

Meeting called to order at 0648 pm by Helen Bergquist

Attendees: Helen Bergquist (President), Gretchen Sienicki (Vice President), Paulette Lyons (Treasurer), Monica Yother (Website/Newsletter), Natalie Weil (Shows/Clinics), Chris Cochrane (Membership), Victoria Tripiano (Publicity), Jean Stuart, Laura Pritchett, Brooks Garrison, Heidi Rose, Janice Nixon, Marsha Laitinen (Secretary)

Absent: Denise Ferrara-Payne (Awards), Maiké Frye (Librarian), Biel Trudell (Volunteer Coordinator)

Program: "L' Program Overview"

Presenter: Heide Rose

Heidi Rose of Flint Ridge Farm recently attended the "L" Program hosted by The Good Horseman Foundation of Georgia. The USDF "L" Program is a training program for potential "judges", with an emphasis on "the correct training of dressage horses." It provides training to those candidates wishing to pursue the USEF "r" Judge Training Program. It is divided into two parts, each part consisting of three separate sections, A, B, & C.

Part 1: "A Judge's Perspective" is open to all USDF Members. Up to 30 participants are selected. Participants must be USDF members or GMO affiliates. Auditors are also allowed to participate. The average cost for participants can range from \$500-700. There is no set price for auditors. Auditors are not provided with written materials. No video or recording devices are allowed during the sessions. Generally each session is a full Saturday & Sunday 8-4 pm. Faculty are USEF recognized "S" judges

Session A: An introduction to judging & biomechanics.

Session B: Focuses on judging criteria of gaits & paces, movements & figures.

Session C: Focuses on collective marks, equitation, rider biomechanics & basics.

Part 2: "Candidate Evaluation" is open to all "participating members-with full USDF memberships" with three verified scores from USEF licensed or USDF recognized competitions. The requirements are: two scores of 65% or higher with the highest test of Second Level and one score of 62% or higher @ Third Level or above from three different judges. The average cost for this section of the program is ~ \$1800. Ten candidates are selected for this section. The focus here is for interested graduates from the program to officiate at schooling shows or who plan to apply for the USEF's "r" Judge Training Program. A graduate with distinction can be considered for the USDF "r" recognition.

Session D1: Involves practice judging full tests in each of the levels at a recognized competition.

Session D2: Involves more emphasis on the testing situation & preps the candidate for the final exam.

Final Exam: This session is comprised of a written & practical exam (combination of judging full tests & some oral judging).

Additional requirements include: scribing/sitting with a "R" or "S" judge. observing demo riders, & defending why you gave a particular score. Also covered are how to draw up contracts.

An "L" graduate is eligible to "judge" schooling shows at Intro to Second level tests only. It is encouraged that if you know of someone participating in the "L" program, part 2, that you reach out to them for judging at local schooling shows. Additional (written) testing is required. Judging of musical freestyles & dressage seat equitation are excluded.

For further information, see the USDF Participant Guide.

Reading of the July meeting minutes was waived & the minutes were approved as distributed. Look on the TVDCTA Website under the "Why Join?" menu tab. Select the "Member Page" menu option. July meeting minutes had not yet been posted on the website.

They should be posted by Monica shortly.

Report of Officers:

1. Board/President (Helen Bergquist): Any show cancellations will be refunded back to the competitor. Region 3 award nominations are due by 31 August to USDF. Judith Fiorentino has declined the Ruth Arvanella Memorial Fund nomination. There will be no one replacing her. The "Good of the Order": comments for discussion can be written down & forwarded to Gretchen Sienicki. These will be read at the end of the meeting. Comments are not to exceed 3 minutes each.

