

Dressage with Altitude

The 2008 Adequan / USDF
National Convention & Symposium



with

KYRA KYRKLUND

Dressage
USDF Education Partner

COUNCIL REPORTS

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Adult Education Council Report

Chair: Fran Crocco, NJ

Liaison: Kathie Robertson

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Lori Parkins, MD*
Region 2: Jackie Luebke Puetz, WI
Region 3: Holly Hilliard, FL
Region 4: Jamee Amundson, NE*
Region 5: Catherine Siemiet, CO*
Region 6: Frances Haupt, OR
Region 7: Barbara Keville, CA*
Region 8: Sybille Crafts, CT
Region 9: Evelyn (Evie) B. Tumlin, MS

*New member(s) of the Adult Education Council for 2008.

Mission:

To increase adult participation in dressage by providing education and recognition.

Goals:

1. Provide concepts for new adult education programs.
2. Increase participation in USDF supported adult programs.
3. Get regions and GMOs more involved in adult education through increased and improved communication with Adult Education regional coordinators.

2008 Objectives:

1. Develop supporting documents for the "Organizational Guide for Planning a Dressage Clinic" chart.
2. Develop an awards program for recognizing innovative educational programming within GMOs.
3. Continue to foster continued communication between council and GMOs.
4. Develop educational module for GMOs on educational planning.
5. Implement new university program credits earned structure.
6. Oversee Adult Clinic Series.
7. Confirm plans for 2009-2010 Adult Clinics.

2008 Accomplishments:

- University Program
 - A press release went out announcing the new university recognition levels.
 - The USDF Web site has been updated to reflect the new university recognition levels.
 - New promotional brochure is being created for the University Program.
 - Accredited 27 Off-Campus Programs.
 - Accredited fifteen Online Education Programs.
 - Created live database to provide immediate recognition on Web site when achieving certificate levels.

- Adult Clinic Series
 - Plans are firming up for the 2009-2010 USDF Adult Clinic Series with Charlotte Bredahl:
 - A theme is being developed.
 - Regional Directors and Regional Coordinators in regions 3, 4, 5, 8, and 9 have been given potential dates for clinics.

 - Hosted four USDF Adult Clinics featuring Jane Savoie:
 - Region 1 March 29-30, 2008 Colora, MD
 - Region 6 August 16-17, 2008 Sherwood, OR
 - Region 2 October 18-19, 2008 Lebanon, OH
 - Region 7 November 1-2, 2008 Somis, CA

 - Clinics are currently operating at a profit for 2008.

- Adult Team Competitions
 - Hosted six USDF Adult Regional Team Competitions:
 - Region 6 March 15-16, 2008 Salem, OR
 - Region 9 April 27-27, 2008 Katy, TX
 - Region 9 May 17-18, 2008 Tulsa, OK
 - Region 4 August 1, 2008 Mason City, IA
 - Region 1 August 1-2, 2008 Culpepper, VA
 - Region 7 September 26-28, 2008 Santa Barbara, CA

 - Funded/Approved two Adult Regional Team Competition Grants (*as of September 22, 2008*):
 - Region 1 \$500.00
 - Region 4 \$500.00

- Regional Education Grants
 - Implemented new Regional Grant Guidelines.
 - Funded/Approved seventeen Regional Education Grants (*as of September 29, 2008*):
 - Region 1 No grant requests
 - Region 2 \$1,240.00
 - Region 3 \$ 800.00
 - Region 4 \$2,000.00
 - Region 5 \$1,770.00
 - Region 6 No grant requests
 - Region 7 \$1,200.00
 - Region 8 \$1,500.00
 - Region 9 \$1,977.00

Total grants funded/approved to date: \$10,4887.00

- Recognized three Dressage Camps for Adults.
- Projects that were completed as part of the USDF/USPC Partnership:
 - Accredited Dressage specific workshops during the USPC Annual Meeting.

2009 Objectives:

1. Oversee Adult Clinic Series.
2. Improve promotion of University Program and benefits.
3. Develop Dressage Camp for Adults resource materials.
4. Develop supporting documents for the “Organizational Guide for Planning a Dressage Clinic” chart.
5. Develop an awards program for recognizing innovative educational programming within GMOs.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Review of 2008 Objectives.
- II. 2008 Adult Clinic wrap-up.
- III. 2009-2010 Adult Clinic update.
- IV. Evaluate educational programs at convention.
- V. USDF Dressage Camps for Adults.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Awards Council Report

Chair: Peggy Klump, CA

Liaison: Krystina Firth

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Kristen P. Brown, VA
Region 2: Paula J Briney, IL
Region 3: Camille Brinkman, FL*
Region 4: Barbara Zukowski, IA
Region 5: Eva-Maria Adolphi, UT
Region 6: Carolyn E. Bunch, WA
Region 7: Anne B. Howard, CA
Region 8: Susan McKeown, MA*
Region 9: Donna D. Meyer, TX

*New member(s) of the Awards Council for 2008.

