



KDEA E Newsletter –March 2024

KDEA Mission Statement

KDEA serves the South Central Kansas dressage and eventing community by providing educational, social, and competitive opportunities that promote a harmonious partnership between horse and rider



KDEA Officers and Board 2024

President: Cassie Black

Vice President: Cyndi Harris

Secretary Jennifer Thuener

Treasurer: Hillary Akers

Board: Susan Lang, Becky Rolph, Kim Miller, Natalie Petz, Lisa Del Mundo, Marty Foster Dennett, Joanna Gunzelman, Eysley Hatfield-Jr Rep, Natalie Parnell-Jr Rep

In This Newsletter....

Upcoming KDEA Meeting – April 2nd

KDEA Schooling Show April 13th – at Eagleview

KDEA Schooling Show – May 18th at Three Wooden Crosses

KDEA Western Dressage USEF “Lite” Show – June 15th

KDEA Ride a Test – A Successful Weekend!

KDEA Biomechanics Seminar – Sept 27-29

SafeSport – What you Need to Know

US Dressage Federation News

Awards – What might you be missing?

USDF Member Guide

USDF Arts Contest

USDF Sport Horse Seminar – July in Wichita, KS

US Equestrian Federation Things You Need to Know – Drug Rules

Can You Help? A Guide to Schooling Show Volunteer jobs

Educational Committee – Upcoming Events

KDEA Meeting – April 2nd at 6:30pm at the home of Kelly Wolf. Address: 11308 SW 143rd, Augusta, KS 67010. Phone 316-655-7209. Education Topic: Scoring Dressage Tests by Susan Lang and Marie Maloney

KDEA Schooling Show: Saturday, April 13th at Eagleview. Entry form on website. This show offers dressage tests both English and Western, jumper classes, as well as combined tests (dressage and stadium). Judge is Gail Matheus, L Graduate with Distinction, “R” Western Dressage and “r” USEF judge candidate.

KDEA Schooling Show – Saturday, May 18th at Three Wooden Crosses. If you can't join us in April, then plan to come to Three Wooden Crosses (just east of Augusta). We used this facility last year, and everyone loved being there. This show will offer English/Western dressage tests (no jumping). The facility has a mini concession stand, REAL bathrooms, and plenty of trailer parking.

Watch the KDEA website for the entry form to be posted. Judge is Laurie Hedlund from Claremore, OK.

KDEA USEF “Lite” Western Dressage Show – June 15 at Eagleview. Preparations are underway for our 3rd annual Western Dressage Lite Show, with Judge Melissa Creswick “R” from California. We need items donated for the Raffle/Silent Auction, and we can always use volunteers for pre show work (entry processing, scheduling, inventorying raffle/auction items, etc as well as Fri/Saturday help. If you are interested, contact Susan at smlang2@cox.net. See the KDEA website for the entry form for this show.

KDEA Ride a Test – Well, the KDEA ride a test was a great success! We had 32 slots filled over the two days, and thanks go to Marie Maloney, Susan Lang and Lisa Del Mundo for judging and instructing. We had English/Western, as well as Junior/Seniors, and one of the riders requested that their session include a “music-free” critique of their freestyle choreography. Hopefully every rider received valuable feedback on both their dressage test, their geometry, and their “homework” to make their test and riding better prior to going down centerline again. Thank you to Eagle View and to Capall Stables for opening your arenas to KDEA for this fun and educational event.

KDEA Biomechanics Seminar with Alejandra Gonzalez, Sept 27-29. Put this date on your calendar for a 3 day rider biomechanics seminar. Friday evening will consist of a lecture, with Sat/Sun rides (private and/or semi private) focusing on biomechanics. Our clinician will be Alejandra Gonzalez from Cost Rica, who is a 4-star Parelli Professional. Marie Maloney and Susan Lang met her at the February 2024 Western Dressage Association Judge’s Seminar in Denver, CO and the Education Committee will be working on details of this fall KDEA seminar.

SafeSport Information – All KDEA Members should read the information in the links below so that we are all better informed.

SafeSport Resources are available on the [USDF](#) and [USEF](#) websites. The following provides some general information about Safe Sport:

- [What is SafeSport](#): Recognizing Reducing & Responding to Misconduct and Abuse in Sport.
- [5 Things to Know About SafeSport](#)
- [SafeSport Myths and Facts](#)
- [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies \(MAAP\)](#)

Any questions can be directed to USDF at safesport@usdf.org.

USDF News:

USDF Awards Resource Guide Now Available

The [USDF Awards Resource Guide](#) provides information about all award and recognition opportunities available within USDF on one, easy to navigate page. Check it out if you plan to show at a Recognized show.

2024 USDF Member Guide Now Live

The digital edition of the [2024 USDF Member Guide](#) is now available online. This is a reference that includes tests, USDF program, award, and championship information, and more.