2. Treasurer Report (Paulette Lyons)

August 16th 2016

Beginning balance: \$2,925.16+

Deposits:

Membership \$ 156.00+
Show Profit \$ 465.73+
\$ 621.73+

Withdrawals:

Ribbons \$ 328.43-
USDF Dues \$ 200.00-
\$ 528.43-

Ending Balance as of 08-16-2016: \$3,218.46+

July 2016 Show

Deposits: \$1,293.00+

Expenses:

Porta Potty \$ 85.00-
Venue \$ 250.00-
Judge \$ 400.00-
Show Expenses \$ 92.27-
\$ 827.27-

Show Profits \$ 465.73+

Due to cancellation of the August 20th show, refunds will be given to the 8 riders. They are to be notified via email. Natalie Weil suggested that they be offered credit towards the October show. Paulette Lyons addressed that fact that refunds are difficult to process when payments are made via PayPal, hence paper checks will be distributed if show credits are not sought.

Reports of Standing Committees:

1. Awards (Denise Ferrara-Payne): Absent/No report
2. Bylaws/Grievances(Gretchen Sienicki and Helen Bergquist): "Report of the Majority"-in its July report to the membership, The Committee notified the membership that the drafted Policies & Procedures document is posted to the TVDCTA Website under the "Why Join?" menu tab ("Member Page" menu option). They invited the members to review and comment on the document. Ordered that TVDCTA adopt the Policy and Procedures document." No further comments were received. Helen has a copy available for review.
3. Budget/Fiscal (Paulette Lyons): See Treasurers' Report
4. Librarian (Maika Frye): Absent/No report
5. Newsletter/Website (Monica Yother): Nothing new to report
6. Meetings & Programs (Helen Bergquist) Next TVDCTA meeting will be held on 20 Sept 2016 @ MY Designs Studio (Lowe Mill). The program will be Equine Pasture Management by Auburn Extension Office. Due to the anticipated length of the program, Victoria Tripiano suggested considering an abbreviated business meeting.
7. Membership (Chris Cochrane): TVDCTA now has 75 members, with 8 new memberships since July.

Show standings will be updated on the website to coincide with the results from the July show.

8. Publicity (Victoria Tripiano): No new updates to report.

9. Shows & Clinics (Natalie Weil) New USEA tests have been ordered. Additional copies will be made & kept on hand for future shows until at which time they are updated.

10. Volunteer Coordinator (Biel Trudell): Absent. Helen Bergquist reported that the volunteer hours sheet will be updated. Documentation of any other committee activity hours are to be submitted to Biel Trudell via email. Executive board members are awarded 4 credit hours for their participation. Ad Hoc committees will coordinate with Biel regarding volunteer hours.

Reports of Special Committees:

1. Volunteer Incentive Program (Kathy Coviello): Absent/nothing to report.

2. Olympic Initiative Program (Victoria Tripiano): The Ad Hoc committee has fulfilled its purpose & is officially disbanded. Thank you to Victoria and her committee. Victoria reported that competitors not familiar with TVDCTA were impressed with our organization (activities & educational opportunities that we provide). A OIP committee report was completed & sent out for review. Approximately \$50-60.00 of materials are reusable. It was suggested that each barn be allowed to use the display boards for education of younger students. Additional (road) signs "Horse Show Today" are also available. There are also extra USEF brochures. It was suggested that a tent with "general information" be set up at the front of each show venue. It was estimated that ~ 50 brochures were picked up @ the last show. Business cards from sponsors (with website information) would also be provided. Brooks Garrison suggested the printing/posting of actual tests at each level and/or provide a brief description of each test. Posting schedules of ride times for visitors/family members to view was also suggested.

Special Orders: None.

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

New Business:

The motion was made by Helen Bergquist to adopt the Policies & Procedures. Second motion made by Heidi Rose. The members unanimously voted & accepted the Policy & Procedures document for the club.

Helen Bergquist proposed the formation of an Ad Hoc committee to research the feasibility of cohosting an USDF L Program, Part 1. First motion was made by Heidi Rose, & second motion was made by Natalie Weil. The members unanimously voted & accepted the proposal.

Heidi Rose was appointed chairperson for the committee with Natalie Weil, Chris Cochrane, Helen Bergquist, Gretchen Sienicki, & Victoria Tripiano assisting as volunteers.

There were no comments for "The Good of the Order."

There were no further announcements.

Motion made to adjourn meeting. First made by Victoria Tripiano & second by Chris Cochrane. Meeting adjourned @ 7:45pm.