Mission:

To encourage participation in dressage by recognizing excellence and rewarding progressive achievement.

Goals:

1. Organize and provide awards for Horse of the Year, Freestyle, Junior/Young Rider, Adult Amateur, Vintage Cup, All-Breeds, performance certificates, individual rider awards, GMO Newsletter, Regional GMO Volunteer of the Year, GMO Web site, DSHB Horse of the Year and Materiale Horse of the Year.
2. Review existing award requirements and programs.

2008 Objectives:

1. Continue to work with the council and the USDF Executive Board towards making the Awards Banquet more timely, effective and streamlined.
2. Review the statistics in various awards categories to potentially increase award participation.
3. Set a standard to review and improve new awards.
4. Work with the USDF staff in developing the upgraded award certificates.

2008 Accomplishments:

- Continued to explore and develop a set of standards that would be required in order to initiate a new award, new award program or resurrect a previously existing award/program. Several key factors will be considered including: concept of rewarding competitive excellence, the numbers of potential competitors, cost effectiveness, a review of USDF statistical information to assist in the effort of determining interest, and that different standards for different kinds of awards programs will be required.
- Reviewed the equivalencies and differences in equivalences between USEF and USDF with the goal that the USDF should set the same equivalencies as USEF.
- Established a dialogue regarding the need to continue to evaluate the possibility of championship scores from the Great American/USDF Regional and Breeders Championship classes not counting towards USDF year-end award median score calculations.
- Continued to respond to members questions and to work with other USDF councils and committees to ensure cohesive policies and programs.

2009 Objectives:

1. Clarify USDF/USEF equivalencies.
2. Continue to work on “standards for new awards, awards programs and re-establishment of previously existing awards programs.”
3. Continue to research if championship scores should count towards USDF year-end award median score calculations.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Criteria for new awards programs, awards or re-establishment of previously existing awards or awards programs.
- II. Equivalencies.
- III. Championship scores counting or not counting for year-end award median score calculations.

Items to come before the Executive Board: (see above)

None

Competition Management Council Report

Chair: Kathy Moffitt, NJ

Liaison: Krystina Firth

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Bettina G. Longaker, VA
Region 2: Nancy Wentz, OH
Region 3: Sherry G. Pride, TN
Region 4: Joann Messersmith, SD*
Region 5: Heather Petersen, CO
Region 6: Rose M. Newman, WA
Region 7: Maureen Van Tuyl, CA
Region 8: Debra J. Reinhardt, CT
Region 9: Jan Colley, TX

*New member(s) of the Competition Management Council for 2008.

Mission:

To provide a network of competition managers and secretaries to promote quality and compliant dressage competitions.

Goals:

1. Provide competition management education.
2. Increase the number and quality of recognized competitions.
3. Review and communicate US Equestrian rule change proposals.
4. Provide the appropriate tools and processes for successful competitions.
5. Strengthen the communication between Competition Management Council and other councils, as well as the USDF office staff.
6. Provide competition management education and show secretary education.

2008 Objectives:

1. Prepare and send a brochure to all members on how to properly prepare and submit entries to a show. Discussion of Master Verification procedures to be included. Working title, "Save a Tree and the Show Secretary's Sanity."
2. Keep all publications updated and current.
3. Stand ready to assist competition management in providing quality shows, as requested.
4. Liaise with other councils to identify outstanding issues and improve the quality of all competitions.

2008 Accomplishments:

- The Competition Management brochure has been updated.
- Updates to Show Biz are being written and submitted to the Chair for publication next spring.

2009 Objectives:

1. Prepare and send a brochure to all members on how to properly prepare and submit entries to a show. Discussion of Master Verification procedures to be included. Working title, "Save a Tree and the Show Secretary's Sanity."
2. Keep all publications updated and current.
3. Write a new "Guidelines for FEI Recognized Dressage Competitions for the US" – project of FEI Managers subcommittee.
4. Stand ready to assist competition management in providing quality shows, as requested.
5. Liaise with other councils to identify outstanding issues and improve the quality of all competitions.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Discussion of what the proposed dressage show levels may mean for competition management
- II. Discussion of what proposed performance standards may mean for competition management
- III. Review of pertinent rule changes for the 2009 competition year
- IV. Questions & Answers from the audience
- V. FEI Subcommittee meeting will discuss the issue of prize money versus number of entries in the class, USDF non-member fees for foreign competitors, small versus large CDIs, CDI stabling requirements.
- VI. Discuss bringing a motion to discontinue non-member USDF fees for foreign competitors who enter only the CDI portion of a show.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Competitors Council Report

Chair: Anneliese Vogt Harber, GA

Liaison: Donna Rocchetti

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Trisha L. DeRosa, MD
Region 2: Brad Cutshall, MI
Region 3: Holly Scherzer, AL
Region 4: Anne Cizadlo, IA
Region 5: Elizabeth Glass, AZ
Region 6: Paige Inscoe, ID*
Region 7: Jodie Cressman, CA*
Region 8: Dee L. Loveless, MA
Region 9: Paul Kathen, TX*

*New member(s) of the Competitors Council for 2008.

