devices. Then toss it. I have no idea what my password is! The system automatically logs me in from any of my devices.

-Pamela DeVore



Thank You, USDF, For Your Support!

Oklahoma Dressage Society sends our thanks and gratitude to USDF for their generous support of our Spring Symposium with Beth Baumert, April 4, 5, 2020
Through the GMO Education Initiative, USDF has awarded us \$1000.00 to help bring this valuable Education to Oklahoma.

Thank You, The Dressage Foundation, For Your Support!

Thank you, The Dressage Foundation, for awarding ODS with the Edgar Hotz Grant for the upcoming judging seminar! This \$800 grant is much appreciated!



Judging Western Dressage at Schooling Shows What USDF L-Graduates Need To Know

As an L-Graduate, you've just agreed to judge a schooling show several months away, and as you look at the entry form, you realize that you are also going to be judging Western dressage. Although as an L-Graduate you have attended and passed the excellent L-Program sessions and the required annual continuing education, you have no experience with judging Western dressage. Wanting to give the Western Dressage competitors comments which are appropriate to their discipline, you seek out additional information about Western dressage. As you begin researching and reading, you realize that contrary to what you perhaps initially believed, Western dressage is not just English dressage ridden in Western tack. Although Western dressage as a discipline may be fairly new, there are many resources available for you to learn the basics and more.

Western Dressage Educational Sessions. Western dressage became a US Equestrian Federation (USEF) affiliate in 2013 and the Western Dressage Association of America (WDAA) has their own program to train Western Dressage judges with licensing completed through the USEF. Similar to the USDF L-Program sessions, anyone can audit the Western dressage judge training program (click link for more information: <https://westerndressageassociation.org/western-dressage-judges-education-program> and anyone can also attend Western dressage "Train the Trainer" seminars held several times a year. Many of these training sessions (both classroom and live demonstration) are taught by WDAA officials as well as USEF licensed "traditional" dressage judges or riders/trainers who have various USDF medals to their credit. These two educational programs offer the best opportunities for L-graduates to learn about Western dressage principles from knowledgeable professionals who understand the difference between traditional dressage and Western dressage.

If you have not been able to attend any of these sessions, but still find yourself with Western dressage to judge at an upcoming show, how do you prepare?

WDAA Website Documents. WDAA.org has several documents on their website which discuss the judging principles (<https://westerndressageassociation.org/western-dressage-rules-tests/>) including a Glossary of Terms, Judge Guidelines, the USEF rules, and Judge Guidelines for Gaited horses. The Judge Guideline document also discusses how the breed and conformation of a Western dressage horse are to be considered when judging the various portions of a Western Dressage test. There is also an Attire and Equipment book which discusses the required attire for both horse and rider. There are videos of rides of various levels for study (complete with judge comments), but to access them you must be a WDAA member (membership link is on the WDAA website). All of these resources will assist you in developing a foundation for what Western dressage is all about.

Western Dressage Tests. As with any dressage show, become familiar with the tests to be judged (<https://westerndressageassociation.org/wdaa-tests/>). Western Dressage tests have some movements not seen in traditional dressage tests, such as turn on the forehand, turn on haunches (which can be performed as a pivot), and "free jog." One of the Level 2 tests has a centerline turn on the forehand directly to a turn on the haunches, which takes careful attention to watch for the proper direction of the turns, the sequence of footfalls required for the turns, the appropriate score and comment for each turn ---all in a matter of 5 to 10 seconds. The collective marks for Western dressage are similar (Gaits, Impulsion, Rider Position Seat/ Hands, Rider Effectiveness) with the notable omission of "submission" score, which is replaced by the fifth collective mark for "Harmony."

The Western dressage tests start with Introductory and Basic, and go through Level 4, with freestyles able to be shown at all levels. As with traditional freestyles, the tests themselves list allowed and forbidden

Judging Western Dressage (cont'd)

movements, and indicate the various coefficients for harmony, choreography, degree of difficulty, music and interpretation.

Introductory – Walk/Jog only, with halts at various points in the tests.

Basic – similar to Training Level, with circles of 20 meters, canter to jog transitions.

Level 1 – similar to First Level (leg yield, lengthened lope) with some elements of 2nd Level (canter to walk transition, turn on haunches, reinback)

Level 2 – similar to Second Level (simple changes, counter lope, turn on haunches). Sitting trot is required at Level 2.

