Arizona Dressage Association

The Centerline

Dear Members and Friends,

I am thrilled to be writing to you as the newly elected President of our association. It is an honor to serve this incredible community, and I am filled with excitement about the opportunities and initiatives we have planned for the coming year.

First, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Board members:

Erin McHenry
Karen McGee
Leslie Sherlin, PhD
Kelly Stapleton

I am confident that their diverse skills and passion for dressage will significantly contribute to our association's growth and success. Additionally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our outgoing members, **Tania Radda, Kathy Smith and Cynthia Ganem**, for their many years of dedicated service. Your contributions have been invaluable, and we are immensely grateful for your commitment to ADA.

As we look ahead in 2025, here are the projects we are working on:

- ADA will be hosting two recognized shows this year: the **Summer Heat Series on June 14 & 15 and the Fall Fiesta on November 1 & 2 at West World.** Kelly Stapleton will lead our Show Committee. If you are interested in getting involved or volunteering, please let us know. We are meeting with Westworld in February to work on getting dates for 2026.
- **Restarting schooling shows, generously sponsored by Sherlin Consulting Group.** The first schooling show will take place on March 16 at Carefree Farms with Judge Sarah Lindsten, Show Secretary, Cynthia Ganem, and Show Manager, Susan Skripac. We also have two fall schooling shows scheduled on October 19 and November 9.
- **Transitioning our financial system to QuickBooks Online**, which will streamline our financial management and improve transparency. This effort is being led by our new Treasurer, Rebecca Lindy.
- **Appointed a task force to evaluate options and implement a new website**. This upgrade aims to enhance user experience and provide better access to resources and information. Erin McHenry is leading this project.
- **Led by Cathy Jones and Rebecca Bruening, the Education Committee did amazing job creating and executing its Core Transformation Series in 2024. In 2025, Co-Chairs Cathy Jones and Cindi LaCroix and the Committee are diligently working to create an exciting agenda for 2025 of learning opportunities for our members. This includes the formation of a subcommittee specifically focused on Junior and Young Riders led by Leslie Sherlin, ensuring that our younger members have access to tailored programs and support.**
- Our **Annual Futurity competition will be held this year at the Summer Heat Series**. If you have a young horse aged 4-6 years old, be sure to consider entering! Susan Skripac has more information.
- **Final Year End Awards Standings will be announced shortly! Congratulations to all!** Stay tuned for more details about our celebration!
- **Our Nominating & Governance Committee is tasked with building out detailed charters for each of our major committees**. These charters will help guide our association and ensure that each committee works effectively and in alignment with our overall goals. Karen McGee is leading this important committee.

Continued on page 3

ADA Board of Directors

Ann Damiano – President, Fundraising Chair

Rebecca Bruening - Vice-President / Education Co-Chair

Rebecca Lindy - Treasurer / Finance Chair

Kelly Stapleton – Secretary / Show Committee Chair

Karen McGee - Nominating & Governance Chair / Scholarship Chair

Maeike Zoet - Awards Chair

Nicole Zoet – Hospitality Chair

Michell Combs – Membership Chair

Erin McHenry - Communications Chair

Susan Skripac - Futurity Chair

Dr. Leslie Sherlin, PhD

Dr. Anatasia Keyser, DVM

Committees

Education – Cathy Jones

Centerline Editor – Beth Martinec

Vendors – Michelle Scarzone

Webmaster/Score Compilation – Sue Leutwyler

ADA Board Attorney – Wendy Riddell



Earn Volunteer/Service Hours

Contribute to The Centerline Today!

Letters to the Editor:
Submit your comments, suggestions, or opinions relating to the sport of dressage, to centerline@azdressage.org

Barn News:
Trainers would you like to let us know about the recent accomplishments of your clients or introduce new clients and horses? Would you like to update readers about barn improvements, or talk about any other news of interest to the membership. Send submissions to centerline@azdressage.org

Member Submissions to The Centerline:
Submit an article and photo of you and your horse on a topic of interest, a clinic or show experience. Submit your favorite barn and horse care tips, or review clinic. We'd love to hear from you! Send to centerline@azdressage.org
If the photo is a riding photo, a helmet is required.

Product Endorsements/Advertising
In most cases, products and services are considered paid advertising. Articles that are negative in nature concerning a particular product will not be considered for publication.

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Continued from page 1

- **The Communications Committee led by Erin McHenry is updating our policies and procedures around our various comms channels and will be reaching out to membership to get your feedback.**
- Finally, it's not too late to renew your **2025 ADA Membership!**

2025 ADA Online Renewal

We are committed to fostering a vibrant and supportive community, and we value your feedback. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts and suggestions with us as we strive to make our association even better.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Arizona Dressage Association. I look forward to working together to achieve great things.

Warmest regards,
Ann Damiano
President, Arizona Dressage Association
a.damiano@azdressage.org



ATTENTION COMPETITORS:

Be sure to review the following rules on Trainer, Coach, Yellow Cards and Unethical Treatment of the Horse. The Technical Delegates/Steward or Competition Official will be enforcing the Trainer and/or Coach signatures on the Show Entry Forms. If they find that someone is Training and/or Coaching at a show without the prior designation and signature on the Entry they will be issuing a Yellow Card (GR1037).

