

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Sept 1, 2022

Zoom Meeting

Meeting @ 6:30 PM

Attendance: Beth Geier, Sandra Rosewell, Sharon Soos, Shannon Lemons, MaryJo Hoepner, Karen Harkin, Ginka Kubelka, Andrea Price, Natalie Mendik, Dorothy Kapaun, Nicole Bizzarro, Sally O'Dwyer, Gwen Ka'awaloa, Nadia Westra, Joan Clay

Proxies: Stan Adamson to Sally O'Dwyer;

Call to Order-President

Dorothy Kapaun

Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm by Dorothy Kapaun

Secretary - Approval of Minutes -

Heather Petersen

July 2022 minutes – Dorothy Kapaun moved to approve the minutes as presented. 2nd by Joan Clay. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

Will email it out to everyone as it's the first of the month and the bank hasn't sent everything out yet. Information was not emailed out after the meeting. Will hopefully be available for the October budget meeting.

President Report

Dorothy Kapaun

It has been a privilege and honor to be the President of RMDS for the past two years. A recent event with my family has warranted me to look at my priorities, and I realize that RMDS is not as high on my priority list as it once was. Therefore, I will be stepping down as President for the year 2023.

Each day I am thankful for nights that turn into mornings, friends that turn into family, dreams that turn into reality, and likes that turn into love. Drake

Vice President Report

Bettina Bosma

Bettina has tendered her resignation. Some items from her report, discussion of the forwarding emails that RMDS has set up on the website, contact information for members brought about a discussion of doing a directory of members again to send out to the membership. There was also discussion of more communication and trying to develop more between the board and such as well, and getting more items on the calendar. We may go to monthly meetings for 2023 to try and create a more cohesive working environment.

Central Office

Beth Geier

Membership

- Registration – 660 members as of 8/29 for 2022 –130 new horses since October 2021.
- Accepting dues for 2022: \$80

Shows:

- For 2022: 7 RMDS shows: 30 USEF/USDF recognized shows which does not includes Championships and Regionals.
- Start checking scores and your data***

By Laws:

- 1 change suggested

Omnibus:

- New prices? Need now to be ready for Fall push.

Database/Website:

- Working well – let me know of any problems you are having.
- Did an upgrade to the website software, part of original contract.
- Please ask your chapter members to see if there is a donor in the group or if they know of one.

Banquet:

- January 14, 2023

Volunteer:

- A member is reporting her hours to her business and they are giving \$\$.
- Need 4 hours for awards and 8 hours for scholarship

General:

- Chapters receive free email blasts for educational purposes.
- RMDS Executive Board members get ½ price admission to RMDS events.

Next Executive Board Meetings (2nd Thursday odd months-exceptions noted) – 2022

Executive Board Meetings: Oct 13 (budget)
BOG Nov 19

2023

Banquet January 14

Green = DELETE

Red = ADD

2022 PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE:

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

A. Permanent Committees:

1. There will be **green (9) ten (10)** permanent committees: Adult Amateur, Awards, Championship Show, Communication, Education, Junior/Young Riders, Marketing, Professional Trainers/Riders **green and** ,Scholarship **and Volunteer**.
2. The Chairpersons for the Awards, Education, Marketing, Professional, **Volunteer** Permanent Committees will serve terms of two (2) years beginning January 1 of even numbered years.
3.
 - j. **VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE:** –Warmly welcoming and fostering member participation • Providing relevant training, management, and recognition • Educating our membership as to the diverse volunteer opportunities that exist year round • Routinely evaluating our effort

Permanent Committee Reports Continued:

Adult Amateur

No Report

Pippa Bird

Awards

Trophy return

- Still have over 20 trophies out
- Emailing those folks today and over the weekend.
- Can return to me at Santa Fe, Central Office or my home in Colorado Springs
- Will be charging late fees – maybe we will finally get the point across