Level 3 – similar to Third Level (but no flying changes, and turn on the haunches where horse must pivot at this level)

Level 4 – similar to Fourth Level (non-sequential flying changes, pirouettes at lope)

Gaits of the Western Dressage horse. The Western dressage horse must have 3 clear gaits – a 4-beat walk, a 2-beat jog with a moment of suspension, and a 3-beat lope. Any impurity in the gait is not to be rewarded. Excessive speed or slowness which puts the horse out of balance is to be penalized. The Western dressage horse, while exhibiting these pure gaits, is not meant to show the “maximum expression of gaits,” like traditional dressage; therefore there is no medium or extended paces in the jog or the lope, only lengthening. Gaited horses are also allowed in Western dressage, but are to be judged in classes for gaited horses. The walk of the gaited horse still must be 4-beat, and the lope 3-beat, but the “jog” is replaced by the “saddle gait,” which can have various rhythms depending on horse breed, but the same rhythm must be maintained throughout the individual test. Gaited horses have more difficulty bending in the corners and on circles, as well as performing leg yields and half passes, but tests do not make any concessions for the physical limitations or challenges faced by the gaited horse. See the Guidelines for the Gaited Horse on WDAA site under “Education and Tests.”

Rules. The source for definitive answers regarding rules is the USEF rulebook chapter on Western Dressage (<https://westerndressageassociation.org/western-dressage-rules-tests/>). For the most part, judging the Western dressage test is similar to traditional dressage (score of 0 to 10, with half points allowed, 3 errors or prolonged resistance results in elimination, rider must enter within 45 seconds of bell) but there are some notable differences as well as other similarities:

- • Bucking results in elimination (exuberance into lope is usually not considered bucking)
- • Quiet use of voice is allowed
- • Rein holds (riding with one hand or with two) must be examined to determine if correct, and rider cannot switch from one rein hold to another within the test (see Equipment and Attire book on Rules page)
- • Curb bit is allowed at all levels (see sidebar for further discussion)
- • Turn on Haunches – horse can perform a pivot or step-step-step turn, but at Level 3 and above the pivot (nearly stationary hind foot) is required to meet test requirement.
- • Lengthenings occur at jog and lope, but there is no medium or extended in the jog or lope. There is an extended walk.
- • Sitting or posting is allowed up through Level 1, with sitting jog required at Level 2 and above. In tests of ALL levels, the lengthened jog may be ridden posting.
- • Gaits - Free walk – should have overstep, just like traditional, dressage and lope must be 3 beat, not 4 beat.
- • Hard hat is allowed, but a traditional western cowboy hat is also allowed (but local or prize list rules may require a hard hat)
- • Free jog is required, which is somewhat similar to a “stretchy trot.” The horse's neck is out, down, and forward, with the nose slightly in front of the vertical, with a loose rein and the poll at

Judging Western Dressage (cont'd)

at approximately the same height as the wither (the neck is level). The horse's strides are longer, in balance, but not hurried

Helpful Tips when Judging:

- • Remember to use the words “jog” and “lope,” not “trot” and “canter” when dictating to the scribe.
- • Know what figures and movements are within each “box” on the test, requiring a score. Some tests have scores for a corner, or a 12 meter segment, and without knowing the test it is easy to miss a score. The Western tests do not necessarily follow the same patterns of the English tests as related to specific movements or patterns, and then a score.
- • Cowboy hats are allowed at USEF- Recognized shows, but safety helmets may be required by local standards. Check with local show organizers for their rules.
- • Watch the rein holds and penalize appropriately(eliminate) if rider clearly switches from two hand to one hand or vice versa. Romal reins must be ridden one handed. See Equipment and Attire book for more information.
- • Gloves are not required, but long sleeve shirt is required. White polo wraps or polos the same color of the horse are allowed, but protective boots are not allowed. Fly bonnets of discrete color are allowed. Mechanical hackamores are not allowed, but Western bitless bridles are allowed (but not sidepulls)

Western Dressage is still a very young discipline, and judging methodology and criteria have been developing through this discipline's early years. Riders seeking input from judges expect to receive fair and appropriate comments for their discipline, and therefore those judging Western Dressage classes for the first time would do well to take a bit of time to study the discipline's basic principles and study the tests that ask increasingly difficult questions of the competitors. Every rider who presents themselves to a judge should have a positive experience and come away with scores and comments which encourage them to go home and school toward creating a better equine athlete and partner – whether in Western tack or English tack.