Mission:

To provide education and an organized voice for competitors of all levels.

Goals:

1. Provide educational material for riders.
2. Review USEF rules and rule change proposals.
3. To provide an active and organized voice for competitors of all levels to be heard by competition management, judges and the USDF, with the intention of improving communication and continued facilitation of better showing experiences.

2008 Objectives:

1. Liaise and communicate to other councils and committees regarding issues arising at competitions throughout the competition year.
2. The council will consult with the Adult Education Council when Margaret Freeman presents the outline of a combined Guide for Riders New to Dressage and Spectators Guide to Dressage.
3. Determine criteria and budget for regional competition awards.
4. Prepare an article promoting evaluation usage, including a sample of the historic spreadsheet and explanation of the distribution.
5. Research developing a DVD for utilizing at competitions for new competitors.

2008 Accomplishments:

- Revised the competition evaluation form for 2009 show year.
- Chair has been active with other committees and working groups to address industry issues.

2009 Objectives:

1. Create a DVD (or available on the Web site) for introducing new competitors to competition etiquette/rules.
2. More timely review of competitor evaluations.
3. Communicate information gathered on the competitor evaluation forms with the USEF Federation Representative program.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Creation of information for new competitors to introduce them to competition etiquette/rules.
- II. More timely review of competitor evaluations.
- III. Communicate information gathered on the competitor evaluation forms with the USEF Federation Representative program.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

FEI Jr/YR Council Report

Chair: Roberta Creek Williams, OH

Liaison: Donna Rocchetti

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Patsy W. Albers, MD
Region 2: Rosalind Kinstler, MI
Region 3: Jodie Stevens Kelly, FL*
Region 4: Nancy Gorton, MO
Region 5: Tammy Fitch, AZ
Region 6: Pat Irving, WA
Region 7: Michele Vaughn, CA*
Region 8: Jane Hannigan, MA
Region 9: Joan Darnell, TX

*New member(s) of the FEI Jr/YR Council for 2008.

Mission:

To develop educational opportunities and international competition experiences for riders, ages 14-21, who ride at the FEI sanctioned Jr/YR levels.

Goals:

1. Select and provide teams for the North American Junior/Young Riders Championships.
2. Promote team spirit and competition among riders.
3. Provide clinics and educational opportunities.

2008 Objectives:

1. Field teams for the 2009 NAJYRC at the Colorado Horse Park in Parker, Colorado.
2. Continue to develop the NAJYRC qualifying criteria and selection procedures.
3. Publish 2009 criteria on Web site by August 2009.
4. Organize 2008 USDF FEI Junior/Young Rider Clinics.
5. Work with USEF to continuously refine criteria for NAJYRC and National Championships.
6. Work to develop FEI Junior/Young Rider Web presence to generate more activity and information exchange.

2008 Accomplishments:

- The Dressage Foundation has established the *Renee Isler Dressage Support Fund* to assist qualified FEI Jr/YR Clinic riders based on financial need.
- Seven FEI Jr/YR clinics were held. Two were canceled as interest and date/location were not compatible.
- Qualifying criteria for the 2009 NAJYRC was posted to the Web site early in July 2008, making it the earliest posting ever.
- USEF approved the 2009 NAJYRC qualifying competitions by spring 2008.
- Combining qualifying competitions for USEF FEI Junior/Young Rider National Championships and NAJYRC worked relatively smoothly with good cooperation between organizations.

- **NAJYRC**
 - The 2008 NAJYRC qualifying system ran smoothly; there were no rule waivers granted. Only one waiver was requested.
 - A 'town-hall' style meeting was held during the NAJYRC which included riders, coaches, parents and any interested parties. The meeting generated good discussion regarding the FEI Jr/YR program.
 - The council held a comprehensive conference call which included Regional Directors, Chef d'equipes and Regional Coordinators to address the issue of heat/altitude for horses and riders at the NAJYRC.
 - USDF fielded eight NAYRC teams from all regions except Region 3. Ontario was the only team sent from Canada. Three riders competed as individuals as no teams were created by the FN as combined teams. There were 35 riders that competed in the team competition.
 - USDF fielded eight NAJC teams from all regions except Regions 1 and 9, which the FN combined as one team. Canada was represented by Canada West and two individual riders. There were 35 riders that competed in the team competition.
 - Complete scores for NAJYRC can be found at http://youngriders.org/results_dressage.php.

- The NAJYRC was held July 29 – August 3, at High Prairie Farm in Parker, Colorado. Area temperatures exceeded 100 degrees with August 1 breaking the record at 104 degrees. High altitude was a factor during the competition. The officials made it mandatory to ride without coats as a precaution.