New trophies

- We need sponsors/trophies for the following awards in the near future:
 - Friesian Sport Horse Cross – new trophy, no previous donor
 - High Median Junior/Sea Otter Memorial – originally donated by the Tautz Family. Silver plate champagne bucket. Does anyone know the Tautz family?
 - Lael & Cariellen Demuth HM > 65 – I suspect Janet will donate another plaque to keep this one going?
 - Freestyle 1st AA – Melanie Stires Memorial – very large/heavy brass relief on a plaque with second large plaque for names. This one has been around so long I have no knowledge of it after doing this for almost 15 years, lol
 - Freestyle 1st – silver bowl and plaque donated by Edith T. Ray – same as above 😊

Shannon Lemons

- Freestyle 3rd – Barbara Gardner Award, donated by Carolyn Shoenfield. Should RMDS get another plaque – Gwen Ka’awaloa will donate for it.
- Freestyle 4th – IHO First chance and First Impression, donated by Andrea Doelling. Painted pony statue and plaque
- Dutch Warmblood -I donated this trophy and will purchase a new plaque
- Holsteiner -Singletree Farms, donated by Jan Treadwell. This definitely needs to be replaced whether we attempt to contact previous donor or get someone new. Too much damage due to material it is constructed in and lots of horse ears that easily break off
- AA 4th Level – Ricky Wasik Memorial, donated by Haze Pash. HUGE silver bowl and plaque
- JR/YR 1st – Julie Barringer will want to continue sponsoring this
- JR/YR 3rd – Boulder Valley – can chapter sponsor a new plaque?
- Materiale – Patricia Leech – very nice ceramic horse with a base and plaque.
- Can we put a post in eCentaur for sponsors?

2021 Awards

- Due to extreme financial restriction within RMDS, we did not mail out awards that were not prepaid for postage and supplies. Each year we spend \$650-700 in postage and \$200 in mailing supplies, with only about 50% repayment on postage requests sent with those awards that are mailed, even after multiple years. This year will be even worse with increased costs of packing materials. So last year we only mailed those prepaid, which I think is reasonable to continue doing.
 - I have about 3 boxes of last years ribbons, plates and plaques that were not picked up or paid to mail. I will bring them to the banquet for folks to pick up with this year’s award. After that, I think they need to be disposed of. We already have a quarter of the storage unit just housing retired trophies and plaques, so I think allowing them to pick up or pay for postage the year of or the following year is sufficient.
 - The most difficult part of prepaying postage is the amount of time that Beth and I spend trying to keep track of who has paid and who has not, then finding those items in the boxes and boxes of ribbons and plaques, then mailing them. I would like to set a hard deadline for payment and afterwards people can pick them up the next year. Folks were still wanting to have things dragged out of storage and mailed even in May!
 - In banquet announcements, can we please put a blurb that ribbons, plaques and plates will not be mailed without prepayment, so having a friend pick up is the best option. I will have a spreadsheet detailing what folks owe to mail their items within 2 weeks after the banquet.
 - Would like to keep the set price for mailing based on number of items – may have to bump some with increased postage and inflation costs.

Communications

Sally O’Dwyer

I hope everyone is following RMDS on Face Book. And now, we are on Instagram as well. We have even had some tik tok posts. Last week alone our FB reach was 2.5K. We are growing exponentially.

Any members seeking a volunteer position that could be performed remotely? Work your own hours yet serve on a team. Training and support provided. These positions offer you’re the opportunity to share your passion of dressage. Develop a new skill set and beef up your resume

For more information about these positions, please contact Sally O’Dwyer at slodwyer@gmail.com

Available Volunteer Positions:

Social Media Coordinator. The Social Media Coordinator will follow our social media policy, creating and calendaring posts on our Social Media sites. These posts are reviewed by the Communications Chair before publishing. Posts regarding happenings within RMDS, education, motivation, and other info relative to Dressage are needed. Creativity appreciated!

Associate Newsletter Publisher. This individual would assist with the monthly publication of the Ecentaur. I would be happy to teach any interested individual how to use MailChimp so we could collaborate. This would be

a great opportunity for someone who wants to learn more about creating online media and publications. We have plenty of content, so the job is not difficult and would be about 10 hours per month.

RMDS Writer: If there are any aspiring writers, we would love them to join the communications committee. This volunteer would prepare short, blog like articles for social media, our website and for the Ecentaur.