GR148 Trainer 1. Any adult, or adults who has the responsibility for the care, training, custody, or performance of a horse. 2. Said person must sign the entry blank of any Licensed Competition whether said person be an owner, rider, agent and/or coach as well as trainer. 3. Where a minor exhibitor has no trainer, a parent or guardian must sign and assume responsibility of trainer. 4. The name of the trainer must be designated as such on the entry blank. **See also GR404**

GR108 Coach For purposes of these rules, a coach is defined as any adult or adults on the competition grounds who has or shares the responsibility for instructing, teaching, schooling, or advising a rider, driver, handler, or vaulter in equestrian skills. **See also GR908.**

GR1037 Yellow Warning Card - Stewards and Technical Delegates 1. A Yellow Warning Card may be issued by a Steward, Technical Delegate, or Competition Official working in any of these capacities at the competition to any competitor, spectator or participant for improper conduct, or © USEF 2025 GR10 - 20 for noncompliance with the rules, provided the issuer considers the conduct not severe enough to cause the issuer to submit the matter to the Federation for a Disciplinary Action Complaint. 2. To issue a Yellow Warning Card, a Steward, Technical Delegate, or Competition Official must complete and sign the Yellow Warning Card. 3. A copy of the signed Yellow Warning Card must be provided to the alleged offender at the competition either in person or by any other suitable means. A copy of the Yellow Warning Card must then be sent to the Federation with the Steward's/Technical Delegate's Report Form and noted therein. 4. Upon receipt of the Yellow Warning Card, the Federation will send an acknowledgment of its receipt of the Yellow Warning Card to the alleged offender advising of the provisions of this Rule. 5. The issuance of a Yellow Warning Card is not meant to replace the filing of a Disciplinary Action Complaint for a willful and serious violation of Federation rules, and in no case may a Yellow Warning Card be issued for abuse of a horse in any form. It is for lesser offenses only. 6. Immediately following receipt by the Federation of a third Yellow Warning Card indicating that a competitor, spectator, or participant has been issued three Yellow Warning Cards within a 16 month period the CEO or their designee shall either levy a fine ranging from $500 to $1000 or issue a formal Disciplinary Action Complaint pursuant to the Federation Bylaws. If the alleged offender is found in violation of any or all of said violations they may be subject to the penalties set forth in Chapter 7 of the Rules.

Also review the following updates Effective 12/01/24

SUBCHAPTER 8-F WELFARE OF THE HORSE GR838 Unethical Treatment of the Horse For purposes of this rule, the following definitions apply: A Covered Horse is defined as any horse that is or has been recorded with the Federation, has participated or is entered to participate in a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition, or is on the grounds of a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition or is in the care, custody, and control of a Participant. A Participant is defined as any person who holds or has held a Federation membership; participated in a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition as a rider, vaulter, driver, handler, exhibitor, trainer, coach, groom, competition veterinarian, or support personnel for any of these identified roles; or is present on the grounds of a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition. 1. Any Participant engaging in the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse is subject to penalty. Except in exigent circumstances, the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse is defined as any action or inaction that may negatively compromise the Covered Horse's health, safety, or well-being. It may include any action(s) or inaction(s) that causes or is likely to cause a horse pain, a state of obvious distress, or unnecessary discomfort. Examples of Unethical Treatment of a Horse may include, but are not limited to: a. Misuse or excessive use of a whip, spur, or bit; b. Misuse of any equipment or device, including tack; c. Creation of hyper or hypo-sensitization of any physical part of a Covered Horse to enhance performance; d. Any practice or use of devices or objects used to enhance a Covered Horse's performance based on fear or intimidation; e. Training, riding, or competing a Covered Horse with raw, bleeding, or irritated skin or welts consistent with excessive, persistent, or inappropriate use of equipment, including spurs; and f. Continued riding, driving, or lunging an obviously exhausted, lame, or injured Covered

Horse. © USEF 2025 GR8 - 17 2. A Participant is subject to penalty for the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse that occurs at or in connection with a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition. Additionally, any person who directs another as to the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse is subject to penalty. 3. A Participant is subject to penalty for the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse that occurs after November 30, 2024 somewhere other than at or in connection with a USEF Licensed or Endorsed Competition. For the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse under this paragraph that occurs off U.S. soil by a Participant who is a member of a foreign National Federation, the Federation will refer the matter to the relevant National Federation and FEI for resolution. 4. Any Participant who personally witnesses the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse at or in direct connection with a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition, must immediately report it to a Federation Licensed Official at the competition. 5. Any Participant who personally witnesses the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse outside of a Federation Licensed Competition, should report it to the Federation and the relevant local authorities as soon as practicable. 6. A veterinarian may be appointed by the Federation, Competition Management, or a Licensed Official to inspect any horse on competition grounds, or any horse stabled off grounds that is entered to compete in a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition. Refusal to submit an animal for such examination shall constitute a violation of this rule, and the owner and/or trainer may be subject to penalty by the Federation. 7. A Federation Licensed Official, Competition Management, or competition veterinarian at a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition may issue an official written warning, elimination, or disqualification against any Participant they deem to have Unethically Treated a Covered Horse on competition grounds or directly related to a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition. Additionally, any person may be removed from the competition grounds for Unethical Treatment of a Horse. Any report received of alleged Unethical Treatment or penalties imposed on a person(s) as a result of Unethical Treatment must be reported to the Federation. A Participant may be subject to further penalty by the Federation. 8. Anyone reporting a violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed is a violation. Any allegations that prove to have been made maliciously or knowingly to be false will be viewed as a serious disciplinary offense and will be considered a violation of this rule, subjecting the reporting party to penalty by the Federation. 9. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Federation may pursue disciplinary action pursuant Bylaw 705.2(b). BOD 06/17/24 Effective 12/01/24



Arizona Dressage Association

Upcoming Shows — Mark Your Calendars

Save the Dates
2025

ADA Schooling Shows

Sunday, March 16th
(closing date—March 2nd)

Sunday, October 19th
(closing date—October 5th)

Saturday, November 9th
(closing date—October 26th)

For more information:

www.azdressage.org/schooling-shows/

Location:

Carefree Farms
36412 North 7th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85086

Volunteers needed & appreciated

ADA

Flying Fox Farm, LLC
Horse Boarding, Training & Lessons

Shelley Ebel

9836 N. 110th Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85259
480-391-1035
flyingfoxfarm1@cox.net



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- Contains no alcohol, menthol or witch hazel.
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- **Essential** for you, **Equine** for your partner.