Top Three Individual Results and Medal Placings ~Young Riders

Katie Johson/Millenum	69.050%	Region 7	Individual Gold
Brianna Dutton/Tibet	68.450%	Region 7	Individual Silver
Chelsea Pederson/HS with Honors	68.500%	Region 6	Individual Bronze
Laura Noyes/Syncro	74.750%	Region 8	Freestyle Gold
Brianna Dutton/Tibet	71.900%	Region 7	Freestyle Silver
Chelsea Pederson/HS with Honors	70.500%	Region 6	Freestyle Bronze

Top Three Individual Results and Medal Placings ~Junior Riders

Brandi Roenick/Pretty Lady	69.900%	Region 5	Individual Gold
Ari Lopez/Corlander II	68.900%	Region 7	Individual Silver
Mackenzie Jenkins/Tsarina Bint II	66.800%	Region 3	Individual Bronze
Morgan Heinrichs/Orlando	71.900%	Region 5	Freestyle Gold
McKenzie Jenkins/Tsarina Bint II	70.100%	Region 3	Freestyle Silver
Mackenzie Pooley/Jonkara	69.450%	Region 7	Freestyle Bronze

Team Medal Placings~Young Riders

<u>Region 7</u>	4417 pts	Team Gold Medal
Katie Johnson/Millenum		66.356%
Brianna Dutton/Tibet		65.778%
Christine Stephenson/Charly 285		64.178%
Thomas Walker/Grundsteins Legacy		60.933%
<u>Region 8</u>	4395 pts	Team Silver Medal
Laura Noyes/Syncro		67.200%
Julie McKean/Stravinsky		64.578%
Meagan Davis/Cachet		63.556%
Alexa Rice/Maarten		63.511%
<u>Ontario</u>	4374 pts	Team Bronze Medal
Amy Jager/Jive		66.133%
Jaimie Holland/Fleurina		64.400%
Jade Deter/Mastermind		63.867%
Danielle McKinnon/Noma Tender		63.733%

Team Medal Placings~Junior Riders

<u>Region 5</u>	3988 pts	Team Gold Medal
Morgan Heinrichs/Orlando		65.950%
Cassy Fitch/Kilroy		65.550%
Brittney Klasic/Wadi Draa		60.550%
Brandi Roenick/Pretty Lady		67.900%
<u>Region 4</u>	3934 pts	Team Silver Medal
Hans Baertsch/Rubinstar GB		65.750%
Layne Sandercott/Cedrick		63.950%
Amy Hacker/Discoverer		60.600%
Lauren Gorton/Don Perry		67.000%
<u>Region 7</u>	3886 pts	Team Bronze Medal
Ari Lopez/Corlander II		66.750%
Samantha Billings/Lauris		64.800%
Courtney Baine/Oletty is Dutch Treat		59.050%
Mackinzie Pooley/Jonkara		62.75%

- Mystere “Misty” Moyes of Region 9 won the Andrew DeSzinay Sportsmanship Award.
- Laura Noyes, of Region 8, won the USDF Fionna Baan “Pursuit of Excellence” trophy, which designates the overall winner in Dressage. Noyes also won the “Style Award” which the dressage judges award to the rider who combines the best seat and overall dressage impression in demeanor during the entire event.

2009 Objectives:

1. Continue with above.
2. Continue improving the USDF Web site to allow for easily accessible information.
3. Create, in cooperation with the USEF, an online NAJYRC entry process.
4. Re-evaluate clinic process to reflect economic trends.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Participate in open youth forum.
- II. Review any new FEI rules.
- III. Clinics review.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

TO BE DETERMINED AT 2008 CONVENTION

GMO Council Report

Chair: Sherry Guess, OK

Liaison: Melissa Holzwarth

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1:	Jennifer Mitchell, NC (LG)	Margaret Scarff, MD (SM)
Region 2:	Carrie Vacolas, OH (LG)	Theresa Luley, IN (SM)
Region 3:	Michelle Gerlach, FL (LG)	Margaret Gaboury, TN (SM)
Region 4:		Anne Sushko, IA (SM)*
Region 5:	Jennifer Cannerelli, AZ (LG)*	Scarlett Fahrenson, AZ (SM)
Region 6:	Corinne Stonier, OR (LG)	Anna Lucy Keller, ID (SM)
Region 7:	Carolyn Tice, CA (LG)	Martha McDaniel, HI (SM)
Region 8:	Cindi Rose Wylie, MA (LG)	Kelli J. Mason, MA (SM)
Region 9:	Bruce Lawrie, TX (LG)	Renee Smola, TX (SM)*

*New member(s) of the GMO Council for 2008.

Mission:

To accelerate the growth and development of Group Member Organizations (GMOs) to broaden and strengthen the dressage community and increase access to education.

Goals:

1. To promote the education of GMO leadership.
2. To offer support and materials.
3. To provide a network of others with experience.

