

Committee Reports Index

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Administrative Council

Bylaws Committee Report

Chair: Chris Trentelman, FL

Liaison: Deborah Dunivant

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Alison Head, VA
Janine Malone, NC
Charee Adams, OH
Barbara Cadwell, OH
Sue Hughes, MI
Bill Maybee, MI
Gaye McCabe, OR
Peter Rothschild, WA
Paula Langan, CA
Charles Lewis, CA

*There are no new members of the Bylaws Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To provide for the fair and equitable governance of the United States Dressage Federation.

Goals:

1. Recommend Bylaw amendments as needed.
2. Present amendments to the USDF Board of Governors for ratification.

2011 Objectives:

1. Recommend Bylaws changes as necessary.
2. Discuss and draft Bylaws changes as requested by the Executive Board and other USDF committees and members to be presented to the BOG in the future.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Drafted proposed changes to Bylaws (mainly housekeeping) as requested by Nominating Committee and Executive Board.
- Coordinated with Nominating Committee concerning ALD elections and proposed Bylaws edits as required.
- The Bylaws governance document was updated January 5, 2011 to include the approved Bylaws amendments from the 2010 BOG General Assembly, and is posted on the USDF Website.
- Held Bylaws Committee teleconference to nominate Gaye McCabe as nominee for ALD.

2012 Objectives:

1. Recommend Bylaws changes as necessary.
2. Discuss and draft Bylaws changes as requested by the Executive Board and other USDF committees and members to be presented to the BOG General Assembly in the future.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Welcome to attendees and introduction of committee members and guests.
- II. Discuss proposed Bylaws amendments to come before the BOG General Assembly.
- III. Such other items as may come before the meeting.
- IV. Q&A session
- V. New member interest for joining the Bylaws Committee
- VI. Adjourn

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

GMO Committee Report

Chair: Anne Sushko, IA

Liaison: Melissa Schoedlbauer

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Gardy Bloemers, VA*
Brynn Hansen, WI*
Barbara Petti, FL
Gillian Howell, NE*
Scarlett Fahrenson, AZ
Corinne Stonier, OR
Carolyn Tice, CA
Martha McDaniel, HI
Cindi Wylie, MA
Bruce Lawrie, TX

*New member(s) of the GMO Committee for 2011.

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.

2011 Objectives:

1. Assist with the management of the GMO awards program.
2. Provide topics for the GMO roundtable discussion at the 2011 convention.
3. Assist USDF staff in contacting GMOs who have not returned the Annual GMO Affiliate Verification Form.
4. Encourage GMO officials to utilize the GMOPrez List.
5. Assist any GMO as needed in the area of conflict resolution.
6. Facilitate distribution of GMO documents via flash drive.
7. Work more closely with Membership Committee to meet mutual goals.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Held a conference call to discuss the At-Large Director position. Conducted an email vote after the call to vote for a nominee from the GMO Committee.
- Determined topics for 2011 GMO Roundtable discussion.

- Determined that the GMO Committee and Membership Committee will hold a joint meeting at the 2011 annual convention.
- Worked with the Membership Committee Chair on a new meeting format for the GMO Committee and Membership Committee at the 2011 annual convention.
- Determined agenda items for the joint GMO Committee and Membership Committee meeting that will be held at the annual convention.
- Secured judges for the 2011 GMO awards.
- Prepared for implementation of the new GMO awards program.

2012 Objectives:

1. Facilitate distribution of GMO documents via flash drive.
2. Continue to work with the Membership Committee.
3. Implement new GMO awards program.
4. Provide topics for the GMO Roundtable Discussion at the 2012 annual convention.
5. Provide support to GMOs as needed to increase membership and member participation.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Welcome to attendees, introduction of committee members, recognition of attendees by region.
- II. Presentation by USDF Vice President, Beth Jenkins.
- III. Presentation by The Dressage Foundation on grants and scholarships.
- IV. Delegate voting participation.
- V. National Championships proposal with George Williams.
- VI. Open discussion.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Historical Recognition Committee Report

Chair: Anne Moss, PA

Liaison: Kim Sodt

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Jennifer Bryant, PA
Bettina Longaker, VA
Rosalind Kinstler, MI
Roberta Williams, OH
Becky Johnston, FL
Anne Ramsay, FL
Charlotte L. Trentelman, FL
Dianne H. Stanley, MT
Anna Lucy Keller, ID
Susan Lombardi, CA

*There are no new members of the Historical Recognition Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To recognize and celebrate the rich heritage of dressage in America through education and promotion.

Goals:

1. Oversee and coordinate Hall of Fame and Lifetime Achievement Award selection.
2. Work with USDF and assist in the development and selection of materials and criteria of the Hall of Fame building.
3. Gather and archive information on the heritage of USDF.

2011 Objectives:

1. Nominate suitable candidates for the Hall of Fame and for the Lifetime Achievement Award.
2. Continue to work and provide the USDF staff and Hall of Fame Advisory Subcommittee with input regarding displays and content for the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame building.
3. Continue the concerted effort to collect historical information regarding the GMOs, acting as voluntary repository.
4. Continue recording interviews with the Hall of Fame inductees and Lifetime Achievement Award recipients, as well as induction ceremonies, to make available to membership.
5. Develop possible criteria for Equine Ambassador Recognition.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Nominated one inductee for the 2011 Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame 2011: Lendon Gray.

