

**To: USDF EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**From: USDF Staff**  
**Date: November 18, 2011**  
**Re: Activities Report to the EB**

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### **ADMINISTRATION**

- An email was sent to the USDF Governance Representatives on November 1, notifying them of governance related documents posted on the USDF Website for review in preparation for the BOG.
  - 2012 – 2013 Proposed Budget
  - 2012 – 2013 Proposed Budget Narrative
  - Annual Audit
  - 2011 BOG Draft Agenda
  - 2011 Proposed Bylaws Amendments
  - Most current revision of the USDF Policies and Procedures.
  - Web version of the September 19 EB conference call.
  - “Meet the Candidates” article about ALD nominees (which also appeared in October issue of *Connection*).
- A letter from the President, regarding the National Championship initiative was sent to the Governance Representatives on November 15<sup>th</sup>, with a modified letter to members posted on the Web on November 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Revisions to the USDF Council and Committee Handbook were completed and the revised handbook was posted on the USDF Website on November 3, 2011. A notification email regarding the posting was sent to the EB and all council and committee members and chairs the same day.
- USDF insurance through Great American Insurance Group has been renewed for our coverage period October 2011 through September 2012.

### **Nominating Committee:**

- As of November 9, 75 GMOs have responded with their delegate/proxy appointment(s) for the BOG at the 2011 convention. The deadline for GMO delegate/proxy appointments to be sent to the USDF office was August 31. Email reminders were sent to all GMO presidents on July 6, August 3, and August 30, and October 10. Reminders were also posted on the GMO Prezlist. Those GMO’s who do not respond will have their president listed as the “default representative”.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

- The 2012 membership renewal was included as an insert in the October issue of *USDF Connection*.
- A targeted e-news renewal notice was sent to all expiring members in mid-October.

- In mid-October, an email was sent to all non-members and expired members in the USDF database, encouraging them to become a USDF member to stay connected with USDF and the dressage community. Information on various types of USDF membership was included.
- A renewal insert was included in the 2012 USDF Member Guide, which will be sent to all current USDF members (with the exception of Education Members).
- Renewal reminders have been included in the general monthly e-news to members.
- An email was sent to all GMO officials regarding the e-TRAK ads that have been placed on the Press Page of the USDF website. GMO officials have been encouraged to use these ads for their 2012 membership drives, promoting e-TRAK as a valuable benefit for Group Members.
- A notification has been posted in the GMOPrez List encouraging GMO officials to use the e-TRAK ads created by USDF to assist with their 2012 membership drive.

### **COMPETITIONS DEPARTMENT**

- An email was sent out on October 10, 2011, notifying all competitors that all scores have been recorded in the database for the 2011 year and to check their scores prior to the score correction deadline of October 15, 2011.
- Final year-end award standings were posted on the USDF website October 20, 2011. An email to all first and second place year-end award winners was sent on October 22, 2011. This email contained information regarding the final year-end award standings, attending the Salute Gala & Awards Banquet, and submitting photographs for inclusion in the yearbook issue of *USDF Connection*.
- All-Breeds Participating Organizations were contacted via email on October 31, 2011, regarding the final year-end awards standings and Salute Gala & Annual Awards Banquet.

### **EDUCATION PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT**

#### **Judges Committee**

##### ***Continuing Education Program for Judges and USDF "L" Graduates***

- Rocky Mountain Dressage Society (RMDS), with organizer Michelle Anderson and instructor/speaker Janet Foy, was approved to host a CE Program, 'View from C,' on January 28, 2012.
- Arizona Dressage Association (ASA), with organizer Kay Lorenzan and instructor/speaker Dorie Vlaten-Schmitz was approved to host a CE Program, 'Upgrade Your Judging Eye II,' on January 28, 2012.

#### **"L" Program Committee**

- A teleconference call was held, October 25, to discuss topics to be covered at the annual "L" Faculty meeting to be held Tuesday, November, 28.