2008 Objectives:

1. Make the GMOPrez List a more resourceful tool for GMOs. GMO Council coordinators will make monthly posts to encourage GMO officials to post questions, concerns, and ideas. Utilize the first seven days of each month to post GMO activities.
2. Continue to research opportunities for USDF hosting online Group Membership processing as is currently being tested with the Oregon Dressage Society.
3. Contact any individual requesting information regarding formation of new GMOs.
4. Continue to spread useful information to the GMOs from various committees and entities via the GMOPrez List.
5. Provide one educational session and one roundtable discussion at the 2008 convention.
6. Assist with the management of the GMO award programs.
7. Assist USDF staff in contacting GMOs who have not returned the Annual GMO Affiliate Verification form.
8. Request Regional Directors to make GMO Council appointments based on geographic representation.

2008 Accomplishments:

- The GMOPrez List has been active this year. A variety of information has been shared, including some issues that may require a bylaws change proposal. The invitation to post GMO events one week of the month is posted monthly and has already been utilized, as well as information on the resources provided by the USDF Historical Committee and The Dressage Foundation. The list has also been utilized for reminding GMO Presidents of upcoming deadlines.
- Provided members for the Committee on Outreach to GMOs.
- Provided judges for the GMO award programs.
- Continued to research opportunities for USDF hosting online Group Membership processing as is currently being tested with the Oregon Dressage Society.
- Assisted USDF staff in contacting GMOs who have not returned the Annual GMO Affiliate Verification form.
- Requested Regional Directors to make GMO Council appointments based on geographic representation.
- Solicited speakers for the educational session and topics for the roundtable discussion at the 2008 convention.
- Requested that the USDF councils and committees post any information they might wish to share with the GMOs prior to the upcoming convention.

2009 Objectives:

1. Make the GMOPrez List a more resourceful tool for GMOs. Utilize one week of each month to post GMO activities.
2. Contact any individual requesting information regarding formation of new GMOs.
3. Provide one educational session and one roundtable discussion at the 2009 convention.
4. Assist with the management of the GMO award programs.
5. Assist USDF staff in contacting GMOs who have not returned the Annual GMO Affiliate Verification form.
6. Provide one conflict resolution specialist in each region to assist GMOs when a mediator might be necessary to help resolve an issue.
7. Offer guidance to GMOs as needed in the area of conflict resolution.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Welcome and introductions.
- II. Discuss use of GMOPrez List.
- III. Discuss topics for educational session at 2009 convention (conflict resolution?).
- IV. Determine if roundtable discussions are still wanted/appreciated.
- V. Proposed change to GMO membership submission deadline.
- VI. Discussion of new proposed ruling on arena entry.
- VII. Discuss the forms GMOs are requested to submit to USDF.
- VIII. Discuss the lack of response to e-mails from the GMO Council.
- IX. Discuss goals for 2009.
- X. Performance standards.
- XI. Open discussion.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. Request to change GMO Council coordinator designation. (*See attached*)

GMO Council Proposal

The GMO Council members request that the Regional Directors appoint GMO Council coordinators by geographic designation rather than by the 'small' and 'large' designations now used. The GMO Council feels that more appropriate designations will allow them to better manage and serve their GMOs.

The Council and Committee Handbook, Third Edition, states that “Most councils have a chair and nine coordinators with the exception of the GMO Council that includes a regional coordinator for both large GMOs and small GMOs within the region.”

Reason for Proposal

This would allow the GMO Council coordinators to better serve the GMOs in their more immediate proximity.

Instructor Trainer Council Report

Chair: Lendon Gray, NY

Liaison: Kathie Robertson

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Candyce Allen, VA
Region 2: Barbara Jarboe, KY
Region 3: Jos Sevriens, GA
Region 4: Colleen L. Holden, MN
Region 5: Sarah M Martin, CO
Region 6: Paula B. Kierkegaard, WA
Region 7: Rachel S. Saavedra, CA
Region 8: Ann L. Guptill, CT
Region 9: Vera Muckleroy, TX

*There are no new member(s) of the Instructor Trainer Council for 2008.

Subcommittees

FEI Level Trainers' Conference

Lendon Gray Chris Hickey
Ann Guptil Fern Feldman

Instructor Certification Steering Committee

Lendon Gray Fern Feldman
Beth Clark Rachel Saavedra
Michael Poulin Charlotte Bredahl-Baker

Mission:

To promote the pursuit of excellence in dressage instruction and training.

Goals:

1. Provide education.
2. Set certification standards.
3. Develop and implement instructor certification programs.
4. Increase the number of Certified Instructors.

2008 Objectives:

1. Hold two USDF Instructor Certification testings in 2008.
2. Hold one USDF FEI Level Trainers' Conference.

3. Increase the number of workshops held each year.
4. Develop continuing education program for instructors during convention.
5. Evaluate Associate Instructor program.
6. Develop FEI Level workshop series.
7. Develop and implement the "Watch and Learn" workshop series.