2012 Objectives:

1. To be determined at 2011 convention.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Develop 2012 Objectives.
- II. Discussion criterion for Lifetime Achievement Award and Hall of Fame based upon the EB's recommendation.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Membership Committee Report

Chair: Anneliese Vogt Harber, GA

Liaison: Melissa Schoedlbauer

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Kevin Bradbury, MI
Judith Fiorentino, AL
Holly Scherzer, AL
Anne Sushko, IA*
Tracie Wang, NE
Corinne Stonier, OR*
Paula Langan, CA
Debra Carr-Kirk, MA

*New member(s) of the Membership Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To grow, strengthen, and support the USDF membership.

Goals:

1. Expand the USDF membership roster by bringing in new members.
2. Maintain the current USDF membership base.
3. Encourage GMO only members to also become USDF Participating Members.
4. Improve communication between USDF and all membership categories.

2011 Objectives:

1. Provide assistance to USDF staff with membership projects initiated by USDF or USDF members.
2. Provide an open line of communication between USDF members and USDF.
3. Help to develop a streamlined process of submitting competition evaluations to USDF.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Held a conference call to discuss the At-Large Director position. Conducted an email vote after the call to vote for a nominee from the Membership Committee.
- The Membership Committee will provide representation at the Competition Open Forum at the annual convention, which will focus on peer-to-peer discussion points as well as the National Championships.
- Anneliese Vogt-Harber, Anne Sushko, and Corinne Stonier, from the Membership Committee, have agreed to serve on the newly developed Membership Advisory Working Group.

- Determined that the GMO Committee and Membership Committee will hold a joint meeting at the 2011 annual convention.
- Worked with the GMO Committee Chair on the new meeting format for the GMO Committee and Membership Committee at the 2011 annual convention.
- Determined agenda items for the joint GMO Committee and Membership Committee meeting that will be held at the annual convention.

2012 Objectives:

1. Provide assistance to USDF staff with membership projects initiated by USDF or USDF members.
2. Provide an open line of communication between USDF members and USDF.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Welcome to attendees, introduction of committee members, recognition of attendees by region.
- II. Presentation by USDF Vice President, Beth Jenkins.
- III. Presentation by The Dressage Foundation on grants and scholarships.
- IV. Delegate voting participation.
- V. National Championships proposal with George Williams.
- VI. Open discussion.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Nominating Committee Report

Chair: Miki Christophersen, KS

Liaison: Sarah Jones

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Regional Coordinators:

Region 1: Delores Kaminski, MD
Region 2: Bill Maybee, MI
Region 3: Barbara M. Petti, FL
Region 4: Tracie Wang, NE
Region 5: Kay Lorenzen, AZ*
Region 6: Marsha Williams, OR
Region 7: Tracy Underwood, CA*
Region 8: Elaine S. Donoghue, MA
Region 9: Kathryn Kyle, TX

*New member(s) of the Nominating Committee for 2011.

Mission:

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

Goals:

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

2011 Objectives:

1. Procure nominations for PM delegates in all nine regions by April 15.
2. Procure nominations for ALD candidates from the committees.
3. Obtain GMO delegate appointments when designated by each GMO.
4. Educate the membership about candidates.
5. Recruit Canvassing Committee members.
6. Oversee the election process.
7. Send notification letter to each GMO who fails to respond to delegate and proxy-holder requests.

2011 Accomplishments:

- The following At-Large Director candidates were secured by June 1: Deborah Ann Garris (Activities Council); Lisa Gorretta (Activities Council); Kevin Bradbury (Administrative Council); Gaye McCabe (Administrative Council); Janet Foy

(Technical Council); Gerhard Politz (Technical Council); Maureen Van Tuyl (Technical Council); Carolyn VandenBerg (Technical Council).

- Biographies of PM delegate candidates were posted on the USDF Web site. PM delegate biographies also appeared in the June issue of *USDF Connection*. Biographies of At-Large Director candidates were published in the October issue of *USDF Connection* and were also posted on the USDF Web site.
- PM delegate elections took place in all nine regions and notification of the election outcome to the candidates occurred in early August.

PM Delegate Voting Returns

| | 2010 Mailed | 2010 Online | 2011 Mailed | 2011 Online | 2010 Total % Return | 2011 Total % Return |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Region 1 | 0 | 387 | 0 | 297 | 17.892 | 13.776 |
| Region 2 | 5 | 414 | 3 | 303 | 21.609 | 16.216 |
| Region 3 | 0 | 277 | 0 | 253 | 17.194 | 15.104 |
| Region 4 | 2 | 157 | 1 | 126 | 21.200 | 18.221 |
| Region 5 | 1 | 144 | 0 | 113 | 15.727 | 12.812 |
| Region 6 | 0 | 206 | 0 | 150 | 17.267 | 13.838 |
| Region 7 | 2 | 333 | 0 | 221 | 16.894 | 12.210 |
| Region 8 | 0 | 273 | 0 | 182 | 17.797 | 12.231 |
| Region 9 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 143 | 13.901 | 14.788 |

2012 Objectives:

1. Procure nominations for USDF President and Treasurer.
2. Procure nominations for Regional Director in Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8.
3. Procure nominations for PM delegate in all nine regions by April 15.
4. Obtain GMO delegate appointments when designated by each GMO.
5. Educate the membership about candidates.
6. Recruit Canvassing Committee members.
7. Oversee the election process.
8. Send notification letter to each GMO who fails to respond to delegate and proxy-holder requests.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Discussion of nominating process for ALD candidates.
- II. Discussion of newly proposed Bylaws affecting Nominating Committee.
- III. PM Delegate voting returns per region.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

TO: USDF EXECUTIVE BOARD
FROM: MIKI CHRISTOPHERSEN, USDF NOMINATING CHAIRMAN
RE: FEEDBACK ON ALD NOMINATING PROCESS

Since this was the first year for the USDF At-Large-Director positions on the USDF Executive Board, I thought it might be worthwhile to solicit feedback (following the June 1 deadline) from the Committee Chairmen and Committee liaisons (who chose to respond) regarding the ALD nominating process.