Topics included:

- Inclusion of Introductory Level in Part 1
  - Revisions to 2012 L Program Materials
  - Evaluation of Part 2 Sessions
  - Timeline for Part 2
  - Sharing L materials
- “L” Program Sessions recently approved or held in the following Regions:

**Region 2:** Dancing Horse Farms (DHF) with organizer Lori Aman was approved to host a Part 2. Dates/locations/instructors are as follows:

- Session D1; March 24-25th, 2012; Loxahatchee, FL; Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez
- Session D2; May 19-20, 2012; Westbrook, CT; Joan Humphrey
- Final Exam; September 8-9th, 2012; Lexington, KY; Marilyn Heath & Marianne Ludwig

**Region 3:** Good Horseman Foundation (GHF) with organizer Ann Genovese held their A Session on October 1, 2011, with instructor Joan Humphrey.

**Region 6:** Oregon Dressage Society (ODS), with organizer Edwin Miller was approved to host a Part 2. Dates/locations/instructors are as follows:

- Session D1; May 12-13th, 2012; Sherwood, OR; Trena Atkins
- Session D2; July 14-15th, 2012; Auburn, WA; Axel Steiner
- Final Exam; September 8-9th, 2012; Sherwood, OR; Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez & Axel Steiner
- Equestrian Institute (EI), with organizer Trena Atkins, held their final exam October 8-9th, 2011, in Rancho Murrieta, CA with examiners Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez and Axel Steiner. Of 10 candidates that took the exam, all 10 passed with six (6) passing with distinction.

**Region 9:** Oklahoma Dressage Society (ODS), with organizer Anne Kuhns, held their "C" Session October 22-23, 2011, with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez.

### **Historical Recognition Committee**

- A press release went out on October 11, announcing Lendon Gray's induction to the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame.

### **e-TRAK**

- On September 23, the new look of e-TRAK was launched including several new features. The new features include:
  - Navigational buttons on top of webpage
  - Learning Center button, after log-in, that provides guided and interactive educational activities. These educational activities provide an opportunity to earn University Program credit.
  - Left-hand sidebar includes: 'Featured articles,' 'Last Viewed' and 'Recently Added'
  - Slide Show, 'Quick Tips,' that are linked to items within e-TRAK
  - Multiple search options such as; navigational buttons, advanced search, and key word search

- We continue to add new material each week. We have a total of 1,432 items on e-TRAK, including 312 Videos, 549 links, 497 articles and 20 audio files and images.
- User viewings totaled 2,234 for October.
- e-TRAK Facebook has seen a steady increase in 'fans,' an increase of 11 percent from September, as well as 'clicks' to view the content on Facebook. For the month of October, we have had 4,439 'clicks'. Each 'click' to view content takes them to a page on e-TRAK.
- We have five educational modules, which are in-depth studies, on the topics of Lungeing, Nutrition 101, Seat & Position, Classical Training, and Rider's Aids. These educational modules are USDF University accredited.
- We have six Quick Studies on the topics of Emergency Planning, Shoulder-in, 20 Meter Circle, Serpentine, Trot Stretching Circle, and Free Walk. Each Quick Study includes 4 e-TRAK items along with a short quiz.

### **Adult Programs Committee**

#### ***Adult Clinic***

- The first two clinics of the new series with Lilo Fore have been completed in Regions 8 and 4. All feedback has been very positive and office staff has received many emails from auditors and riders thanking USDF, the hosting GMO's and Lilo for offering this educational opportunity.
- The committee will be discussing possible clinicians for the next series that will begin after April 1, 2013.

#### ***Convention Education Sessions***

- All education sessions will be either audio or video recorded for use on e-TRAK and future podcasts.

### **Instructor/Trainer Committee**

#### ***Instructor Certification Program***

- The first Introductory Faculty Workshop was held in October at Mistover Farm, Pawling, NY. It was a success with 15 potential Introductory Faculty attending. All attending candidates were recommended to continue on to the next step which will be a three-day workshop.
- The committee will be in attendance at the Trainers Conference in Florida to 'pick the brain' of Christoph Hess as they finalize the details of the FEI Level Workshops and Certification.
- The new Level of Certification (Training-First Level) will be introduced next year.
- The Faculty Notebook has been updated to reflect all the updates and changes that have taken place over the past few years.
- The program will be hosting an education session at convention that is geared toward our Certified Instructors and have invited the "L" Program Faculty, "L" Program Graduates and the Sport Horse Program Instructors. The program will feature Susanne von Dietze.