2008 Accomplishments:

- Began program overview.
 - Review of workshop structure.
 - Purpose
 - Intended audience
 - Development of FEI Level certification.
 - Progression from workshops to certification.
 - Evaluation of workshop participants.
 - Review of Associate Instructor program.
- Held two testings in 2008:
 - Kentucky, Region 2 – April 11-12, 2008
 - Total tested: 6
 - Two passed Third – Fourth Level
 - One passed Training – Second Level
 - Washington, Region 6 – May 3-4, 2008
 - Total Tested: 4
 - One passed Training – Second
- Programs are continuing in Region 3, 4 and 8.
- Created a Blog for our instructors.
- Implemented new continuing education requirement for Certified Instructors.
- Reviewed/edited the following publications:
 - The Classical Training of the Horse
 - The USDF Lungeing Manual
 - The USDF Teaching Manual

2009 Objectives:

1. Hold two USDF Instructor Certification testings in 2009.
2. Hold one USDF FEI Level Trainers' Conference in 2009.
3. Increase number of workshops held.
4. Evaluate program, including development of FEI Level certification.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Increasing number of workshops.
- II. Summary of program review.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Nominating Council Report

Chair: Miki Christophersen, KS

Liaison: Deborah Dunivant

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Delores Kaminski, MD
Region 2: William H. Davis, MI*
Region 3: Barbara M. Petti, FL
Region 4: Gerri Muldrow, MO*
Region 5: Joyce Sanford, AZ
Region 6: Marsha Williams, OR
Region 7: Pat Hart, CA
Region 8: Elaine S. Donoghue, MA
Region 9: Kathryn Kyle, TX*

*New member(s) of the Nominating Council for 2008.

Mission:

To procure quality candidates to govern the United States Dressage Federation.

Goals:

1. Secure nominations for regional Participating Member (PM) delegates, Youth Executive Board (YEB), and USDF Executive Board (EB).
2. Ensure that all GMO/IMO members are represented on the Board of Governors by GMO/IMO delegates.
3. Educate the membership about the candidates and oversee the election process.

2008 Objectives:

1. Procure nominations for PM delegates in each region.
2. Procure nominations for YEB in Regions 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9.
3. Obtain names of GMO/IMO delegates when determined by each GMO/IMO.
4. Educate membership about candidates.
5. Recruit Canvassing Committee members from each region.
6. Oversee the election process.
7. Continue promotion of online voting with incentives for returned ballots.
8. Send notification letter to GMOs/IMOs who failed to respond to delegate requests for the 2007 convention in Orlando, Florida.

2008 Accomplishments:

- GMOs/IMOs who failed to respond to delegate requests for the 2007 convention in Orlando were sent notification letters from the USDF office and encouraged to provide representation at the 2008 convention in Denver, Colorado. The Nominating Council is currently in the process of obtaining the names of GMO delegates and proxy appointments for the 2008 meeting.
- Two FAQ documents were posted on the USDF Web site explaining the nomination, voting, and election processes for regional PM delegates and Youth Executive Board members. E-mail communications were sent to all USDF members informing them of the availability of these documents.
- PM delegate nominations for all nine regions and Youth Executive Board (odd-numbered regions) were secured by the April 15 deadline.
- A biography of each of the regional PM delegate candidates was printed in the June issue of the *USDF Connection*. Biographies for both the regional PM delegate candidates and the YEB candidates were posted on the USDF Web site.
- For the first time, the IT Department created a way to encourage online voting by utilizing the new “member log-in” feature. If an eligible voting member logged into the Web site, links to different voting options appeared on the home page. Three options were displayed: 1) vote now, 2) vote later, or 3) not vote at all. This feature also enabled those members who joined USDF **after** the ballots were mailed an opportunity to vote.
- Canvassing Committee members were recruited from each region; the mail-in ballot counting and auditing process was smooth and efficient. All candidates (both PM delegate and YEB) were informed of the election results by early August. The following were elected to serve on the YEB: Region 1 - Nicole DelGiorno; Region 3 - Lora Witterstaeter; Region 5 - Rachel Motsinger; Region 7 - Genay Vaughn; Region 9 - Faith Morris.
- The voting return rates for PM delegates showed improvement between 2007 and 2008 and the Nominating Council continues to see increased participation in online voting. However, the opposite was true for YEB voting with more YEB ballots returned by mail instead of online. (Chart below)

PM Delegate Voting Returns

	2007 Online	2007 Mail-in	2008 Online	2008 Mail-in	2007 Total % Return	2008 Total % Return
Region 1	241	118	322	163	12.303	17.759
Region 2	237	164	321	123	16.104	20.651
Region 3	224	112	251	119	14.973	17.754
Region4	147	99	148	76	25.759	28.035
Region5	118	91	132	83	16.509	19.926
Region 6	137	72	165	102	14.444	20.682
Region 7	229	127	299	134	12.81	17.292
Region 8	125	61	225	106	8.942	18.409
Region 9	175	62	185	91	18.301	23.350

Youth Executive Board Voting Returns

Region	2008 Online	2008 Mail-in	2008 Total % Return
1	17	28	14.196
3	8	17	9.542
5	1	8	6.870
7	11	20	8.611
9	4	13	10.366

- Incentives were offered to voters who returned their ballots by mail or voted online for both the PM delegate and YEB elections. Wendy Staub (Region 1) won a Lifetime Membership by voting online; Cindy Franchek (Region 9) won a 5-year Participating Membership by mailing her ballot; Alicia Zecherle (Region 7 YEB online voter) and Chelsea Kaplan (Region 7 YEB mail-in voter) won a USDF carry-all bag.
- For the first time this year, the USDF IT Department established a “Delegate Forum” to facilitate communication between our delegates prior to the convention. At this time, our council is uncertain about its success and its future use by our delegates.

