

MIDWEST DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

MDA June 2025 Board Meeting

Monday, June, 16th, 2025 · 7 pm

Time zone: Eastern Standard/Detroit

Location: Virtual

Attendees: Katie Bratschi, Alex Pollack, Valyn Dall, Meghan Connolly, Holly Zecchin, Jordan Irwin, Mykal Roth

Guests: N/A

Not Present: N/A

Agenda:

- **Call to Order at 7:06 PM**
 - President's Opening Comments – Holly

- Officer's Reports:
 - **Secretary Report – Katie**
 - May Minutes
 - No changes needed
 - Meghan motions to approve, Jordan seconds, minutes approved
 - Madelyn was able to upload the minutes for 2025 to the website
 - Katie will continue sending her approved minutes to add
 - **Treasurer Report – Meghan**
 - May report
 - No changes needed
 - Katie motions to approve, Holly seconds, report approved
 - CD (\$7600 balance)
 - Currently still maturing, expires end of July
 - Has not been included in treasurer report because Meghan is not currently on the account
 - Decide next meeting if we want to roll this over or deposit into a standard savings account upon expiration
 - Meghan to look into a high-yield savings account to see what the minimum amount is

- Committee Reports:
 - **Membership – Katie**
 - Currently at 161 members
 - 16 Open, 29 Junior/Young Riders, 110 Adult Amateurs, and 4 Social members
 - **Marketing – Mykal & Alex**
 - New sponsor – the Hay Box
 - Resembles a postal box with hanging hooks; hang on stall for people to leave messages/checks/etc. in

- Retail ~ \$70/each; has offered to send us some that we can raffle off or do giveaways with
 - Will be getting Hay Box added to our sponsorship banner and banquet brochure
- Volunteer hours
 - Sponsorships can be used in place of volunteer hours
 - Minimum of \$200 to meet 4 hour requirement (can be divided up as much as you want, but only one member gets the hours)
- **Year-End Awards/Shows – Holly & Alex**
 - Ideas for YEA prizes
 - Budget: \$50-65 for champions, \$10-20 for reserve champions
 - Can do more personalization because we are having scores submitted by a set date – less scrambling to get prizes ordered
 - Gave out bridle bags in 2020 and helmet bags in 2021
 - Decide on prizes at next meeting
 - LP Equestrian June show was cancelled
 - At a boarding stable – didn't want to risk Strangles that's been in the area
 - Can offer them credit for future show to be used within the next year
- **Education – Mykal/Holly**
 - Freestyle Clinic
 - Only 2 people have expressed interest so far
 - Need to share more details about clinic via FB and email
 - Create flyer to email out
 - Create form/application with open/close dates – Mykal to reach out to Madelyn
 - Open immediately
 - Close July 15th ish so we have time to decide if we have enough interest or if we need to cancel/postpone the clinic (refundable until July 27th)
 - 50% deposit due with application (can be refundable until July 27th)
 - Sue Hughes Clinic
 - Currently full
 - Would like to sponsor snacks and lunch up to \$250
 - Reimbursement for expenses, not us supplying food
 - Anonymous vote of approval
- **USDF/GMO – Alex & Valyn**
 - Working on putting together submissions for award categories (Region 2) – due end of August
 - Volunteer of the Year
 - Have to fill out questionnaire – need to know more than just their volunteer hours
 - Susan Roth – has ran on the board, volunteers at clinics and the banquet, has been supportive of recent changes to YEA and volunteer requirements
 - Newsletter

- General interest article – Janice Laquire’s article
 - First person article – Nicole Wazniak submitted an article about going from eventing to dressage
- Photos
 - Do call for photos on FB, newsletter, and email
 - Must be amateur photographers, no professionals
 - Files must be JPEG and at least 300 DPI
- Creative Programs
 - Medal pilot program
- **Bylaws & Standing Rules (& Annual Meeting) – Jordan**
 - Code of Conduct
 - Looking at other code of conducts from other GMOs to get some ideas
 - Bylaws
 - Proposed changes (need to be finalized by August so we can send out to membership); send any other ideas via email
 - Reduce number of board members required
 - Everything needs to be handed off (passwords, records, banking tools, etc.) within 30 days of leaving the board
- Professional Advisory – Jordan
 - N/A
- **Banquet – Alex, Jordan, & Mykal**
 - Everything is booked – contract is exactly the same as last year
 - Menu is currently the same – we can make changes
 - Has been posted on the website
 - Vote next month on ticket pricing
- **Communications/Social Media – Valyn & Mykal**
 - Facebook
 - Jordan or Mykal to try and give Alex FB permissions so she can work on event pages (clinics, the banquet, etc.)
 - Instagram
 - Jenn currently has the Instagram information – Holly to follow up on getting that access
- **Newsletters- Holly**
 - Next one to come out in July
 - Will mention the GMO awards that need membership support
- **Grants – Meghan**
 - Nothing for the rest of the year

New Business:

- **2025 USDF Convention**
 - Held at KY Horse Park this year
 - MDA can decide on a budget to spend and we can split it amongst whoever on the board wants to go
 - Could cover the conference fee for all and the rest of costs are on individuals
 - Get proposed budget and vote at the next meeting
- **GMO Committee**

- Thoughts about creating a GMO committee that meets with Glass-Ed and ADA to discuss collaborating on clinics, shows, etc.
- Maybe meet quarterly

July meeting scheduled for Monday 7/7 at 7 PM (Virtual).

Motion to adjourn: Holly motions to adjourn, Katie seconds, meeting adjourns at 8:47 PM.