#### ***Trainers Conference***

- Planning for the Trainers Conference continues. At the request of Mary Anne McPhail, and the endorsement of Christoph Hess, Dr. Hilary Clayton will present a short topic during our reception on Monday evening, January 16. Dr. Clayton was a speaker at the Dressage Global Forum this year and will be presenting a topic similar to that which she discussed during the Global Forum, but in a shorter format.

- In the past, Chris Hickey has been an active part of the rider selection process for the conference. Chris is in Europe for several months and Lendon Gray has volunteered to take on the role. She will be working with Christoph Hess to select the type of riders he needs to present his program.

### ***Symposium***

- All demo riders and horses are confirmed and it is a very impressive line-up, including a freestyle demo by Ravel and Steffen, and the gold and bronze medal Pan Am horses and riders.

## **SPORT PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT**

### **Youth Programs**

- The Platinum Performance/USDF Region 7 Jr/YR Clinic featuring Jeremy Steinberg was held November 5-6, at Starr Vaughn Equestrian. Eighteen applications were received. Eight riders were selected to ride and fourteen auditors pre-registered to attend the clinic.
- The Platinum Performance/USDF Region 5 Clinic featuring George Williams was held October 22-23, at Stellar Stables in Parker, CO. Nine rider applications were received and eight riders were selected to ride in the clinic. There were nine pre-registered auditors and seven walk-in auditors.
- The Platinum Performance/USDF Region 3 Clinic featuring Jeremy Steinberg was held October 29-30, at Evergreen Farm in Blythewood, SC. Ten rider applications were received and eight riders were selected to ride in the clinic. There were three pre-registered auditors and no walk-in auditors.
- The Platinum Performance/USDF Region 9 Jr/YR Clinic featuring Jeremy Steinberg will be held January 28-29, 2012, at North Texas Equestrian Center in Wylie, TX. Four rider applications have already been received. The deadline for riders to apply is December 30, 2011.
- The 2011 USDF Youth Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Drew Carlin of Region 3.
- The 2011 USDF National Nominee for the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award is Drew Carlin of Region 3. Isabelle Leibler of Region 8 was selected as the alternate. A total of fourteen applications were received from eight of the nine regions.
- Isabelle Leibler of Region 8 was nominated for the 2011 USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year Award.
- Eleven youth have RSVP'd for the special youth breakfast at convention.
- 27 applications were received for the 2012 USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program to be held January 14-15, 2012, in West Palm Beach, FL. Additional confirmed speakers include; Heather Blitz, Renee Isler, Bill Warren, Bill McMillan, Pam Goodrich and Yvonne Ocrant.
- Five applications were received to be considered as the USDF representative to the USEF Young Equestrians Advisory Program. Review and selection will get underway soon. The next term begins February 2012.
- This year's Fiona Baan Memorial Trophy winner, Isabelle Leibler on Watson 108, will be reviewed for a spot on the USEF High Performance Developing Horse/Rider List. USEF will update the criteria and the list which will be published on the USEF website. This list is used for invitation purposes for USEF Developing Clinics, giving riders on the list an opportunity to work with USEF Developing Coach Debbie McDonald.

## **Regional Championships**

- The last two Regional Championships were held the first weekend in November. Donna Rocchetti attended the Region 5 Championships and Stephan attended the Region 9 Championships. During October, Donna attended Regions 7 and 3 Championships; Jenn Asher attended the Region 1 Championships.

## **Sport Horse**

- A Sport Horse Committee conference call is scheduled for November 15, at 4:00 pm ET.
- The last of the USDFBC Series Finals was held at the Region 7 Championships October 6-9.
- There were two horses that were eliminated from two different USDFBC Series Finals for failure to meet the USDF horse registration and/or USDF membership requirements.
- The new 2012 Host Site application is in use for the 2012 competition year. It has been sent to all competition management that held a USDFBC qualifier or Final in the past. The office has not yet received applications for all eleven series: only seven applications have been received to date.
- The 2011 Sport Horse Seminar, with organizer Barbara McCarthy, was held October 29-30, 2011, at Majestic Farm in Batavia, Ohio. Kristi Wysocki and Bill Solyntjes were the instructors. There were eleven participants and nine auditors in attendance.

**END OF REPORT**