SideBar - The Bits of Western Dressage.

Although the leverage (curb) bit is not introduced in traditional English dressage competition until Third Level, Western dressage allows the use of a curb bit at any level, including Introductory. A person new to judging Western dressage needs to be aware that most any bit is allowed, curb and snaffle, at any level. See the USEF rules and Western Dressage Attire and Equipment Guide for more information and pictures of legal/illegal bits.

The reasons behind Western dressage allowing the curb at all levels are two fold – one, Western dressage is strongly steeped in the Western tradition, up to and including the rare finished spade bit horse, and the traditional Western horse is usually introduced to the curb bit relatively early in its career. The second reason is that many of the horses who are transitioning through the levels of Western dressage are doing so after a prior career (after all, Western dressage is quite new) and many were trained and shown in curb bits and are more comfortable being shown in a curb. Just as in English dressage, the bit in the horse's mouth should not be considered in the score, but the overall performance of the horse, as well as the effectiveness of the rider's aids may be affected by the horse's acceptance of the rider's choice of bits.

Tulsa Boys Home Equine Program (cont'd)



December 28, 2019



Dear [REDACTED],

I hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season and are enjoying blessed 2020. As you may already know I was awarded my dream job of Riding Instructor here at the Tulsa Boys Home in September, 2019. Shortly after I dove into my new assignments and responsibilities, I immediately recognized the need for suitable mounts for our boys. Most of the existing herd has been retired and only a few horses are physically able to be part of the program due to age and physical capabilities. The boys need at least 4 more quality schooling horses.

About that same time I discovered the Wild Horse Inmate Program (WHIP) – a collaborative venture between the BLM and Arizona Department of Corrections. Wild Mustangs are harvested off of public lands and trained by inmates. The horses are then sold to the public. Extremely long story short, I traveled to the Arizona Prison in Florence, AZ, reviewed their program and brought home 2 Mustangs for our Equine Program. I love these horses, they are intelligent and more than willing to adapt to the needs of our boys.

Since we are still short at least 4 horses, I am reaching out to you with the hope that you would donate funds to purchase schooling horses for our boys. Our goal is to raise at least \$10,000 to meet the immediate need.

The horses we are considering purchasing are Mustangs that are competing in the Extreme Mustang Makeover in Fort Worth, Texas January 23-26. Again, Mustangs are the perfect horses for our program because they adapt easily, are highly intelligent, easy to keep, stout and mild mannered.

Please consider donating to help us reach our \$10,000 goal for the purchase of suitable school horses. Your donation to Tulsa Boys' Home is tax deductible. I've enclosed a page of quick FAQs that you might find informative and of course, I am always available to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you so much for your thoughtful consideration and time. I look forward to answering any questions you may have and discussing the matter with you. If you'd like to visit, please, by all means let's make a date. I'd love to show you our facility. My phone number is (918) 500 - 4911.

Sincerely,

Holly Fisher
Equine Program Assistant / Riding Instructor

**TO DONATE,
MAKE A CHECK PAYABLE TO
TULSA BOYS HOME
(MEMO LINE "SCOTT AVERILL")
AND MAIL TO
TULSA BOYS HOME
PO BOX 1101
TULSA, OK 74101
ATTN: SCOTT AVERILL**

ODS Supports Tulsa Boys Home Equine Program

There are many worthy causes in and around Tulsa that warrant our support of time, energy or funds. Tulsa Boys Home is one of them that also strikes a chord with fellow horse lovers. Recently, ODS donated \$100 toward the purchase of horses for the organization's equine program that teaches its resident boys skills and provides a special kind of therapy to help them succeed in life. First, you'll find the information below very interesting...what is the Tulsa Boys Home Equine Program? What a gem! Then, read the letter below written to an ODS dressage rider (identity concealed for privacy) and consider supporting this worthy effort yourself. The dollars donated to this organization are of greater value than what's printed on the bills itself!