Two questions were asked:

1. What went well with the ALD nominating process?
2. What areas in the process need improvement or should be revisited and/or possibly changed?

FROM THE COMMITTEE LIAISONS:

Regarding question (1.) the Committee liaisons responded that the e-mail vote was the easiest part of the process to facilitate.

Regarding question (2.), there were two main issues mentioned by the liaisons that responded. The first was the mandatory conference call required by the EB prior to the email vote. Many of the volunteers (who served on more than one committee) had scheduling conflicts, and were unhappy that they were required to schedule conference calls within a short time period. Some committees preferred communicating via email instead of conference call because of convenience with daily routine or work schedules.

The second issue was in regards to the following USDF bylaw:

Article X—Section 2, A
Section 2. The At-Large Directors

2. In the event that one person serves on multiple Committees within a Council, they may neither be nominated more than once, nor may they vote more than once.

Several USDF volunteers serve on multiple Committees within the same Council, and Committee liaisons found this bylaw difficult to implement and explain to volunteers. In addition, there was a risk of not having a quorum in order to comply with the bylaw.

One staff member suggested that the voting process should be by Council rather than Committee in order to limit the number of candidates going forward to the BOG. Another staff member agreed that Councils expressed interest in collaborating efforts to nominate candidates from the pool of all members rather than restricting the process to the confines of the committee.

Some liaisons report that some volunteers expressed frustration that the process was unclear and the window to submit ALD nominees too short. This could be attributed to the fact that this is the first time the process was implemented.

FROM THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

Regarding question (2.), two Committee Chairs suggested that newer committee members needed more history about USDF and the purpose of adding these three new positions to the EB.

SUMMARY:

1. Conference calls should be recommended by the EB, but should not be required or mandatory.
2. Committee members not running for ALD should be allowed to vote within each of their Committees regardless of whether they fall under the same Council.
3. Committee members need to know the history of USDF and the purpose for adding the three new positions on the EB.
4. The nomination and voting process for ALD candidates should be by Councils rather than Committees.

RECOMMENDATION GOING FORWARD:

The Nominating Committee will recommend a plan to the EB after discussion during its meeting at the 2011 convention.

Technical Council

Competition Management Committee Report

Chair: Regina Antonioli, CA

Liaison: Krystina Firth

***2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4
San Diego, California***

2011 Committee Members:

Bettina Longaker, VA
Kevin Bradbury, MI
Heather Petersen, CO
Rose Newman, WA
David Schmutz, CA
Maureen Van Tuyl, CA
Debra Reinhardt, CT
A. Whit Watkins, TX

*There are no new member(s) of the Competition Management Committee for 2011.

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 Committee and other committees, as well as the USDF office staff.
6. Provide competition management education and show secretary education.

2011 Objectives:

1. FEI Managers Subcommittee to write a guideline for FEI competitions.
2. Increase the number and quality of recognized competitions. Is reduced mileage an answer?

2011 Accomplishments:

- Communication was opened and continues with Technical Delegates Committee on how the two Committees can work to strengthen ties and communication between competition management and Technical Delegates. No definitive actions were taken.

2012 Objectives:

1. With the present economy, rather than focus on new shows, how can we help existing shows stay financially viable and even increase their exhibitor participation?
2. Help management better understand the dressage show levels, and possible use of the levels as a guide to “brand” their shows and attract more competitors.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Understanding & using the dressage show levels to attract exhibitors.
- II. Increasing show revenue without breaking the back of the exhibitor.
- III. Address the USEF proposed rule on Affiliate Association’s collection of fees.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Freestyle Committee Report

Chair: Janet (Dolly) Hannon, CO

Liaison: Kim Sodt

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Tigger Montague, VA
Terry Ciotti Gallo, FL
Marlene Schneider, MN
Anna Lucy Keller, ID
Jane Escola, CA
Alexsandra Howard, CA
Ann Guptill, CT
Debra Reinhardt, CT
Susan Howard, TX

*There are no new member(s) of the Freestyle Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To promote freestyle and provide educational opportunities dealing with choreography, music and judging. To use musical rides to increase exposure and popularize freestyle, quadrille, pas de deux and the sport of dressage.

Goals:

1. Design and provide educational programs for freestyle, pas de deux and quadrille for the general membership and for judge education.
2. Keep freestyle, pas de deux, and quadrille rules, guidelines, and definitions and score sheets up to date and consistent for all three.
3. Coordinate with the Judges Committee and with Competition Management and Awards Committees.
4. Maintain a freestyle web page on the USDF Web site to increase exposure, as well as to create promotional activities and educational material for freestyle, pas de deux and quadrille.

2011 Objectives:

1. Continue to track judges who have completed freestyle education.
2. Continue to improve and update web pages.
3. Continue to update the freestyle, pas de deux, and quadrille tests, rules and guidelines.
4. Initiate GMO Charity Challenge.
5. Work with the "L" Program and Judges Committees on updating material for education programs.
6. Present a series of three articles in *Connection* on developing a freestyle.

7. Start a pilot project to include pas de deux and quadrille at Regional Championships.
8. Work on ideas to promote freestyle, pas de deux and quadrille.