RMDS Photographer: Do you have a nice camera and enjoy taking photos? This volunteer would take pics of our riders at events for use in our communications effort. You would not be required to attend every event, or show, or clinic~

We have added a **Youth Volunteer Spotlight** that serves to introduce and update our members about our amazing youth.

The Ecentaur is continuing to be published monthly. Board and Committee members have been providing terrific and interesting information for this electronic publication.

NOTE: RMDS gives volunteer hours for articles you write. If you have a hard time getting your volunteer hours in, this is a great opportunity to get those completed.

We are ALWAYS looking for input. This newsletter belongs to the club and would be better served if we had more input from the members.

Nicole presented 2 thoughts on an updated media kit. There was discussion on both of these options, which are below.



RMDS MAGAZINE

NOTE ABOUT PRIZELISTS

RMDS recognizes the important role of our local horseshows and how these events, operating on tight budgets, are in integral part of the ecosystem in which RMDS thrives. To put that gratitude and recognition into action, RMDS is offering a price break to advertisers of horseshows. This is the reason for the horseshow special rate column to the right.

In addition, as our most budget conscious option, RMDS will format horseshow information for \$150 / per page. All horseshows are welcome to advertise with this option, just list your dates and high level, pertinent information as text in Microsoft Word or in an email, and we will format your page for you, and send you a proof to review. To be clear, this is not a full color ad with photos and graphics, if you want that option, you must purchase an ad. This option is simply text in the style of the RMDS Magazine. (Please see page 52 of the 2022 RMDS magazine as an example of this, or for an example of a show ad, see page 61 of the 2022 RMDS Magazine.)

Finally RMDS is proud to offer one page of prize list info free to RMDS Chapters. Additional pages are \$150 / per page. just list your dates and high level, pertinent information as text in Microsoft Word or in an email, and we will format your page for you, and send you a proof to review.

Pay online at www.rmds.org
or mail check to:

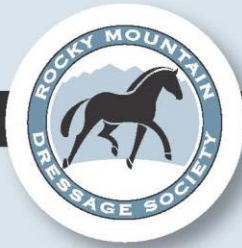
RMDS Central Office,
2942 Park Lake Drive.
Boulder, CO 80301

Omnibus Edition | Ad Rates

RMDS is grateful for all of our advertisers! Your support makes what we do through RMDS possible!

PRINT			
RMDS Magazine Omnibus Edition			
All ads are full color. Sizes are width x height, see diagram on page 6 for visual reference			
Publication Size	8.5" x 11"	Non-horseshow ads	Horseshow ads
Back Cover (includes bleed)	8.75" x 11.25"	\$550	\$500
Inside front Cover (includes bleed)	8.75" x 11.25"	\$440	\$400
Inside back Cover (includes bleed)	8.75" x 11.25"	\$440	\$400
Full Page (includes bleed)	8.75" x 11.25"	\$330	\$300
Full Spread (or 2 Pages side-by-side, includes bleed)	17.25" x 11.25"	\$660	\$600
Full Page (non-bleed)	7.5" x 10"	\$330	\$300
Half Page	7.5" x 4.75"	\$165	\$150
Quarter page vertical	3.5" x 4.75"	\$85	\$75
Eighth page horizontal	3.5" x 2"	\$40	\$35
Directory of Services / Resource Guide	\$30 (text only)	2 lines/name + 10 words	
RMDS Formatted, Text Only, Prizelist Ads			
One page, text only	8.5" x 11	\$150	

Open date for reserving placement/payment: November 20, 2022. Open season for ad placement begins at 12:01am on November 21, if you want to be first in, stay up late and use the PayPal option on the RMDS website to reserve your spot! Close date or deadline for ad submission: January 1, 2023 All ads are sold on a first check in, first served basis. No exceptions. There will be a \$25.00 Fee (per change) for any changes to ads after they have been submitted.



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Education

We are in the midst of accepting participant and auditor reservations for the upcoming L Program. At this point we have 19 participants applied and paid. One more is coming in. There are still openings for auditors. We currently have 6 paid auditors.

We have a contract with the Holiday Inn in Parker for the A and B sessions – conference room and a block of rooms with room rates just under \$120. Small fee for coffee and tea for the conference room, other drinks are allowed to be brought in as well.