EssentialArnica.com EquineArnica.com

Setting Up Your Dressage Arena

2-3 people make set-up faster and easier

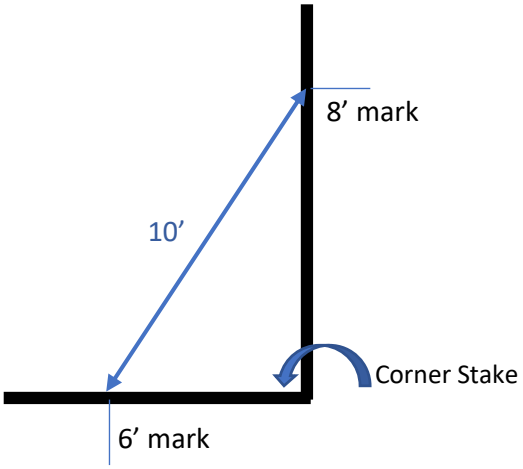
1. Determine where you arena will be placed.
The area should be as flat as possible. If desired, allow additional room to ride around the outside of the arena and for placement of the letters.

Large	Small
20m x 60m *equals* 65'-7.4" x 196'-10.2"	20m x 40m *equals* 65'-7.4" x 131'-2.8"

2. Gather your tools.
You will need the following:
Stakes (4)
Hammer (1)
Masonry Line
(500' for the large arena or 350' for the small arena)
Tape Measure (min 10' with wide blade)
Permanent Marker
Long Tape Measure
(200' for the large arena or 135' for the small arena)
Electrical Tape (optional rail marker)



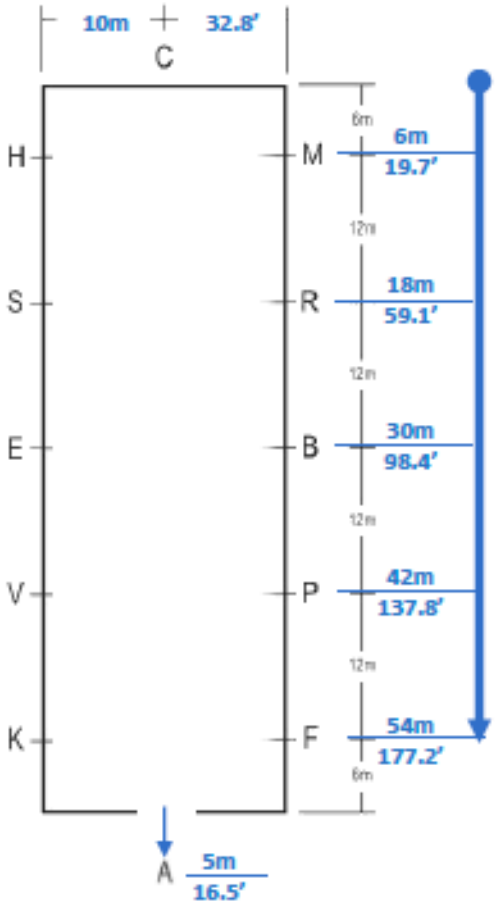
3. Set Your Corners and Rails
- Locate the position of one corner and drive a stake.
- Set the rails using the Pythagorean Theory.
- Mark 1 rail at 6', Mark the 2nd rail at 8'.
- Move the end of the rails until the diagonal line created by the marks equals 10'.



4. Stretch the masonry lines
- Place one along each of the long and short sides and secure to a stake. Place the stakes at the appropriate length of width of the arena you are building.
- Place your rails along this these lines.

5. Set Your Next Corner and Rails
- Repeat step 3 & 4 for each of the next corners and sides.

Place The Letters

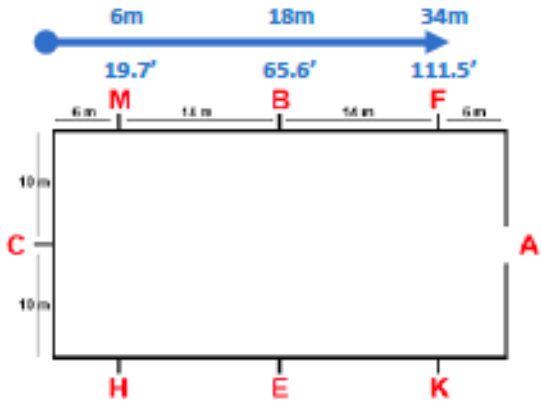


6a. In the LARGE arena:

- Place a mark on the long rail at the following distances from the corner:
  - M: 6m = 19.7'
  - R: 18m = 59.1'
  - B: 30m = 98.4'
  - P: 42m = 137.8'
  - F: 54m = 177.2'
- Place your letters 2 feet from the rail as these marks
- Repeat on the other long side
- C is 10m (or 32.8') in on the short side. Please that letter 2' from the rail as well.
- A is also 10m (or 32.8') in on the short side. Please that letter 5m (16.5') away from the opening

6b. In the SMALL arena:

- Place a mark on the long rail at the following distances from the corner:
  - M: 6m = 19.7'
  - B: 20m = 65.6'
  - F: 34m = 111.5'
- Place your letters 2 feet from the rail as these marks
- Repeat on the other long side
- C is 10m (or 32.8') in on the short side. Please that letter 2' from the rail as well.
- A is also 10m (or 32.8') in on the short side. Please that letter 5m (16.5') away from the opening



7. Mark the Rails (Optional):

Mark the letter points on the rails with a contrasting color of tape for more precision riding.

Page 2 of 2

FUTURITY NOMINATIONS



Nominate your young horse turning 4, 5 or 6 in 2025 for the ADA Futurity Competition.