Quick FAQs about the Tulsa Boys Home Equine Program

Can horses really help people? Throughout the last 50 years much work has been done and documented about the ways in which humans can benefit from activity with horses. Equine therapy and horsemanship are readily recognized by psychologists around the globe as an effective means of treating depression and PTSD as well as foster social intelligence, better communication skills and confidence.

Why don't you get some horses donated? We are approached frequently with owners who would like to donate their horse to TBH. Typically, the horses are older with injuries/illnesses. Our boys need highly trained, healthy horses with a very special mindset. As you well know these types of horses are hard to find. Very rarely do we have a horse of this nature gifted to our program.

Why Mustangs? Mustangs are highly adaptable creatures, they are sturdy, smart and easy to keep. The parallels between the mustangs and our boys are many, which only enhances our program. Because of the recent rise in popularity of wild Mustangs, it has become easier to obtain highly trained, well confirmed horses for about half what a horse of another breed and same level of training would cost.

How many boys will these horses help? We have 64 boys in residence at any given time. Each boy has access to horses via our many programs. Last year we served 160 boys. The horses we purchase today should live at least another 20 years so that's 3200 boys that could benefit from one quality horse.

How will the horses be cared for? The Tulsa Boys Home is an incredible facility (we encourage you to visit!) for boys and horses alike. With over 160 acres, we have many fully fenced pastures with run-in sheds and automatic waterers. The equine staff; Scott Averill, Johnny Clark and Holly Fisher manage the facility and look after our horses. Many of the boys are able to help us with our daily goings-on --"barn time" is the best time for many of our boys.

What happens to the horses that don't work for our program? We have a retirement pasture for horses that are too old to serve. Our retirees are well cared for and will be buried on this property. Sometimes we have a horse that would be better suited for another job and we work hard to place them in loving homes.





CLASSIFIED ADS

Sell your horse, trailer, tack, property or other equine related items here in the ODS newsletter classified ads.

Non-commercial ads are FREE for ODS members and only \$5 for non-members.

Ads will run one month unless owner re-submits.

To advertise, email the editor with your information at newsletter@dressageoklahoma.org.

President's Letter (cont'd)

raised the Fund from \$600/year to \$800. We are talking about the possibility of travel stipends for attending the USDF Convention (in Omaha this year!) or perhaps for USDF Educational events. There was enthusiasm at the AGM when I asked about possibly doing Part 1 of the "L" Program in 2021. We will need a LOT of villagers to do that! What else? Be creative, let us know what would be interesting to you, help us make plans and pull them off!

I'm excited! Who is with me on this?!

Take heart, Spring is on the way, the yuck winter coats will shed off, and we will all be back in the saddle more consistently!

Happy, safe riding~
Kay (and Odakai)



OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

ODS is a Group member organization (GMO) of Region 9 of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF).

New Membership _____ Renewing Membership _____ Information Change only _____
 Last Name _____ First Name _____ USDF ID# _____
 Address _____ City/State Zip _____
 Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell _____
 Email _____ Birth date: Mth ____/Yr _____

USDF membership year is Dec 1st - Nov 30th . Membership dues are late after November 30th .

ODS Membership – Select One Category. For family memberships consisting of more than two family members, please check both boxes for that section (Family and Add third family member).

\$54 Adult: Please check which applies: Open Amateur Vintage (50+) \$ _____

\$20 Charter / Life (for ODS founding members and those members who have lifetime memberships) \$ _____

\$44 Junior, under 18 as of Dec 1 of the current membership year \$ _____
 (For example, must be under 18 Dec. 1 of 2015 for 2015 membership)

\$64 Family (for two family members)
 Name of second family member _____ Birth Day Mth ____/ Yr _____ \$ _____

\$10 Add third family member
 Name of third family member _____ Birth Day Mth ____/ Yr _____ \$ _____

Chapter Membership – Check which chapter you would like to join. Chapter membership is not required, but is required to participate in the Chapter awards programs. Chapter membership cost is the same for an individual or a family.

\$10 Green Country Chapter (GCC) \$ _____

DONATION to ODS. (ODS is a tax exempt 501.c.organization) OPTIONAL \$ _____

\$5 DISCOUNT for memberships received before November 30th . - (\$ _____)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please tell us about your USDF/USEF accomplishments by checking any of the following boxes that apply. We plan to publish a list of member accomplishments on the website and in the directory.