Kathy Coors will host the A session at her facility. We may have an issue with the B session location and if we do, Kathy Coors will host us for that session as well.

Gwen discussed hosting a clinic with the Bills for both AA and Open, a fun, new format that could be interesting.

MaryJo Hoepner

Junior/Young Riders**Lauren Still****Dressage4Kids TEAM clinic with Lendon Gray**October 29th and 30th: Meadowlake Sporthorses 13260 Cottontail Lane, Falcon, CO 80831

Please help us get the word out and get the maximum number of our youth connected with Lendon's foundation for youth riders through this clinic! Participants need to apply through the D4K website. Info and application form: <https://dressage4kids.org/programs/team-program.html>

Virtual Community Events

Ideas for Zoom call topics for the fall and winter are welcomed! Contact me at the number below.

Thank you all for your support! 303-668-1386

Marketing**Vacant**

No report

Professionals**Joan Clay****New Business:**

- 1) 2023 Activities – will support the education committee in putting on the “L” program. I have secured a hotel room block and meeting room for Part I – Session C (March 25-26, 2023) at the Wingate in Loveland. I will also be able to help organize demonstration riders for the C session at Tomora Training Center.
- 2) We are putting Instructor/Trainer workshops on hold since Utah is offering a 2023 workshop series and testing. I did not see the Utah dates listed on the USDF website yet.
- 3) Need to start plans for the next RMDS Professionals’ Symposium in 2024. Suggestions for clinicians or activities are welcomed.

Scholarship**Natalie DeFee-Mendik**

Two scholarship recipients (Stacy Adams and Blake Anderson) have completed their scholarship activities and requirements, and have received their second checks. The remaining three recipients received a reminder email this week.

Shows – Championships**Currently Vacant**

We will discuss 2023 at the October meeting. There was discussion of some conversations with folks who were disappointed that 2022 RMDS Championships were cancelled.

Appointed Committee Reports:**1. Western Dressage**

Simone Windeler

No report for Western Dressage.

2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

Stan Adamson

The following RMDS Officers for odd-numbered years, will be elected at the Board of Governors on November 19, 2022:

- President
- Vice President
- Adult Amateur
- Championships
- Communications
- Marketing
- Jr/YR
- Scholarships

3. BOG - November 19, 2022

Heather Petersen

4. Banquet –

Beth Geier

January 14th, 2023. We have a final confirmation from the hotel.

5. AD HOC Volunteer Committee Report –

Judi Devore

The biggest demand for volunteers is waning as the RMDS show season winds down with just a few schooling shows and Sport Horse Championships left to go. Generally reports from shows have been positive in terms of volunteer participation and preparation. However we are considering doing an end-of-year survey to try to measure our efforts more accurately and see what needs to be done for next year. Non-show volunteer hours are still very much available with several committees, such as communications needing assistance with social media and articles for the Centaur. There are also several important committees with vacancies in need of volunteers to chair, so the committee's work is ongoing. We are requesting a change to the by-laws to add the Volunteer Committee as a permanent standing committee. See proposed job description for the Volunteer Liaison and Volunteer committee duties. This job description would come into discussion if the position is approved at the BOG.

Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Summer Region 5 meeting! It was great to see your faces on Zoom and I look forward to seeing you again for our pre-convention meeting and again at the 2022 USDF Convention. We had some good committee updates, touched on the Regional Championships and talked about other upcoming educational activities in our Region. Stay tuned for the next meeting link, it should be out in October or November.

Congratulations to our youth from Region 5 who qualified and competed at the North American Youth Championships in Traverse City, Michigan and the USEF Festival of Champions at the end of August at Lamplight in Illinois! We are so proud of your accomplishments. Our Young Riders ended up 4th place and our Juniors ended up 6th place at NAYC.

Don't forget to declare if you're thinking about attending the US Dressage Finals in November.