2011 Accomplishments:

- The freestyle, pas de deux and quadrille web pages have been updated to include the finalized 2011 rules, guidelines and definitions.
- Currently working with Judges and 'L' Program Committees to update the educational materials in the Musical Freestyle "L" Elective Weekend.
- Four part series on developing a freestyle was published in *Connection* running in the September, October, November and December/January issues.
- Worked with the Judges Committee to develop a proposal, for consideration by USEF, to designate licensed judges who have participated in freestyle continuing education.
- Developed a handout, with input from the Judges Committee, 'Understanding the Artistic Impression' for judges, competitors and members based upon the new 2011 freestyle score sheets.
- Dolly Hannon wrote an article, on behalf of the committee, for *USDF Connection* highlighting changes in the 2011 freestyle score sheets and 'Understanding the Artistic Impression' handout.

2012 Objectives:

1. Continue to track judges who have completed freestyle education.
2. Continue to improve and update freestyle, pas de deux and quadrille pages on the USDF Web site.
3. Work with "L" Program and Judges Committees to revise material for both the "L" Program and the Continuing Education "L" Elective Musical Freestyle weekend.
4. Continue to provide articles about freestyle, pas de deux and quadrille for *USDF Connection*.
5. Develop an educational handout or tool providing scribing tips for freestyle, pas de deux and quadrille.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Develop 2012 objectives.
- II. Freestyle Education opportunities through e-TRAK.
- III. Current member participation and interest.
- IV. GMO Charity Challenge proposal and recommendations from the EB.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Instructor Trainer Committee Report

Chair: Gerhard Politz, CA

Liaison: Kathie Robertson

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Deborah Bowman, VA
Bailey Cook, NC*
Cindy Sydnor, NC
Maryal Barnett, MI
Lilo Fore, CA
Rachel S. Saavedra, CA
Sarah Geikie, CT
Lendon Gray, NY
Ann Guptill, CT
Vicki Hammers – O'Neil, CT

*New member(s) of the Instructor Trainer Committee for 2011.

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.

2011 Objectives:

1. Develop and implement training program for new level Faculty.
2. Implement workshops and final exams for new level of certification.
3. Revise USDF Teaching Manual.
4. Host three USDF Instructor Certification Final Exams.
5. Identify education/testing centers.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Completed first training session for new level of Faculty.
- Finalizing details to announce and implement new level of workshops and certification.
- Hosted two USDF Instructor Certification Final Exams.
- Finalized update of Faculty Notebook.

2012 Objectives:

1. Finalize revision of USDF Teaching Manual.
2. Host three USDF Instructor Certification Final Exams.
3. Increase number of education workshops.
4. Implement new level of workshop and certification.
5. Host one FEI Level Trainers' Conference.
6. Finalize detail for FEI Level workshops and certification.
7. Complete training of new level faculty.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Implementation of Training-First Level workshops and certification level.
- II. Introductory Faculty.
- III. FEI Level Workshops and Certification.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Judges Committee Report

Chair: Lois Yukins, MA

Liaison: Kim Sodt

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Maryal Barnett, MI
Terry Ciotti Gallo, FL
Marilyn Heath, FL
Gary Rockwell, FL
William Solyntjes, MN
Janet Foy, CO
Trenna Atkins, WA
David Schmutz, CA
William Warren, MA
Marilyn Kulifay, TX

*There are no new member(s) of the Judges Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To promote the pursuit of excellence in dressage judging.

Goals:

1. Provide educational opportunities for all levels of judges.
2. Continue to improve the training of individuals currently licensed or aspiring to be licensed judges.
3. Recognize progressive development of judges.

2011 Objectives:

1. Monitor all FEI and USEF rule changes and make proposed rule changes available to membership as soon as possible.
2. Continue to promote and enhance the Continuing Education Program for judges and USDF "L" graduates by adding more potential program formats.
3. Promote and update the Musical Freestyle "L" Elective Weekend format of the Continuing Education Program for judges and USDF "L" graduates, as well as all other program formats.
4. Continue implementing new 2011 test videos for judge-related educational material.
5. Continue to work with professional videographers to gather 2011 test videos from competitions to use in judge-related educational material.

6. Discuss and develop a strategic plan regarding continuing education for “L” graduates, researching potential requirements and ideas.
7. Work with the USEF Test Writing Subcommittee on gathering feedback from the membership on the 2011 tests and present those suggestions to USEF.
8. Carry on with “The Judge’s Box” in USDF *Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities within the area of judge education.
9. Continue to work and keep improving on open communication between riders, trainers, judges and show management.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Updated the Organizer Guidelines and forms for the Continuing Education Programs.
- Worked with TDF to update the Edgar Hotz Endowment fund grant procedure.
- Professional videos of the new tests have been purchased and are in the process of being edited for use in judge education.
- Working with the USEF Test Writing Subcommittee to gather feedback from the membership on the 2011 tests and present those suggestions to USEF.
- Worked with the “L” Program Committee on “The Judge’s Box” in USDF *Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities within the area of judge education.
- A working group has been set up to update the Musical Freestyle “L” Elective Weekend materials for the Continuing Education Program for judges and USDF “L” graduates.
- Working with the Freestyle Committee on a proposal to USEF to designate judges who have participated in Judging Freestyle Continuing Education Programs.