- Gold Medal Silver Medal Bronze Medal USDF Rider Performance (Training, 1st, 2nd) "L" Judge
- USDF Instructor Certification -Level _____

ODS membership is an opportunity to promote Dressage in your community. The club is ONLY as good as it's most ACTIVE members. We need your help! What are your skill sets? Please circle all that apply.

- Scribing Scoring Organization/Management Accounting Spreadsheets Arena Set-Up/Tear-D own
- Photography Fund Raising Other _____

I hereby release the Oklahoma Dressage Society, it's officers, members, employees and agents from any liability and all claims of every kind, including costs, expenses, or attorney fees that might result from damages, injuries, or losses resulting directly or indirectly from the negligent act or omissions of the officers, members, employees or agents of the Oklahoma Dressage Society Club. I agree and sign below:

Signature: _____ Dated _____ (Parent or Guardian Signs for Jr. Rider)

Mail this form, with check payable to "Oklahoma Dressage Society – Membership" to: Marta Koenig, PO Box 1101, Kellyville, OK 74039.
 Email Jan Cibula Murrell: membership@dressageoklahoma.org (918) 360-6425 (membership) Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for processing by USDF.

Rev. 2/15/2020

Events Calendar

Horse Shows | Meetings | Clinics | Symposiums | Social Events

Go to the Events Calendar tab on dressageoklahoma.org for more details about the events listed below. Registration information and forms are available through the Event Calendar tab. To get your event listed on the website, contact the ODS webmaster Sue Twitty at webmaster@dressageoklahoma.org. To get your event listed in the Centerline newsletter, contact the newsletter editor Kara Garde at newsletter@dressageoklahoma.org. The most current, up-to-date event listings and information are posted online.

- Feb 22, 2020** ODS Judging Seminar w/Beverly Rogers
- Feb 29, 2020** Sooner State Morgan Horse Assoc. Show (McClain County Expo)*
- Mar 28, 2020** GCC Schooling Show @ Joyful Noise Farm (Pryor)
- April 4-5, 2020** ODS Spring Symposium @ Tulsa Expo Center
- Apr 18, 2020** GCC Schooling Show @ Sunrise Stables (Broken Arrow)
- May 2-3, 2020** ODS Spring Show I & II (Tulsa Expo Center)
- May 16, 2020** GCC Schooling Show @ Premier Dressage (Coweta)
- June 6, 2020** Sooner State Morgan Horse Assoc. Show (McClain County Expo)*
- Sept 2020** Volunteers Clinic (FREE!)

*Contact Stephanie Edwards for info: soonerstatemha@gmail.com



VINTAGE FARM



Monthly ODS Meetings Open To All Members

Every Oklahoma Dressage Society member is welcome to attend in person or to call in to the monthly Board of Directors meeting, usually held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Stroud Police/Fire Department starting at 6:30pm.

You may call in to attend virtually by dialing 712-432-3900 (conference code #535614).

ODS Board Members

- President - Kay Kamish president@dressageoklahoma.org
- Vice President - Jan Cibula Murrell jan.cibula@gmail.com
- Secretary - Erin Boone erin.boone11@gmail.com
- Treasurer - Marta Koenig treasurer@dressageoklahoma.org

- Membership - Jan Cibula Murrell membership@dressageoklahoma.org
- Education - Kay Kamish kkamishods@aol.com

- At Large - Lindsey Greco lindseymgreco@gmail.com
- At Large - Nancy Burba nobleroadeq@gmail.com
- At Large - Emily Moser emismc@gmail.com
- At Large - Sherri Pittman sherriwads@aol.com

ODS Leadership Volunteers

- Newsletter - Kara Garde kgarde@cityoftulsa.com
- Scholarships - Nancy Trait-Lira ntraitlira@gmail.com
- Web Master - Sue Twitty webmaster@dressageoklahoma.org

Mailing Addresses

Please indicate on mailing envelopes to whose attention (person or office) you need to direct your correspondence. For example, "ATTN: Treasurer"

- ODS Mailing Address**
PO Box 1101
Kellyville, OK 74039
- ODS Street Address**
29395 South 4130 Road #B
Claremore, OK 74019



Note New Street Address!

Next ODS Board Meeting:
March 11
@ 6:30 pm.

*Via phone only! -
not in Stroud in March*