<https://www.horshowoffice.com/usdf.org/> You need to declare before you compete in the Regional Championships.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the USDF Convention in December! We are going to Lexington, Kentucky this year, November 30th - December 3rd. All Group Member Organization's (GMO) were asked to designate their delegates for the USDF convention Board of Governors meeting by August 31st and if not determined by that date, the GMO president would become the delegate. If the GMO delegate/president is not able to attend the convention, a proxy for that delegate can be submitted at any time up until the night before the BOG meeting at the convention. The advantage for the GMO is that the delegate will be known and can receive communication from the USDF office earlier. GMO Delegates are included on a list of USDF delegates to receive e-mail communications containing pertinent information on issues that will come before the 2022 BOG meeting at convention. If GMO's have not yet sent in their delegate information, please do so as soon as possible.

Here are a few of the upcoming educational opportunities in our region:

- North, south, and middle Introductions to the new dressage tests –
- RMDS Chapter PPDS - November 3rd with Janet Foy
- Central Arizona - November 26-27 with Gary Rockwell and Jan Ebeling
- Santa Fe Dressage – December, clinician TBA
- Santa Fe Dressage Symposium with Steffen Peters – September 10-11
- Arizona Dressage Association - Bill Warren clinic – October 15-16
- Utah Dressage Society Instructor certification – In the works, contact UDS for more information!
- RMDS L program – more information at www.rmids.org.
- USDF Region 5 Junior/Young Rider clinic with George Williams October 15-16 in Longmont, Colorado

Old Business:

- No old business.

New Business:

- Electronic scribing systems – availability and uses in our area or anywhere have used them.
- Proposition of monthly meetings from April until October?

Chapter Presidents:

1. Arkansas Valley

Nancy Leonard

AVDA continues to be busy with clinics and shows as well as several of our members from Pueblo West doing some fun trail riding.

We continue to have good turnout for our Holly Bergay clinics. We have had 2 in the last 2 months. We were also very pleased to have Juan Gonzales present a clinic at his ranch in Wetmore. This was well attended and every one was excited about his instruction.

We have our rated show scheduled at Pathfinder Park in Florence on September 10. This show is managed by Simone Windler and will have Sharon Sarchet as out judge.

We wish all of you good riding and safe horses.

2. Boulder Valley

Stan Adamson

BVDA members met at 7 p.m., Monday, August 8, 2022. We completed routine business, and then spent most of our time de-briefing our July 30-31 show.

Nicole Donohue, Show Manager for BVDA, reported on a very successful show. Mike Maroone Ford in Longmont provided Ford pickups for the judges and scribes. Colorado Tack and Supply in Thornton and Dover Saddlery in Parker donated high point prizes for Adult Amateur, Open, Jr/YR and Pony classes each day, with Hanna Bloom of HB Tack donating gifts for a raffle for our volunteers. Set up on Friday, July 29, went smoothly. All personnel (Show Secretary, judges, TD, announcer, EMT, farrier and on-call vet) functioned very cohesively, providing riders and horses with great care and a good, positive atmosphere. I took the Show Secretary, Judges, and TD, to dinner on both Friday and Saturday evenings. We were well staffed with volunteers, and provided incentives held over from last year and new goodie bags. We had two additional vendors to complement HB Tack. We had the wonderful food truck The Wolf, which has done such a great job at the Nighthawk Shows. All in all, the shows were a great success both days. We had some very valuable learnings and will probably next year return to our plan in the past of having two outdoor arenas for the shows, while using the indoor arena for warm up, since there were some issues with distractions and tight spacing of the dressage arena in the indoor. We can always move one ring inside in the event of severe inclement weather. The Treasurer, Dorothy Kapaun, reported net earnings of \$10,476.21 for this show after the dust settled. We want to do something beneficial for our members with these earnings, and discussed several potential events, resulting in the desire to have a clinic or ride-a-test to say "Thanks" to our volunteers.

We discussed this plan for clinics for our members and as a reward for volunteers in 2023. We appointed a Task Force consisting of Nicole Donohue, Sally O'Dwyer and Dorothy Kapaun to work on developing these ideas.

The Task Force will be in contact with barns in Boulder Valley, Broomfield and Brighton and other locations in our area to seek a good venue for this/these clinics.

January 28, 2023 is the date for this season's Awards Banquet. We have grown to 145+ members at this writing. Our next meeting, via Zoom, will take place October 10, 2022.