2012 Objectives:

1. Monitor all FEI and USEF rule changes and make proposed rule changes available to membership as soon as possible.
2. Continue to promote and enhance the Continuing Education Program for judges and USDF “L” graduates by adding more potential program formats.
3. Promote and update the Musical Freestyle “L” Elective Weekend format of the Continuing Education Program for judges and USDF “L” graduates, as well as all other program formats.
4. Continue implementing new 2011 test videos for judge-related educational material.
5. Continue to work with professional videographers to gather 2011 test videos from competitions to use in judge-related educational material.
6. Discuss and develop a strategic plan regarding continuing education for “L” graduates, researching potential requirements and ideas.
7. Work with the USEF Test Writing Subcommittee on gathering feedback from the membership on the 2011 tests and present those suggestions to USEF.
8. Work with “L” Program to carry on with “The Judge’s Box” in USDF *Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities within the area of judge education.
9. Continue to work to improve and keep communications open between riders, trainers, judges and show management.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Develop 2012 Objectives.
- II. Judging concerns.
- III. Judge education topics: freestyle education regarding 2011 tests and half points.
- IV. Continuing Education Program update.
- V. FEI and USEF judge-related updates.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

“L” Program Committee Report

Chair: Marilyn Heath, FL

Liaison: Kim Sodt

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Elizabeth Madlener, MD
Jayne Ayers, WI
Maryal Barnett, MI
Joan Humphrey, FL
Marianne Ludwig, FL
Gary Rockwell, FL
William Solyntjes, MN
Janet Foy, CO
Debbie Riehl – Rodriguez, CO
Trenna Atkins, WA
Tracey Lert, CA
Jeff Moore, CA
Axel Steiner, CA
Lois Yukins, MA

*There are no new member(s) of the “L” Program Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To provide a comprehensive educational program for the entire dressage community to learn about the equestrian discipline of dressage from the judge’s point of view.

Goals:

1. Provide trainers, instructors, competitors and spectators’ insight into the evaluative techniques of judging dressage.
2. Prepare and evaluate candidates who wish to pursue entry into the USEF ‘r’ Judge Training Program.
3. Provide continuing education for licensed judges and “L” graduates.
4. Select and provide teaching materials to “L” faculty members.

2011 Objectives:

1. Expand “L” Program video/DVD library to supplement and modernize the educational material presented in the program by faculty.
2. “L” Program working groups will continue evaluating and selecting footage of movements and complete tests. Footage will be edited and packaged into judge-related educational materials.
3. Continue to promote and educate membership on the philosophy of the “L” Program by utilizing USDF *Connection* and the USDF Web site.

2011 Accomplishments:

- USDF "L" Program materials are currently up to date for 2011.
- The "L" Binder has been officially discontinued with "L" Material being available on the "L" Flash Drive.
- A total of nine "L" Programs held sessions in Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 in 2011. Five of these programs will complete their final exams in 2011. Only four programs, with 40 candidates, have completed the final exam, as of November 1. Of the 40 that took the final exam, 36 graduated, with 21 of those graduating with distinction.
- All USDF "L" Program materials are currently up to date for 2011.
- Part 1 Session evaluations are now emailed to participants through Zoomerang.
- Educational opportunities, provided through e-TRAK, have been developed and shared with all "L" Participants, Candidates and Graduates. These online educational tools and exercises were provided to meet the need expressed by the "L" participants through program evaluations.
- Developed and presented a recommendation for a new committee structure for the EB's review and approval.
- Worked with USEF, in a joint effort to further judge education, to organize a USEF Instructor/ Examiner Orientation Session to be held at the 2011 convention. This session will be taught by "L" Faculty and provide an overview of the "L" Program for the Instructors/ Examiners of the USEF Judge Training Programs.
- Currently working with USEA regarding sharing "L" educational materials for their judge education programs.

2012 Objectives:

1. Continue to expand "L" Program video/DVD library to supplement and modernize the educational material presented in the program by faculty.
2. Continue to promote and educate membership on the philosophy of the "L" Program by utilizing USDF *Connection* and the USDF Web site.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Updates for 2012 teaching presentations will be reviewed.
- II. Develop 2012 objectives.
- III. Discuss and review the evaluative sessions of the program.
- IV. Discussion of the L Program broken down into sessions, including an explanation of what is required for the sessions.
- V. Updates on Program: New & Upcoming.
- VI. Q&A/Suggestions.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Technical Delegates Committee Report

Chair: Dianne Stanley, MT

Liaison: Krystina Firth

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Natalie DiBerardinis, MD*
Carolyn Borgert, KY
Linda Lester, FL
Laura Gloor, MN
Eva-Maria Adolphi, UT*
Rusty Cook, NM
Kaye Phaneuf, OR
Rebecca Lewis, CA
Paul Cormier, MA
Carolyn VandenBerg, TX

*New member(s) of the Technical Delegates Committee for 2011.

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.
3. Establish regular contact with all technical delegates through regional coordinators.
4. Establish a dialog between the Competition Management Committee and the Technical Delegates Committee in order to encourage show managers to use technical delegates as a resource.

2011 Objectives:

1. Review and revise Dressage Show Protocol and encourage use of document.
2. Review and refine TD Checklist.
3. Establish regular contact with all TDs through regional coordinators.
4. Establish communication with Competition Management Committee.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Accessed USEF rule change proposals and distributed information about the availability of these posted rule change proposals to all TDs via email.
- Reviewed and updated Dressage Protocol and the TD Checklist.

- Communicated with chairs of other committees to identify ways in which TDs can be perceived as resources for competition management, competitors and others.
- Communicated with USDF staff regarding the USDF TD Apprentice clinic.