$100 entry fee is due by March 1st. Late fee is waived.

Classes will beheld at the Summer Heat Shows.

See website for more information, or contact Sue Skripac at 315-558-2938

ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

Regular Meeting

January 20, 2025 Minutes www.azdressage.org

The meeting was called to order at 6:41pm.
Directors/Incoming Directors Present: Michell Combs, Susan Skripac, Maeike Zoet, Ann Damiano, Rebecca Bruening, ,Rebecca Lindy, Anastasia Keyser , Karen McGee, Kelly Stapleton, Leslie Sherlin, Erin McHenry
Directors/Alternate Directors Absent: Kathy Smith, Cynthia Ganem, Nicole Zoet
Guests : Beth Mulcahy (NAC of ADA President), Cathy Jones

1. Introductions for benefit of new board members
   - New board members Karen McGee, Erin McHenry, Leslie Sherlin and Kelly Stapleton were voted in during the election held electronically between January 6-17, 2025.
2. Election of Officers
   - President. Rebecca Bruening motioned for Ann Damiano to be President, Karen McGee seconded. Discussion. Vote: Ann Abstained, Unanimous Aye. Ann Damiano elected President.
   - Vice President. Rebecca Lindy motioned for Rebecca Bruening to be Vice-President, Erin McHenry seconded. Discussion. Vote: Rebecca Bruening Abstained, Unanimous Aye. Rebecca Bruening elected Vice President.
   - Treasurer. Rebecca Bruening motioned for Rebecca Lindy to be Treasurer, Erin McHenry seconded. Discussion. Vote: Rebecca Lindy Abstained, Unanimous Aye. Rebecca Lindy elected Treasurer.
   - Secretary. Ann Damiano nominated and motioned for Kelly Stapleton to be Secretary, Rebecca Bruening seconded. Discussion. Vote: Ann Abstained, Unanimous Aye. Kelly Stapleton elected Secretary.
   - February 2025 Elected Officers are:
   - Ann Damiano, President
   - Rebecca Bruening, Vice President
   - Rebecca Lindy, Treasurer
   - Kelly Stapleton, Secretary
3. Officer's Reports:
   - Interim President-no report
   - Secretary's report- approved by Board as reported in Center Line Dec 9 meeting minutes. Ann Damiano moved to approve the secretary report as published in the Centerline, seconded by Rebecca Bruening. Leslie Sherlin abstained. Motion passed.
   - Treasurers' and Finance Report –Cynthia Ganem Operating ac $31,345.24, Debit ac $5,624.18, Pantano CD $11,745.80, Petty Cash $400.00, Total $49,115.32 Additional Show and Education program financial statements provides. No Finance committee report was provided. Discussion regarding change in Treasurer's report content and change in Treasury management strategy was held.
4. Education Committee – Cathy Jones/Rebecca Bruening
   - Discussion regarding successful end to our first CORE TRANSFORMATION series
   - Budget was provided for August- 2025- January 2026 CORE TRANSFORMATION series. Motion to Approve by Ann Damiano, Seconded by Susan Skripac . Discussion held. Vote: unanimous approval
5. Jr/Yr Committee Report- Committee chair is now vacant. Discussion regarding incorporating the Jr/Yr events into other committees e.g. Education.
6. Communications Committee- Erin McHenry
   - Erin coordinating all channels (FB, CL, Website)
   - Erin will lead a task force to look at the website

7. Show Committee Report –Kathy Smith. No report provided
   - Schooling shows- March show: Cynthia Ganem will be the Show secretary in advance of the show, Susan Skripac will be Day of Show Secretary. Maeike will connect with Sue Crampton for schooling show ribbons
   - Recognized shows- there are many outstanding items to be addressed from the transition. Ann Damiano will set up Show committee meeting within the next few weeks to determine how to proceed.
8. Membership Committee – Michell Combs
   - Michell Combs and Anastasia Keyser will build a growth plan to be presented at the next Board meeting

Membership Stats 2025 Competition Year

As of 1/20/25

	Total Members	Returned Renewed	Returned *	Returned New	Not Renewed
Adults	**157**	138	9	10	72
Junior/Young Rider	**8**	8	0	0	7
Total	**165**	**146**	**9**	**10**	**79**

**Returned from a Prior Year other than 2024*

9. Awards Committee – Maeike Zoet
   - Members have until 1/30/25 to contest volunteer hours
   - Discussion regarding Award Banquet held. Decision to hold Awards banquet before the June show with a budget of $2500.
10. Futurity- Susan Skripac no report provided
11. Fundraising Committee-Ann Damiano sent report
12. Nomination Committee – Ann Damiano
    - New criteria proposed for scholarships. Board unanimously approved the criteria.
    - Karen McGee. agreed to serve as Chair of the committee. She will meet with Ann to transition responsibilities
13. Equipment – No report submitted.
14. New Business – CALL TO MEMBERS –

Members may be recognized by the Presiding Officer and may then address the Board regarding issues of concern to the Association. The Presiding Officer has the right to limit the amount of time that each Member has to address the Board.

