

## RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2023

Zoom Meeting

Meeting @ 6:30 PM

**Attendance:** MaryJo Hoepner, Ginka Kubelka, Dorothy Kapaun, Nicole Bizzarro, Sally O’Dwyer, Gwen Ka’awaloa, Nadia Westra, Patricia Weed, Shannon Lemons, Katie Knight, Rebecca Ciota, Stan Adamson, Judi DeVore, Beth Geier, Karen Harkin, Lauren Still

**Proxies:**

**Call to Order-President**

**Sally O’Dwyer**

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm by Sally O’Dwyer

**Secretary - Approval of Minutes -**

**Heather Petersen**

**January 2023 minutes** – Karen Harkin was at the meeting and needed to be added to the attendance list. **Katie Knight moved that we approve the minutes as corrected, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stan Adamson. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Treasurers Report**

**Sharon Soos**

Paypal and RMDS Checking      \$72,082

Scholarship                              \$12,891

**President Report**

**Sally O’Dwyer**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Awards Banquet and deep appreciation to those who helped with the organization. Super job with the Magazine as well!

**Vice President Report**

**Dorothy Kapaun**

If your committee needs any help, Dorothy is here to help!

**Central Office**

**Beth Geier**

The office is doing well, many thanks for the lovely award.

### **Permanent Committee Reports Continued:**

**Adult Amateur**

**Katie Knight**

**RMDS ADULT AMATEUR CLINIC**

**Presenting Amelia Newcomb**

About Amelia: “As a dressage trainer, my goal is to make good training accessible to everyone who is interested in learning. I want to help you learn to love your ride.”

Amelia Newcomb Dressage works to develop a trusting and confident relationship between horse and rider. Using elements from both natural horsemanship and classical dressage, Amelia creates a holistic approach to dressage training that adapts to fit the needs of each individual horse and rider. Starting with basic groundwork and progressing to the Grand Prix, Amelia emphasizes trust, understanding, and relaxation for both horse and rider. Amelia also enjoys teaching and sharing her knowledge and experience with her students. “I have been blessed with many great teachers in my career and I hope to help each and every one of my students develop a connection and solid relationship with their horses.” A passionate dressage trainer, with a goal of reaching and helping a larger number of riders than one-on-one in-person training allows, Amelia has expanded her training program to the online community.

Amelia is an RMDS and AVDA member. Approximately 250 riders in Colorado are enrolled in her on-line Strides training. RMDS is planning to host this Adult Amateur clinic at the Colorado Horse Park in October.

**EXPENSES:**

Clinician                              \$4000.00

Travel	600.00
Lodging	250.00
Hospitality	250.00
Facility	500.00
Rider Rebates	TBD

**INCOME:**

Registration.	\$2400.00 (16 rides at	\$150)
Grants		
TDF.	2000.00	
USDF.	1000.00 *	
Sponsors (Purina)	TBD	
Auditor Fees.	5,000.00-10,000 est. at 50-100 auditors/\$100 for weekend**	

\*If the clinic makes a profit, this grant is reimbursed up to the \$1000.00.

\*\*previous clinics in other states have had in excess of 100 auditors. 2023 clinics in Utah are charging up to \$150 for auditing the two days.

There was much discussion on the fee. People definitely think there is appeal to having her come out, but can we justify the higher clinic costs. Discussion also of how many auditors we can truly budget for.

**Awards**

**Shannon Lemons**

Discussion of fees charged with online payments.

The banquet itself went well. Only keeping plaques and plates for 2 years after the current year.

Someone needs to come look through the retired trophies for the trophy auction at championships. Nadia, Patricia, and Sally have volunteered.

For Championships, we have the chairs and coolers in the Boulder storage unit that also need to get prepped for this coming year.

**Communications**

**Rebecca Ciota**

Rebecca put a disclaimer in the e-Centaur about the content of articles and such. They also put together a job description for the e-Centaur for the volunteer committee. They are also working on a writer description or two for the volunteer committee to post as well. The Marketing position has been posted. Sally has also asked Rebecca to put more information about RMDS operates in the e-Centaur.

**Magazine** – Thank you to Rebecca for offering to put the ads from the Magazine on social media. The magazine is done and at the printer. We sold our normal average of pages, but there were 13 completely new advertisers. We budgeted to bring in 11K in income and we brought in a bit more and expenses will be a bit less than projected. Right now, with rough math, we’re looking at a loss of about \$2,400 less than budgeted.