2012 Objectives:

1. Continue supporting educational programs including the TD Apprentice clinic.
2. Continue to review and update TD materials.
3. Communicate with other USDF Committees and Councils as needed.
4. Update TD Committee mission, goals and objectives with input from other TDs.
5. Distribute reminders about USEF Rule Change Proposals to all TDs.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Discuss updating the TD Committee mission, goals and objectives.
- II. Discussion of USEF Rule Change Proposals.
- III. Committee membership participating and interest.
- IV. Recurring issues including: western dressage, fly hoods.
- V. TD's missing educational opportunity to attend symposium.
- VI. Other.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Activities Council

Adult Programs Committee Report

Chair: Fran Crocco, NJ

Liaison: Kathie Robertson

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Michelle King, VA
Jackie Luebke-Puetz, WI
Holly Hilliard, FL
Jamee Amundson, NE
Wendy Fryke, CO
Catherine Siemiet, CO
Frances Haupt, OR
Sandra L. Harper, CA*
Sybille Crafts, CT
Donna Meyer, TX
Evelyn (Evie) B. Tumlin, MS

*New member(s) of the Adult Programs Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To encourage, increase and enrich adult participation in dressage by providing educational opportunities and recognition of achievement.

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.

2011 Objectives:

1. Coordinate final Adult Clinic with Charlotte Bredahl Baker.
2. Finalize selection of clinician for Adult Clinics to be held between April 1, 2011– March 31, 2013.
3. Identify locations and host four Adult Clinics.
4. Finalize University credits associated with e-TRAK.
5. Increase number of University accredited programs.
6. Select education sessions to be offered during the 2011 convention.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Initiated new Farm/VET Adult Clinic Series featuring Lilo Fore.
- Developed learning modules for e-TRAK; each of these modules is university accredited.

- Initiated in-depth study 'TRAKs' available on e-TRAK in which members can earn USDF University credits.
- Finalized recommendation for education sessions to be offered during the 2011 convention.

2012 Objectives:

1. Confirm clinician for Adult Clinic Series to be held between April 1, 2013 – March 31, 2015.
2. Continue to support e-TRAK adult learning initiatives.
3. Increase number of University Accredited programs.
4. Recommend speakers for education sessions to be held during convention in 2012.
5. Other objectives to be determined during convention.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Adult Clinic Clinician for 2013-2015.
- II. Update on current adult clinic series.
- III. Update on e-TRAK and university credits.
- IV. Austin Dressage Unlimited University Accredited Program.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Awards Committee Report

Chair: Peggy Klump, CA

Liaison: Krystina Firth

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, CA

2011 Committee Members:

Brad Cutshall, MI
Deborah Garris, IL
Elizabeth Davidson, FL
Heather Petersen, CO
Katherine McHugh, MA
Donna Meyer, TX

*There are no new member(s) of the Awards Committee for 2011.

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 awards requirements and programs.

2011 Objectives:

1. Continue to review awards programs to ensure a level playing field.
2. Review rider award program for possible additions.
3. Improve communication of awards program issues with other USDF committees.
4. Promote and educate the membership on the scope of the USDF awards program.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Implementing a new USDF awards rule that is effective for the 2012 competition year that states a horse/rider combination may only be eligible to be ranked in the final USDF year-end award standings within certain award types at two consecutive levels within the same competition year.
- Discussed various options for improvements and additions to the rider awards program that could be implemented in the future with a keen awareness that any proposed action for changes would be designed to enhance the highly successful existing program and in no way detract from it.

- Worked to ensure that the Member Guide accurately reflects the most current policies, rules and procedures with regard to all USDF awards programs to promote clarity and understanding of the requirements for the various awards by the membership.

2012 Objectives:

1. Continue to review awards programs to ensure a level playing field.
2. Review rider award program for possible additions.
3. Improve communication of awards program issues with other USDF committees.
4. Promote and educate the membership on the scope of the USDF awards program.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Discuss the possibility of awards related to rider performance.
- II. Briefly review the new award rules for the 2012 USDF competition year.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

FEI Jr/YR Committee Report

Chair: Roberta Williams, OH

Liaison: Erica Minks

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Patsy Albers, MD
Roz Kinstler, MI
Susan Bender, SC
Nancy Gorton, MO
Kathleen M. Donnelly, CO*
Emma Dye, WA
Michele Vaughn, CA*
Tracy Kok, MA*
Richard Howard, TX*

Eva Salomon, KY – Advisor
Lloyd Landkamer, MN – Advisor

*New member(s) of the FEI Jr/YR Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To develop educational opportunities and international competition experiences for riders, ages 14-21, who ride at the FEI sanctioned Junior and Young Rider levels.

Goals:

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

2011 Objectives:

1. Continue to find a way to bridge youth and FEI Jr/YR programs with USEF in order to better define the pipeline.
2. Develop a guide for NAJYRC Chefs d'Equipe.

2011 Accomplishments:

- 159 Declarations of Intent were received; 85 Juniors and 73 Young Riders, one rider declared as both.
- 81 or 51 percent of the declared riders qualified to be eligible for a NAJYRC team.

- Fielded six Young Rider and eight Junior Teams totaling 58 horse/rider combinations to NAJYRC held July 26-August 31, 2011, at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY.
- Awarded the Albers Award trophy to Chef d'Equipe, Ellen Dvorak.
- Awarded the Fiona Baan Pursuit of Excellence Memorial Trophy to Region 8 Young Rider, Isabelle Leibler, at the 2011 NAJYRC.
- Added Jeremy Steinberg, USEF National Youth Coach, to the roster of USDF approved clinicians for the Platinum Performance/USDF Jr/YR Clinic Series.
- Improved the Jr/YR Clinic program by allowing riders of all riding abilities to apply and removing "FEI" from the title; thus encouraging more participation.
- Streamlined the Jr/YR Clinic application process by creating an online application.
- Clinic riders are selected based on their riding abilities by submitting a YouTube video which allows riders without a competition history to have a better chance of riding in the clinic.
- Changes to the clinic program increased the number of applicants, auditors and overall participation.