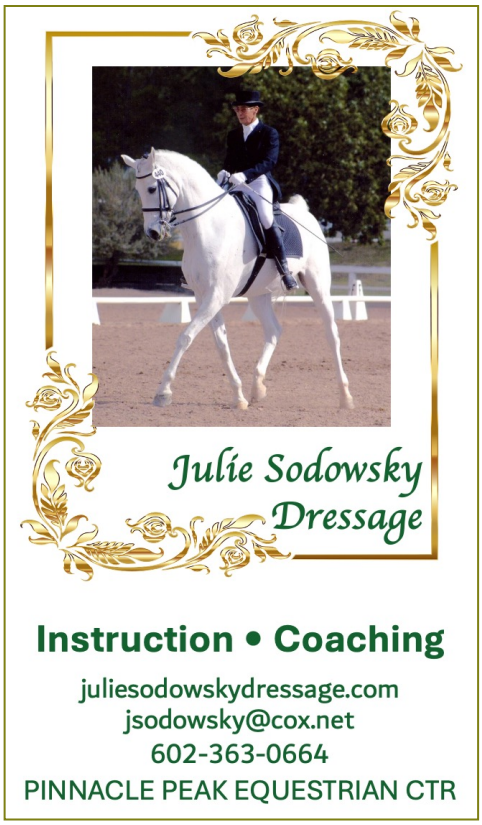
Announcement of Next Meeting –Next meeting on February 10, 2025 time TBD based on survey of new board. ADA Members are invited to the meeting. Contact Rebecca Lindy by email for details. Email to R.Lindy@azdressage.org.

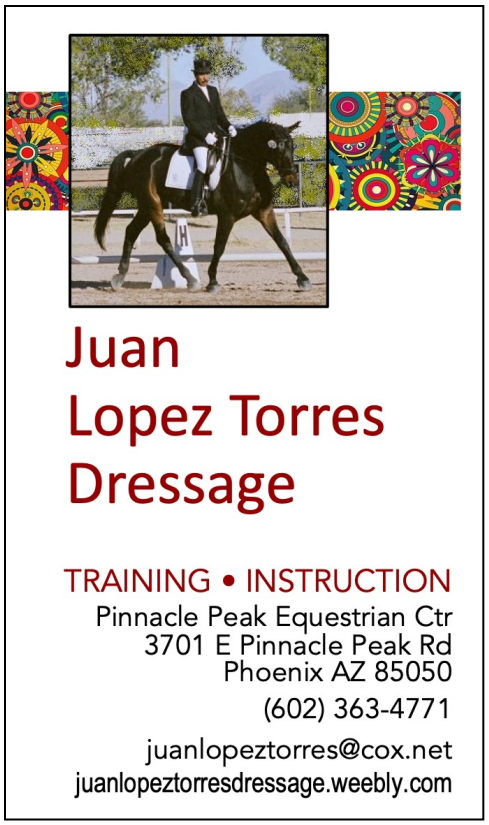
Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Ann Damiano, seconded by Karen McGee. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted by
Rebecca M. Lindy
Secretary

Barn Tip: Velcro Care

Most everyone uses protective boots or wraps for riding and turn-out, and between shavings, ring footing and the Arizona dust, it doesn't take long for the velcro to lose its stick. If your velcro is in bad shape, one of the best tool to use on it is one of the pet shedding brushes that has a toothed blade. These bladed brushes will keep your velcro in top shape!







USDF REGION FIVE

USDF Region 5 Update – February 2025

Show season is well underway in the southern part of our region and I hope everyone in our northern states is staying warm and getting a little horse time this winter. We are having another snow filled season and I hope it brings us some lovely green pastures once more!

It was great to see some of you at the USDF FEI Trainers' Conference in Loxahatchee, Florida in January. The presentation was phenomenal and Monica and Christine did an excellent job with each horse and rider. I hope you will consider putting the FEI Trainers' Conference on your calendars for future years, each year the level of education is of the highest caliber.

I enjoyed presenting to the USDF Young Rider Graduate Program just before the FEI Trainers' Conference. It was 2 days of industry presentations to our younger folks who are looking at careers in the equine industry. We had a few representatives from Region 5! I had the pleasure of talking about being a technical delegate and our role in the sport. This program is offered every two years and really is another great opportunity offered by USDF for our members.

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 in the Children's, Junior or Young Rider divisions, then please make sure you take note of the application structure for 2025. The application and fee should be turned in to the USDF office by March 11, 2025 in order to avoid stiffer fees. If you apply by March 11th, the fee is only $50 per application. Applications submitted between March 12th and April 22nd are $100 and the final application deadline is May 6th, but it will cost you $300 to apply between April 23rd and May 6th. At this point in time, absolutely no applications will be accepted after May 6th. 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 and her phone number is 970.420.0887. The 2025 NAYC will be held at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival, Flintfields Horse Park, Traverse City, Michigan – July 29 - August 3, 2025.

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director

2024 Final Year End Standings
Horses - Training through 4th Levels
Criteria: 3 Scores (1 Highest Test) | 3 Different Shows | 3 Different Judges | Volunteerism

Volunteerism	Owner/Rider	Avg	Horse	Owner	Rider(s)
Training Level					
Yes	Yes	64.133	Khallaghan A	Johnston, Danna	Johnston, Danna
Yes	Yes	62.923	Ima Hot Ducati	Abazarnia, Diane	Abazarnia, Diane
Yes	Yes	62.777	Valera Royal	Buce, Lisa	Baughman, Lily
Yes	Yes	62.777	Valera Royal	Buce, Lisa	Montebello, Jennifer
Yes	Yes	62.728	Furelyse	Brown, Emily	Brown, Emily
Yes	Yes	59.533	Wynn Royalty Wins	Sherlin, Leslie	Sherlin, Leslie
Yes	Yes	57.933	Clononeen Cashmere	Sherlin, Leslie	Sherlin, Mariska
First Level					
Yes	Yes	70.417	Furstinbella	Barngrover, Alyssa	Barngrover, Alyssa
Yes	Yes	66.006	Balcina	Brown, Emily	Brown, Emily
Yes	Yes	65.278	Ryker	Buce, Lisa	Buce, Lisa
Yes	Yes	63.843	L'Aqiedo	Venkatesh, Debra	Venkatesh, Ellis
Yes	Yes	58.380	Valera Royal	Buce, Lisa	Baughman, Lily
Yes	Yes	58.056	Noble Ben	Holland, Lisa	Holland, Lisa
Second Level					
Yes	Yes	66.865	Pfrankincense HP	Burnett, Amy	Burnett, Amy
Yes	Yes	59.762	Formally Cooper	McLaughlin, Erica	McLaughlin, Erica
Third Level					
Yes	Yes	70.546	LC Candelon De Landeros	Dyer, Susan	Gilliland, Missy
Yes	Yes	66.588	Rose Rhapsodie	Paglia, Paula	Paglia, Paula
Yes	Yes	66.390	Los Angeles	Ward, Jaime	Ward, Jaime
Yes	Yes	64.083	Sir Esplendido	Farthing, Pamela	Farthing, Pamela
Yes	Yes	63.792	Facetime	Musina-Sallus, Kadriya	Musina-Sallus, Kadriya
Yes	Yes	60.875	Galante Da Prata	Lent, Stacey	Lent, Stacey
Fourth Level					
Yes	Yes	64.430	Jeitoso XIV	Lindy, Rebecca	Lindy, Rebecca
Yes	Yes	63.765	Romano Larios	Apicella, Kimberly	Apicella, Kimberly
Yes	Yes	63.765	Romano Larios	Apicella, Kimberly	O'Hara, Bobbie Lynn