2009 Objectives:

1. Procure nominations for USDF President and USDF Treasurer by June 1, 2009.
2. Procure nominations for Regional Director in Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8 by June 1, 2009.
3. Procure nominations for PM delegates in all nine regions by April 15, 2009.
4. Procure nominations for YEB in Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8 by April 15, 2009.
5. Obtain GMO/IMO delegate appointments when determined by each GMO/IMO.
6. Educate membership about the candidates.
7. Recruit canvassing committee member from each region.
8. Oversee the election process.
9. Continue the promotion of online voting with incentives for returned ballots.
10. Send notification letter to GMOs/IMOs who fail to respond to delegate/proxy requests for the 2008 convention in Denver.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. USDF Delegate Forum — should this be continued for the future?
- II. Lengthier online biographies for regional PM delegate and YEB candidates.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Technical Delegates Council Report

Chair: Sally Chionsini, TX*

Liaison: Krystina Firth

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Tamla Nichols, VA*
Region 2: Carolyn A. Borgert, KY
Region 3: Linda Lester, FL
Region 4: Loretta Waltner, SD
Region 5: Dianne H. Stanley, MT
Region 6: Betty H. Shambrook, WA
Region 7: Rebecca Lewis, CA
Region 8: Paul D. Cormier, MA
Region 9: Sandra F. Marx, LA

*New member(s) of the Technical Delegates Council for 2008.

Mission:

To provide education and an organized voice for Technical Delegates.

Goals:

1. Provide educational programs for technical delegates and aspiring technical delegates.
2. Review United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) rules and rule change proposals.

2008 Objectives:

1. Revise the TD Check List.
2. Update the TD Co-op List.
3. Work with USEF and USDF to increase awareness of the USDF Competition Handbook and broadcast its availability to all technical delegates.
4. Consider “resurrecting” the rules and procedures FAQ that used to reside on the USEF Web site.
5. Continue communication with coordinators and the technical delegates in their region.
6. Continue to monitor all rule changes and keep TDs alerted via e-mails to coordinators.

2008 Accomplishments:

- Members of the council have been asked to promote use of the USDF Competition Handbook and to remind the TDs in their region of the helpful information contained in this publication.
- Frequent communications have been transmitted to the TD coordinators and to the TD council liaison.
- Regional TD coordinators have been alerted to posted rule changes and the errata section of the Web site. USEF staff members have been helpful in sharing methods for navigating the Web site and locating rules that have been repositioned due to reorganization. This information has been forwarded to the coordinators.
- The TD Co-op List was updated in January 2008.
- With the help and cooperation of the TD Council, the TD Check List was reorganized and revised.

2009 Objectives:

1. Monitor rule changes and make comments where appropriate.
2. Provide a forum for TDs (via e-mail exchange) for discussing situations that cannot be easily resolved by application of the rules.
3. Review the TD Check List and update areas that are affected by current rule changes.
4. Develop a job description for regional coordinators.
5. Continue to increase awareness of the USDF Competition Handbook and encourage its use by technical delegates.
6. Continue communication with regional coordinators/council members and encourage them to share information with technical delegates in their region and to be available to answer questions from those interested in the technical delegate licensing program.
7. Review the Dressage Protocol and make suggestions for revisions if appropriate.
8. Investigate the possibility of establishing a USDF Web page to answer FAQs on policies, procedures, protocol and rules.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Open the meeting, introduce council members, ask other attendees to introduce themselves.
- II. Present the goals and objectives for 2009 and invite discussion.
- III. List current rule changes and allow questions.
- IV. Open the floor for general questions and comments.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. Consideration of updating the USDF Technical Delegate Council Goals for 2009:
 - a. Support USEF and its rules and procedures.
 - b. Establish regular contact with all technical delegates through regional coordinators.
 - c. Establish a dialog between the Competition Management Council and the Technical Delegate Council in order to encourage the use of technical delegates as a resource.
 - d. Increase interest in applying to the Apprentice Technical Delegate Program and enrolling in the Apprentice Technical Delegate Clinic.

Youth Council Report

Chair: Dorothy Mueller, MI

Liaison: Karin Glassman

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Carolyn Eskridge, NC*
Region 2: Korin Rinaldo, IN*
Region 3: Ellen Witterstaeter, FL
Region 4: Lloyd Landkamer, MN
Region 5: Julie Barringer-Richers, CO
Region 6: Gaye McCabe, OR
Region 7: Mary C. Schrader, CA
Region 8: Lendon F. Gray, NY
Region 9: Mary Therese Wetzel, OK

*New member(s) of the Youth Council for 2008.