2012 Objectives:

1. Select and provide teams for the FEI North American Junior & Young Rider Championships.
2. Continue to develop the Jr/YR Clinic program and identify areas to hold clinics.
3. Develop a plan for increasing the number or frequency of Jr/YR Clinics per year.
4. Develop a NAJYRC "support handbook for competitors" to augment the new USOC/USEF format for qualifying.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Review FEI Rule Changes for 2012.
- II. Review NAJYRC Qualifying Rules and format changes.
- III. NAJYRC Event Wrap UP with Q and A.
- IV. Q&A regarding the Jr/YR Clinic program.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Regional Championships Committee Report

Chair: Veronica Holt, CO

Liaison: Donna Rocchetti

***2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4
San Diego, California***

2011 Committee Members:

Bettina Longaker, VA
Lisa Gorretta, OH
Roberta Williams, OH
John Zopatti, FL
Jean Kraus, MO
Peggy Farmer, AZ*
Rose Newman, WA
Anne Howard, CA*
Bill Warren, MA
Kathy Jones, TX

*New member(s) of the Regional Championships Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To promote and recognize the pursuit of excellence by providing a showcase competition that meets established quality standards for riders within each USDF region.

Goals:

1. Establish and update guidelines for qualifying as needed.
2. Educate championship management.
3. Provide recognition and rewards.
4. Promote the championships.
5. Increase the number of participants.

2011 Objectives:

1. Continue to revise rules to clarify the procedure for qualifying outside the home region.
2. Define the 'home region'.
3. Examine qualifying periods (to make it easier for competitors, managers and office).
4. Create a web page for Regional Championship managers.
5. Create standard Program Cover front page format requirements for Great American logos.
6. Revise the mission statement and goals.
7. Revise the Host Site Application document.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Created web page that has all of the necessary forms and information available to Regional Championship managers on one web page.
- Established guidelines for inclusion of the Great American (either logo or words) to appear on the cover of all Regional Championship programs.
- Revised mission statement.
- Revised host site application.
- Defined language in the program rules on home region (it is the address that is on file with USDF).

2012 Objectives:

1. Review the numbers that participate in each level at each of the Championships.
2. Refine the Awards Ceremony procedures.
3. Refine the qualifying period and make it easier for the competitor to understand.
4. Continued expectations to increase competition standards as the Regional Championships becomes method of qualifying for a national championship.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Discussion on the participation at each level at each regional championship.
- II. Discussion on awards protocol.
- III. Automatic invitations.
- IV. Discuss whether or not to restrict riders from riding more than one level at Regional Championships.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None

Sport Horse Committee Report

Co- Chairs: Scott Hassler, MD; Kristi Wysocki, CO

Liaison: Donna Rocchetti

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Janine Malone, NC
Mary Alice Malone, PA
Melanie Sloyer, PA
Susan Madden Mandas, OH
Charles Smith, OH
Bill Solyntjes, MN
Michele Vaughn, CA
Kathy Hickerson, NH*
Jan Colley, TX

Ekkehard Brysch, IL – Technical Advisor
Hilary Clayton, MI – Technical Advisor

*New member(s) of the Sport Horse Committee for 2011.

Mission:

To promote the development of quality dressage stock in the United States.

Goals:

1. Promote breeding goals for sport horses.
2. Educate breeders, buyers, trainers and judges of the desired ideals of a sport horse.
3. Provide competition guidelines.
4. Maintain stallion performance records.
5. Promote tracking of competition records and horse recording for all horses.

2011 Objectives:

1. Continue to grow the series finals during times of slow economic growth.
2. Finalize a Host Site application for series finals along with revising the sport horse rules for breeder series finals as needed per the applications.
3. Create a master score sheet for the Amateur Handler class.
4. Increase education to Sport Horse Series Finals managers, judges and TDs.
5. Incorporate clear policy as to USDF's responsibilities (i.e. advertising) to host farms for the USDF Sport Horse Seminars.
6. Revise USDF Sport Horse Handler Seminar guidelines to fit new allowed one-day format.
7. Develop recommendation to USEF for TD training specific to DSHB shows.

8. Establish date and host location for 2011 DSHB Sport Horse Seminar.
9. Develop teaching manual and student manual for DSHB Sport Horse Seminars based on PowerPoint – to follow finalization of copyright permission and update of drawings.
10. Continue to expand PowerPoint presentation and develop video library for Sport Horse Seminars.
11. Start to develop ideas for 2015 score sheet modifications. Discuss conformation section in detail.

2011 Accomplishments:

- The Host Site application has been developed now is in use for the 2012 competition year. Breeder Series rules have been revised to address the new application.
- Dressage Sport Horse Seminar PowerPoint presentation continues to be developed and refined.
- Held 2011 Sport Horse Seminar at Majestic Farms, Batavia, OH, October 29-30 2011. There were 12 full participants 9 of which have expressed interest in pursuing USEF DSHB licenses.
- First draft of student manual was presented and used at 2011 DSHB Seminar
- Sent proposal to USEF Dressage Committee for DR204.2, that would allow geldings to compete in the under saddle classes.
- Sent recommendation to USEF Dressage Committee that an educational opportunity be developed by USEF for TDs specific to Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Shows/Classes.
- Continued to discuss the USDF All-Breed program and requirements for horses registered with NATS that do not have registry papers. Issue resolved with requirements of declaration to include a vet certificate of identification of tattoo number and markings. Results of tattoo research request from TJC confirming a match.
- USDF SH Committee discussed and evaluated the proposed USEF Multi-discipline National Young Horse Championship. The Committee voted to support the concept of a National Finals for the USDF Breeder Series In-Hand Championship program with specific qualifying criteria to be developed by the USDF Sport Horse Committee based upon the current USDFBC program. This recommendation was sent to the USDF Executive Board for further recommendation to the USEF.
- Initiated working group to start DSHB score sheet revisions in preparation for the 2015 versions. Input has been directly requested from all DSHB judges.
- Host first USDF Convention Sport Horse Faculty Meeting.