2024 Final Year End Standings
Riders of the Year - Training through 4th Levels

Criteria: 4 Scores (1 Highest Test) | 3 Different Shows | 3 Different Judges | Volunteerism

Adult Amateur

Training Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	64.800	Johnston, Danna
Volunteerism?	Yes	63.857	Brown, Emily
Volunteerism?	Yes	62.529	Abazarnia, Diane

First Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	70.199	Barngrover, Alyssa
Volunteerism?	Yes	67.635	Brown, Emily
Volunteerism?	Yes	65.162	Buce, Lisa

Second Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	59.732	McLaughlin, Erica

Third Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	65.542	Ward, Jaime
Volunteerism?	Yes	64.219	Musina-Sallus, Kadriya
Volunteerism?	Yes	62.781	Farthing, Pamela
Volunteerism?	Yes	60.938	Lent, Stacey
Volunteerism?	Yes	60.906	Dyer, Susan

Fourth Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	63.809	Lindy, Rebecca
Volunteerism?	Yes	62.798	Apicella, Kimberly
Volunteerism?	Yes	57.177	Darling, Lisa

JR/YR

Training Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	62.900	Baughman, Lily

First Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	63.264	Venkatesh, Ellis

Open

Training Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	69.200	Jackson, Cyndi

Third Level

Volunteerism?	Yes	69.785	Gilliland, Missy
Volunteerism?	Yes	67.066	Paglia, Paula

2024 Final Year End Standings
FEI Riders of the Year

Criteria: 4 Scores | 3 Different Shows | 3 Different Judges | Volunteerism

Adult Amateur

FEI - A

Volunteerism?	Yes	63.654	Mulcahy, Beth
Volunteerism?	Yes	61.360	Brusnighan, Christopher
Volunteerism?	Yes	60.809	Damiano, Ann

FEI - GP

Volunteerism?	Yes	59.973	Tobie, Jennifer

JR/YR

FEI - A

Volunteerism?	Yes	62.482	Riddell, Kali

Open

FEI - GP

Volunteerism?	Yes	67.516	Jackson, Cyndi

Cameo

Criteria: 3 Scores | 3 Different Judges | Volunteerism

Volunteerism?	Avg	Horse	Owner	Rider
Yes	67.884	Florisson	Damiano, Ann	Jackson, Cyndi

Freestyle Rider / Horse Combination

Criteria: 3 Scores | 3 Different Shows | 3 Different Judges | Volunteerism

Open

FS (TL- 4th)

Volunteerism?	Yes	71.632	Amy Burnett / Pfrankincense HP

2024 Final Year End Standings
FEI Horses

Criteria: 3 Scores | 3 Different Shows | 3 Different Judges | Volunteerism

Volunteerism? Owner/Rider		Avg	Horse	Owner	Rider(s)
FEI					
Yes	Yes	67.268	Florisson	Damiano, Ann	Jackson, Cyndi
Yes	Yes	65.510	First Date	Nelson, Paula	Nordqvist, Jessica
Yes	Yes	63.872	Imperio Da Terceira	Mulcahy, Beth	Mulcahy, Beth
Yes	Yes	63.098	Bailando	McHenry, Erin	McHenry, Erin
Yes	Yes	62.598	CC's Rubin	Cahill, Courtney	Cahill, Courtney
Yes	Yes	62.378	#Hashtag	Riddell, Wendy	Riddell, Kali
Yes	Yes	61.422	Jetsetter EDI	Damiano, Ann	Damiano, Ann
Yes	Yes	61.421	Bailo	Brusnighan, Christopher	Brusnighan, Christopher
Yes	Yes	60.362	SRC Adriana	Tobie, Jennifer	Tobie, Jennifer

2024 Pantano Candidates for the Hat
By Show, Chronologically

(Past Winners are Not Eligible)

ADA Spring Celebration		Rider	Horse
Adult Amateur			
TL	72.400	Tobie, Jennifer	Into The Mystic C
1L	72.500	Kalchik, Allen	Odin De Querencias
3L	65.375	Tillman, Laura	Galaxy Quest
4L	68.750	Damiano, Ann	Jetsetter EDI
PSG	66.471	Bruening, Rebecca	Ehrenfurst
GP	62.500	Tobie, Jennifer	SRC Adriana
FS (4th Lvl)	63.900	Radda, Tania	Imperio Do Castanheiro
JR/YR			
1L	66.250	Venkatesh, Ellis	L'Aqiedo
Open			
2L	65.357	Bryan, Almgren Chelsey	Vinoce
PSG	64.265	LaCroix, Ray	Casterly Rock