Mission:

To promote dressage to young equestrians while providing for the future of the sport.

Goals:

1. Provide educational opportunities.
2. Provide recognition programs.
3. Increase number of Junior/Young Rider participants.
4. Promote sportsmanship at the Junior/Young Rider level.

2008 Objectives:

1. Further develop projects identified in the USDF/USPC partnership.
2. Provide the coordinator job description to all coordinators every year and assist with orienting new coordinators to the job.
3. Continue to promote the High School Dressage Club Pin program.
4. Increase communication to youth in each region by contacting local groups and GMOs and providing them with information about USDF youth programs and the USDF Web site.
5. Promote the Youth Art Contest.
6. Interface with other USDF councils and committees, encouraging more youth participation in other program areas.
7. Assist with the selection of the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award and USEF Youth Council representative.

2008 Accomplishments:

- Approved High School Dressage Club recognition of achievement in subsequent school years by collecting USDF club pins (different from original high school pin).
- Awarded 23 High School Dressage Club recognition pins in 2008.
- Updated High School Dressage Club Guidelines and Year End Summary Report form.
- Included Youth Team Championship and FEI Jr/YR Clinic dates in the USPC Calendar of Events on the USPC Web site, supporting the USDF/USPC partnership.
- Administered Youth Arts Contest; there were 52 entries this year.
- Approved moving administration of Youth Arts Contest to Marketing, combining with the Adult Arts Contest, to achieve one USDF Arts and Creativity Contest.
- Endorsed Youth Executive Board proposal to alter criteria for Youth Volunteer of the Year Award for volunteer hours to accumulate “between September 1 of the previous calendar year and August 31 of the current calendar year.”
- Approved posting to Web site of document “10 Tips for Successful Scholarship and Award Applications.”
- Approved six Youth Team Championship competitions in 2008.
- Processed four Youth Team Championship Grant requests in 2008 (as of 9/29/08).
- Approved change of program name from Youth Team Championships to Youth Team Competitions, to become effective in the 2009 competition year.
- Included Youth Team Competition forms and documents on the 2009 Competition Manager’s CD.
- Approved four Shining Star Awards (as of October 1) in 2008.
- Processed nine Shining Stars awarded (as of October 20) at Youth Team Championships in 2008.
- Participated in selection of regional winners for the USDF nominee to the USEF Youth Sportsman’s Award.

2009 Objectives:

TO BE DETERMINED AT 2008 CONVENTION

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Discuss 2009 objectives.
- II. Participate in Youth Open Forum.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Youth Executive Board Report

President: Claire Darnell, TX

Liaison: Karin Glassman

2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 3 – December 7 Denver, Colorado

2008 Regional Representatives:

Region 1: Meredith Baker, MD*
Region 2: Sydney Bartson, MI*
Region 3: Lora Witterstaeter, FL
Region 4: Ellie Hardesty, KS
Region 5: Vanessa Simon, CO
Region 6: Jessica Robertson Hartzell, WA*
Region 7: Susan Walker, CA
Region 8: Mary Bahniuk Lauritsen, MA*
Region 9: Claire Darnell, TX

*New member(s) of the Youth Executive Board for 2008.

Mission:

To represent the thoughts, opinions and needs of youth in each region and convey them to the USDF Executive Board and the Board of Governors for motion and action.

Goals:

1. To improve communication between the regional directors, coordinators and the youth members in each region.
2. To improve communication between youth in each region in an effort to help them become more aware of youth activities.

2008 Objectives:

1. Improve communication via the new Web site.
2. Develop youth pages on regional/USDF Web sites.
3. Increase interest for Convention Scholarship and Youth Volunteer of the Year award.

2008 Accomplishments:

- Approved change in criteria for YVOY for volunteer hours to accumulate “between September 1 of the previous calendar year and August 31 of the current calendar year.”
- Selected 2008 Youth Volunteer of the Year.

- Selected 2008 Youth Convention Scholarship winners.
- Approved amended language for Youth Convention Scholarship directives to provide flexibility in number of scholarships awarded.
- Represented USDF on USEF Youth Council and at USEF Annual Youth Convention.
- Sent special invitation to USPC members to attend the 2008 Adequan/USDF National Symposium & Convention.

2009 Objectives:

1. Participate in the Youth Open Forum and conduct Youth Education Session at Adequan/USDF Annual Convention.
2. Develop proposal to include in the Youth Executive Board Bylaws regarding attendance policy for youth board members and clarification of member expectations.
3. Improve communication amongst youth members across riding levels (high performance/grass roots).
4. Prepare YEB working groups' recommendations for youth merchandise, enhancing Web site for youth interests, and promoting the Youth Silent Auction.
5. Conduct selection processes for YVOY and Youth Convention Scholarship awards.
6. Conduct Youth Silent Auction to support Youth Convention Scholarship.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. New member orientation.
- II. Review YEB Policies and Procedures.
- III. Vote on amendment to YVOY criteria.
- IV. Discuss 2009 Objectives.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. Amendment to YVOY criteria.