**Website** – It’s chucking along.

**Education**

**MaryJo Hoepner**

Upcoming

Session B L Program February 18,19

Session C L Program March 25,26 – may end up with a additional participant.

Show Management Training February 7 - it was a huge amount of good information, thank you Heather.

Technical Delegate Training March 7 Pre register to get Zoom link

**Junior/Young Riders**

**Lauren Still**

Summer Intensive – venue and dates are confirmed – June 7-9 at Nighthawk. Lauren has a camp director and is looking for an assistant. Registration form should be uploaded to the website soon. Now we need to look for

clinicians. Lauren wants to send out a message to all the instructors and see if some would be willing to donate and get their volunteer hours for awards and such.

**Marketing**

No report  
Horse Expo – all volunteer spots filled. Looking for fliers.

**Vacant**

**Professionals**

No report

**Joan Clay**

**Scholarship**

Everyone has received their first half of their scholarships.  
There may be some modifications and updates with the applicants but everyone has been in touch and keeping us updated.

**Karen Harkin**

**Shows – Championships**

Moving forward on the trophies and need to finish the sponsorship packet.

**Nadia Westra**

**Volunteer**

1. Encourage the use of sign ups for shows/events and using the reports afterward to send documented volunteer hours from these events to RMDS for recording.
2. We are exploring possibilities of using Sign-up further for non-show activities as was mentioned on the Sign-up call you were on, but we need more investigation before we deciding on if this is feasible.
3. Encourage anyone with activities coming up to send their Sign-ups to you to add to our volunteer page.

**Judi DeVore/Eleanor DeVore**

**Appointed Committee Reports:**

**1. Western Dressage**

No report

**Simone Windeler**

**2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents**

No report

**Stan Adamson**

**3. BOG - November 18, 2023**

The hotel is confirmed for our date.

**Heather Petersen**

**4. Banquet –**

Confirmed for January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Feedback on the banquet: Judi said it was a lot of fun and it went smoothly. They did the awards during dinner for the first time, so moved it faster. The presenter was good, but the awards themselves were gone over too quickly – people want background on the awards that were presented, the history of each award.

The silent auction did well, people did get better deals this year, less money for us, but gets them excited and hopefully it does even better next year.

**Beth Geier**

**Region 5 Report**

**Heather Petersen**

We are accepting bids for the 2024 Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships through February 6th. If anyone is interesting is placing a bid for the Regional Championships or has any questions about the process, please contact myself or the USDF office and we'll be happy to help! The final date for a Regional Championship to be held in 2024 will be October 13th in order to fit into the National Championship time frame, so please keep that in mind when looking at facilities and possible weekends. The Finals will be held in Lexington, Kentucky in 2024.

If you have an educational activity that your barn, group or organization is doing, please let me know so I can add it to the Region 5 educational activity calendar that is sent out with the monthly Regional updates by USDF. We would love to

keep everyone as informed as possible. We can also post events on the Region 5 website. Please feel free to send me an email reminder for anything you'd like to see posted.

If you intend to qualify for Region 5 teams to the North American Youth Championships, then please make sure you take note of the application structure for 2023. The application and fee should be turned in to the USDF office by March 14, 2023 in order to avoid stiffer fees. If you apply by March 14th, the fee is only \$50 per application. Applications submitted between March 15th and April 25th are \$100 and the final application deadline is May 9th, but it will cost you \$300 to apply between April 26th and May 9th. At this point in time, absolutely no applications will be accepted after May 9th. If you plan to compete for NAYC, please also be sure to contact Joan Clay, our Region Coordinator for the FEI Juniors and Young Riders and let her know your intent. Her email address is [jnclay@comcast.net](mailto:jnclay@comcast.net) and her phone number is 970.420.0887. The 2023 NAYC will be held at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival, Flintfields Horse Park, Traverse City, Michigan – August 7-13, 2023.

#### **Old Business:**

- No old business.

#### **New Business:**

- On The Bit USEF Change Fees – **Stan Adamson moved we donate \$200 to the On The Bit Chapter to pay for their change fees. Motion passed with Heather Petersen, Ginka Kubelka and Nadia Westra abstaining.**
- Amend Board Attendance ½ price policy - \$50 or more? **Katie Knight moved to approve for events at \$50 or more, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharon Soos. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Trafalgar Books Fundraiser – Sally will look into it further.
- Team competition – are we doing it this year? Who's organizing it? Lauren and Katie will talk and see if they want to pursue it. It has been a good money raiser in the past.

**Next Meeting is March 9th.**

**7:56 pm Meeting Adjourned**

**Respectfully submitted, Heather Petersen**