TDC March Madness 1		Rider	Horse
Adult Amateur			
1L	69.306	Barngrover, Alyssa	Furstinbella
2L	66.000	Barngrover, Alyssa	Furstinbella

3L	60.375	Lent, Stacey	Galante Da Prata
4L	60.972	Radda, Tania	Imperio Do Castanheiro
PSG	63.676	Mulcahy, Beth	Imperio Da Terceira
Open			
2L	64.286	Burnett, Amy	Pfrankincense HP
3L	65.789	Gilliland, Missy	LC Candelon De Landeros
FS (2nd Lvl)	71.474	Burnett, Amy	Pfrankincense HP

TDC March Madness 2

Rider			
Adult Amateur			
1L	64.306	Buce, Lisa	Ryker
3L	62.750	Farthing, Pamela	Sir Esplendido
4L	66.579	Lindy, Rebecca	Jeitoso XIV
PSG	64.559	Mulcahy, Beth	Imperio Da Terceira
FS (4th Lvl)	66.975	Radda, Tania	Imperio Do Castanheiro
JR/YR			
1L	64.861	Thunes, Felicity	King Charming
FS (TL)	69.412	Thunes, Felicity	King Charming
Open			
2L	67.381	Burnett, Amy	Pfrankincense HP
3L	67.000	Gilliland, Missy	LC Candelon De Landeros
FS (2nd Lvl)	68.079	Burnett, Amy	Pfrankincense HP

ADA Summer Heat

Rider			
Adult Amateur			
TL	73.600	Barngrover, Alyssa	Beniciano BG
1L	68.333	Barngrover, Alyssa	Beniciano BG
2L	64.286	Kalchik, Allen	Odin De Querencias
3L	66.250	Musina-Sallus, Kadriya	Facetime
4L	63.194	Taylor, Karrin	San Laurino H
PSG	61.034	Lindy, Rebecca	Jeitoso XIV
GP	61.902	McHenry, Erin	Bailando
FS (3rd Lvl)	64.250	Musina-Sallus, Kadriya	Facetime
JR/YR			
1L	62.778	Venkatesh, Ellis	L'Aqiedo
2L	68.095	Macdonald, Samantha	Candy Crush
PSG	65.294	Nordqvist, Jessica	First Date
Open			
3L	71.875	Gilliland, Missy	LC Candelon De Landeros
PSG	66.985	Martin, Molly	R U 4 Me
FS (2nd Lvl)	71.184	Burnett, Amy	Pfrankincense HP

ADA Some More Heat		Rider	Horse
Adult Amateur			
TL	76.400	Barngrover, Alyssa	Beniciano BG
1L	70.139	Keyser, Anastasia	Heros Quest
2L	67.286	Kalchik, Allen	Odin De Querencias
3L	65.875	Farthing, Pamela	Sir Esplendido
PSG	66.324	Cahill, Courtney	CC's Rubin
GP	63.043	McHenry, Erin	Bailando
FS (1st Lvl)	70.972	Keyser, Anastasia	Heros Quest
FS (3rd Lvl)	69.675	Farthing, Pamela	Sir Esplendido
JR/YR			
TL	69.423	Colin, Sofia	Skyline
1L	62.500	Venkatesh, Ellis	L'Aqiedo
PSG	68.971	Nordqvist, Jessica	First Date
FS (PSG)	68.775	Nordqvist, Jessica	First Date
Open			
TL	68.654	Garza, Ryan	Altivo Vinyet
2L	68.929	Burnett, Amy	Pfrankincense HP
3L	72.763	Gilliland, Missy	LC Candelon De Landeros
FS (2nd Lvl)	72.237	Burnett, Amy	Pfrankincense HP

ADA Fall Fiesta		Rider	Horse
Adult Amateur			
TL	71.897	Roffey, Lindsey	Rodrigo RM
1L	70.694	Barngrover, Alyssa	Furstinbella
2L	63.452	Clemens, Lysa	American Style
3L	62.838	McLaughlin, Erica	Formally Cooper
4L	66.711	Carson, Deborah	Dansken
PSG	61.912	Damiano, Ann	Jetsetter EDI
GP	64.348	McHenry, Erin	Bailando
JR/YR			
Int 1	62.265	Nordqvist, Jessica	First Date
Open			
1L	69.444	Lindsten, Taylor	Bon Jovi RS
4L	71.711	Cox, Lauren	Mooiboy
PSG	66.912	Martin, Molly	R U 4 Me

Having a Point

Susan Downs Parrish, PhD.

January 19, 2025

Most people who have any association with me know that Maronda had to be put down on November 30th, the Saturday after Thanksgiving—an unexpected event. She told me that she wanted to retire about two months before her death. Honoring her request, I looked into getting another horse, thinking Maronda would be a good companion for a new horse. A good thought that was not to be.

Maronda taught me many things, perhaps most importantly that I could think something and she would do it. Not simple things, but advanced things like piaffe and passage. Charles de Kunffy informed me that Maronda wasn't reading my mind, but my aids. Charles maintained that skilled riders who understood how to connect with a horse, especially through the use of the whole torso, felt like the horse was responding to what they had in mind.

Waldmar Seunig captured what I felt when Maronda seemed to respond to my thoughts.

"Riding:The dialogue between two bodies and two souls aimed at establishing perfect harmony between them."

Maronda gave me moments of perfect harmony. With her passing, I wondered if I would ever experience more moments like the ones I had with her. Enter Tequila, an Arabian-quarter horse mare with a history of barrel racing and pole bending. She held her head high and was ridden in a hackamore, so she knew nothing about the fundamentals of dressage.

When I retired Maronda, I posted on Facebook that I was willing to ride anyone's horse that needed a few extra hours of work. One person, Tequila's owner responded to my post. Before Thanksgiving, I called this owner and arranged to meet on Monday following Thanksgiving.