2012 Objectives:

1. Continue to develop teaching/student manuals for USDF Sport Horse Seminars.
2. Establish a easy-to-understand chart/guide for membership requirements/horse registration for qualifiers vs. Finals and eligibility for USDF HOY awards.
3. Increase participation at all series finals.
4. Continue to raise standards for all series finals.
5. Increase awareness of the Sport Horse Seminars.
6. Consider/discuss development of an entry blank specifically for in-hand shows that provides USDF with required information for year-end awards.
7. Continue to discuss USEF All Breed Young Horse Championship proposal.

8. Incorporate clear policy as to USDF's responsibilities (i.e. advertising) to host farms for the USDF Sport Horse Seminars.
9. Revise USDF Sport Horse Handler Seminar guidelines to fit new allowed one-day format.
10. Continue to solicit input for the 2015 Sport Horse score sheets.
11. Discuss and evaluation options to incorporate Eventing Horse classes into the current DSHB Show curriculum.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. 2011 USDF Sport Horse Seminar held at Majestic Farm. Review, highlights.
- II. Plans for 2012 DSHB Sport Horse Seminar(s).
- III. Problems encountered in 2011 for HOY and BS Finals relating to memberships and horse registrations.
- IV. Discuss/obtain feedback regarding membership and horse registration requirements for participation in the USDF ALL-Breeds program.
- V. Consider rule change regarding surrogate "uncle" to accompany current year orphan foals into the competition ring.
- VI. USDF Sport Horse Committee position regarding proposed USEF Multi Discipline Young Horse Championship.
- VII. Review of new requirements for DSHB Breeder Series Finals Host Shows. DSHB Committee put forth a recommendation to USEF to develop TD educational forums to be held at real DSHB shows to improve the knowledge and background for DSHB Show TDs.
- VIII. Sport Horse Committee has initiated a working group to start evaluating DSHB score sheets for possible revisions for 2015 updates. Sue Madden Mandes contact person for this project.
- IX. New Items
- X. Open to questions and answers.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. Investigate the option of incorporating Eventing Horse classes into the current DSHB Show curriculum in a manner to not conflict with current classes or the participation in USDF Breeder Series Finals, encourage additional participation and maintain consistency within the DSHB Shows.

Youth Programs Committee Report

Chair: Roz Kinstler, MI

Liaison: Erica Minks

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 Committee Members:

Kathy Rowse, VA
Laurie Moore, MI
Dorothy Mueller, MI
Roberta Williams, OH
Tami Crawford, TN*
Lloyd Landkamer, MN
Julie Barringer-Richers, CO
Dorie Vlatten-Schmitz, AZ
Gaye McCabe, OR
Laurie Farmer, CA*
Lendon Gray, NY
Anne Kuhns, OK*

*New member(s) of the Youth Programs Committee for 2011.

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.

2011 Objectives:

1. Develop grass-roots education, including GMO-based youth clinics.
2. Find ways to improve and enhance the Dressage Seat Medal Program.
3. Plan the eighth edition of the USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program.
4. Award up to four Youth Convention Scholarships.
5. Raise money at the annual silent auction to support the Youth Convention Scholarship Fund.
6. Select the 2011 USDF Youth Volunteer of the Year.

2011 Accomplishments:

- Eleven applications were received for the Youth Convention Scholarship and four scholarships were awarded.

- Two nominations for the Youth Volunteer of the Year Award were received. The 2011 YVOY was awarded to Drew Carlin of Region 3.
- Thirteen Shining Star Awards were awarded throughout the year.
- 29 High School Dressage Club students earned a USDF High School Pin Award.
- The 2012 USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program is slated for January 14-15, 2012, in West Palm Beach, Florida. Some of the confirmed speakers include: Kathy Connelly, Lauren Sammis, Katherine Bateson-Chandler and Michael Barisone. Topics to be covered include: Legal issues for equine business, sponsorships, marketing, sports psychology, career paths involving USDF programs, training opportunities, and USEF programs. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to have breakfast with Christoph Hess. All participants are invited to attend the Succeed/USDF FEI-Level Trainers' Conference following the seminar.
- Proposed a new method for populating the Youth Programs Advisory Subcommittee's Chair, Adult Advisor and members.
- Initiated a new nomination process to select representatives for the new USEF Young Equestrians Advisory Program.
- Fourteen applications were received for the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award.
- Thirteen Youth Regional Team Competitions were held across the country.
- The USEF Dressage Seat Medal (DSM) qualifying and semi-finals were transitioned to USDF. A memo of understanding was submitted to USEF in March. A new DSM Qualifying System for the Semi-Finals became effective on August 1, 2011. USDF changed the DSM semi-final ribbons to match the look and number of placings in a regular GAIG/USDF Regional Championship class.

2012 Objectives:

1. Hold a successful USDF/USEF Young Graduate Program.
2. Recognize youth by awarding the Youth Volunteer of the Year Award, Youth Convention Scholarships, Shining Star and High School Pin Awards.
3. Continue to find ways to develop grass-roots education.
4. Enhance current youth programs including the Youth Regional Team Competitions, High School Pin Program and the Dressage Seat Medal Program.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Develop working group to address the Youth Regional Team Competitions.
- II. High School Pin Program.
- III. Dressage Seat Medal Program.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

None