3. Foothills

Nadia Westra

The Foothills Chapter had a very busy summer of shows. We had our Last Chance show last weekend and had a super turnout with many new faces. We have been trying to promote the chapter and encourage not only dressage riders to participate, but also making connections with the local eventing riders. We have renewed our USEF licenses for the Foothills Dressage Festival, and it will once again be held at the Jefferson County Fairground on July 8th and 9th, 2023. We will also keep our two RMDS shows at TMR.

Now that our shows have come to an end as well as this hot summer, we turn our attention to education and our scholarship program. We hope to continue to grow and improve both this fall and into the winter.

4. Grand Valley

Karen Harkin

Grand Valley Dressage Society (GVDS) just completed our second schooling show of the year. Most of the entries were introductory and basic level (western dressage) riders and with many of them children and teens. It was great to see this level of participation from our future dressage riders! We continue to offer discounted classes at our schooling shows for juniors and young riders, which helps offset the costs of showing. Judge Sharron Sarchet provided some excellent feedback on the tests and even awarded a few 10's! We have one more schooling show in October to close out the year.

We are excited to have quite a few of our members attending the USDF Region 56 Championships. Many are first timers with inexperienced horses. The recent schooling show, combined with an upcoming (member-sponsored) clinic with Kristen Aggers will have all the horses and riders well-prepared. Another member-sponsored clinic with Beth Baumert will have riders who are going on to the US Dressage Finals.

GVDS is investigating switching to electronic scribing. We had an excellent scribe training presented by Amber Benson. We started with a general scribe training using videos, introduced electronic scribing using the CompeteEasy application and concluded with a second half-day session scoring live tests using CompeteEasy. After several members attended the Millbrook shows and were introduced to the Fox Village live scoring, GVDS is pursuing that program as well, as we are current Fox Village users. We are seeking other chapters or show managers who are using Fox Village electronic scribing. If anyone has information, please send it to kharkin@gvds.org or jdevore@gvds.org.

5. High Plains

Andrea Price Valenzuela

No report

6. Northern Colorado

Sandra Rosewell

A look back

NCDCA had two successful School Shows

A Ride-a-Test with Sandra Hotz

A Used Tack Sale

The Robert Dover Symposium

We donated money to help Region 5 to attend the North America Youth Championship

A look forward

We are putting together a show committee and an events committee

- We are hoping to enlist our members in a more active way with the club in an easy and assessable way.

New Website

NCDCA is in the process of creating a new website.

- We will debut at our September meeting

Year End Awards

- Julie Haugen has generously funded two new awards for our members. A high point and a reserve award for Western Dressage at our Schooling Shows.

Ideas for 2022-2023 (still in process)

- Organizing a club trip to Omaha for the 2023 World Cup.
- Hosting a club trip to Two Spruce Farm to prep our horses for the 2023 events season.

7. On The Bit

Ginka Kubelka

Moving our recognized show to the Hansen Arena in Laramie was an improvement. Unfortunately, Mother Nature didn't quite cooperate, and we got a lot of rain Saturday evening and on Sunday. It almost seems like you have to have a horse show if you need rain this summer! Overall, the show was a success for our chapter, and we are very thankful for all the hard-working volunteers and generous donors.

We are starting to pick up presentations at our monthly meetings again this fall. Please check our website for scheduled topics!

We are always happy to see new faces, so come join us through zoom or in person for one of our monthly meetings! Connect with us through Facebook or our website, onthebitdressage.com.

8. Pikes Peak

Audra Littlewood

PPDS has had a quiet end of summer. We have held meetings addressing the rule changes for dress code, and equipment that were well attended and educational for members. PPDS is also looking forward to hosting Janet Foy for a clinic on the new dressage tests. This will be held on November 3rd at Latigo. We are looking to make this event popular and informative for all RMDS members, with a catered lunch and cash bar. A flyer with information regarding auditing and demo riding will be available soon.

Next Meeting is October 13th. BOG November 19th.

9:18 pm MaryJo Hoepner made the motion to adjourn. 2nd by Nicole Bizarro. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Heather Petersen