In the midst of intense grief over having to bury Maronda on the Sunday following her death, I followed through and met with Tequila's owner. I live alone and it seemed like a good idea to get out of the house, although, I didn't figure the meeting would lead to anything meaningful. I watched the owner ride Tequila, using my saddle and a snaffle bridle. The saddle fit, the owner seemed surprisingly comfortable, and Tequila accepted the bit while lowering her head somewhat. I agreed to climb aboard. Feeling a horse under me was exactly what I needed. It put me in the present moment as nothing else could.

Tequila wanted to know what I had in mind. She needed to be convinced that I knew what I was doing—a reasonable request given her background. After all, where were the barrels or poles and what the heck was she supposed to do with a snaffle bit? To answer her questions, I started working on a circle at a walk and asked her to lower her head and stretch her neck. The change wasn't immediate, but it was noticeable. She lowered her head somewhat and one ear turned forward then backward as she felt my aiding system address her questions. She wasn't seeking the bit, but did begin to chew on it. She let go of her expectations based on the past and remained in the present moment.

After the owner watched me ride Tequila for a few days, she was confident that I wouldn't hurt the horse. I have been riding Tequila for a little less than two months and she has learned to do shoulder in, leg yield, and half-pass, all at the trot. She does canter serpentines, breaking into a trot or walk as we cross the centerline, then resuming a canter. I ride her four or five times a week for short periods, never more than thirty minutes. Sometimes I ride fifteen or twenty minutes then the owner rides her. Tequila is so smart and willing that what I begin teaching her on one day she grasps by the next day. I swear that on the second day of working on a movement, Tequila says, "Oh yeah, I got this," and she does it, whatever "it" happens to be on that day.

When working on turn on the haunches for the first time with Tequila, I remembered what I learned from Marian Munsinger's Woman of the World (WOW). The first time I sat on WOW, turn on the haunches called to me so I asked her to move one hind foot then the other, and she responded with a perfect piaffe. It was as though she said to me, "Let's try this instead!" Her response was stunning.

With WOW in mind, I asked Tequila to do a turn on the haunches, while thinking about piaffe. Tequila didn't deliver the perfect piaffe displayed by WOW, but she did a few steps in the rhythm of piaffe. Not bad for a mare with no background in dressage.

From the moment I stepped onto Tequila, I had a point. Initially, my point was to get her to lower her head by stretching to reach the bit. Remembering Charles de Kunffy's instruction to ask the horse to seek the bit rather than put the horse on the bit, the reward for stretching down in the direction of the bit was to release the mild pressure on the reins. In my mind, nothing counts unless the movement goes through the whole horse from poll to croup. When Tequila's energy flowed through her body, thus achieving my primary point, we moved onto another point, keeping in mind what Gerd Zuther, Reitlehrer, used to tell me—"Don't bore the horse." Each time my point was achieved, I rewarded her by a minor or major release of the tension in the reins. The system was in line with Charles's idea about rewarding a horse 1,265 times during a ride. This number approximates the one given when someone asked Charles to specify how many times a rider should offer a reward during one ride.

Having ridden Maronda for eighteen years, I learned to have a point because she insisted. When she died, I had only a glimmer of this idea, but in riding three different horses, two Arabians and one quarter horse within a few months before and after her death, the glimmer became a bright light. Although riding these three horses is no longer a part of my life, now they are allowing their riders to grasp the glimmer of the importance of having a point. I know this because the owners told me so.

Tequila lived during my childhood. She was my Mother's barrel horse. When I was about ten, I rode her for a few days at my mother's request. At the time, I rode English and western, but knew nothing of dressage. As I sat on Tequila, I envisioned making a reining horse out of her. Reining was as close as I came to dressage back then. In this piece, Tequila represents what happened when I applied what I learned from Maronda to three different horses with little to no experience in dressage. It was sublime!



NORTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER
ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

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2025 Schooling Show & Clinic Dates

April 12th - Michell Combs (Freeman Farms)

May 31st - Biomechanics Clinic, Heike Barret (Freeman Farms)

July 19th - Dori Vlatten (American Ranch)

Sept 6th - Jenny Cohn 'L' (Freeman Farms)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.nacofada.com

2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

11-12: ADA Symposium #3, Horseshoe Springs

25: TDC At Circle D Ranch, Tucson

FEBRUARY

22-23: Dressage at Bar A, Scottsdale

MARCH

8-9: TDC March Madness: Pima Country Fairgrounds, Tucson

16: ADA Schooling Show: Carefree Farms

22: Dressage at Dale Creek, Betsi Waldron (847) 989-1113, waldronx2@foxvalley.net

28-30: CARA Champagne I Show: Queen Creek

APRIL

12: NAC Schooling Show: Freeman Farms, Michell Combs

19-20: Dressage at Bar A, Scottsdale

MAY

31: NAC Biomechanics Clinic, Heike Barret-Freeman Farms

JUNE

6-7: Roadrunner I: Pima Country Fairgrounds, Tucson

14-15: ADA Summer Heat: WestWorld, Scottsdale

JULY

19: NAC Schooling Show: American Ranch, Prescott, Dori Vlatten

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

6: NAC Schooling Show: Freeman Farms, Judge Jenny Cohn 'L'

OCTOBER

19: ADA Schooling Show: Carefree Farms

25: Dressage at Bar A, Scottsdale

NOVEMBER

9: ADA Schooling Show: Carefree Farms

15-16: TDC Fall Festival I & II: Pima Country Fairgrounds, Tucson

DECEMBER

Our Mission:

The Arizona Dressage Association is a not-for-profit organization whose goal is to promote the advancement of classical dressage through educational opportunities and programs, and the rigorous evaluations received at recognized and schooling dressage shows.

ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION
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