USDF Arts Contest

Entry deadline July 1. Open to all USDF members (as a KDEA member, you are also a USDF member, so are eligible). Grand prize winner featured on the cover of the 2025 USDF Member Guide. Two divisions: art & photography. Three age categories: 15 & under, 16-21, Adult. [More information](#)

USDF Sport Horse Seminar

The USDF Sport Horse Seminars are two-day programs designed to educate breeders, riders, trainings and potential sport horse owners about the qualities desired in a sport horse, and how to rate these qualities. These seminars are also a prerequisite to become a USEF-licensed Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Judge. July 27-28, 2024, Hara de Vess Stables, Wichita, KS/ Registration will open April 1, 2024. Watch USDF website for more information

US Equestrian Federation Drug Rules – If you are wondering...as our governing body for Dressage, Western Dressage and Eventing in the US, the Federation has various guidelines for use of medications at recognized competitions. Please read on for more information.

[USEF Guidelines & Rules for Drugs & Medications](#)

- [USEF Rulebook: Drugs and Medications](#)
- [USEF Rulebook: GR411 Conditions For Therapeutic Administrations of Forbidden Substances](#)
- [Equine Drugs and Medications FAQs](#)
- [Medication Report Form](#)
- [Restricted Medication Dose and Time Recommendations](#)
- [NSAIDs and Your Horse](#)
- [NSAIDs Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [FEI Clean Sport for Horses](#)
- [Article: 10 Ways US Equestrian Protects Athletes](#)

Can you help?

Kansas Dressage and Eventing needs to expand its base of volunteers for shows and that just might involve YOU! We all know that our time is precious, but would you consider giving a few hours of your time so that others can participate in a schooling show or recognized show? If you ask those who have volunteered in the past, you will find that we don't expect you to know everything about your job, and most likely you will meet new people and have a good time. Check out the list below for the available volunteer positions...

--**Friday Set Up** – This is a group effort, and the more the merrier! We have the dressage arena stored in our KDEA trailer, and it has to be brought out, set up, and readied for the show the next day. No experience needed, and you will have a much better appreciation for a truly “square” dressage arena and letter placement when you are done!

--**In Gate**. This person has a clipboard with all the ride times and makes sure that riders enter in order, and on time. The in gate person is the one who usually finds out about scratches (people who suddenly decide not to ride a test or don't show up) and is responsible for notifying the office (and perhaps the judge) that the rider is a “no show.” The riders all look to this person for information as to whether the show is running on time, and which horse they follow into the ring. The great thing about this job is that you get to watch every ride, and you also get to see warm up (which is where the really interesting things happen).

--**Warm up**. This person also has a clipboard with ride times, and the warm up steward sends upcoming riders to the in gate area. The warm up person is also responsible for safety concerns in warm up – identifying a problem (such as a runaway pony with screaming child) and taking steps to halt all riders until the situation is under control.

--**Scribe**. This job requires legible handwriting and requires that you be able to write quickly and under pressure. If you don't have legible handwriting, or if it takes forever for you to write something down, you need to disqualify yourself from this job. Riders come to a show to get the judge's comments, and the rider must be able to read the comments, and be assured that the comment and score were placed in the correct box.

A schooling show is a great place to learn to scribe, and you can find out if you “have what it takes” do scribe at a recognized show (where the scores count and there is a lot more pressure). Some people are able to scribe, but the pressure of the moment is too great and they find they can only scribe for an hour or two at the lower levels.

--**Scorer.** Even if you have difficulty running a calculator, you can probably do this job. Scoring requires attention to detail (notice an error, make sure there is a score in every box, make sure the judge signed the test) and then some basic math skills. It is helpful if you know how to run a 10-key adding machine, but not essential.

--**Stadium Crew.** If the show offers a combined test, there is a need for people to help with the Stadium portion of the schooling show. These folks are responsible for resetting fences that are knocked down, and setting the fences to a new height after a change in class. One of the crew usually picks up a stopwatch and times stadium, running out to reset a fence after the round is over and the time has been given to the judge. There is also a warm up steward and an in gate person (just like described above) who make sure that the correct rider gets in the ring in the correct order at the correct time. The stadium scribe sits with the judge and marks down whether the rider went clear, or had refusals and/or time penalties.

Now for the two biggies at a schooling show:

Secretary – The secretary receives all the entries for the show and makes sure that the person paid the right amount for the classes, has a Coggins that is not out of date, and has indicated which classes in which they want to ride (you’d be surprised how many entries come in without any class information). A few days after the closing date, the secretary schedules the ride times (which does require some knowledge, but KDEA members can provide you a hand with this task) and creates a program with all the ride times.

- The secretary then sends out an email to each rider to tell them their ride times. The next task is to write the horse/rider name and number on a dressage test and arrange the tests by class for the judge. The last thing is to create a “packet” which includes a program, the number, and makes note of any missing information that must be provided at check in on the day of the show. You also need to create a packet of “judge copies” of the tests so that the judge has a copy of the test to review as they judge (although some judges come with diagrams of their own, and don’t need extra tests to review).
- The day of the show, the secretary ensures that the show office runs smoothly, which includes checking riders in, collecting any missing data or \$\$, overseeing scoring, placing classes (ribbons), and providing any assistance needed to riders.
- The secretary also produces an entry income/expense balance sheet to show what \$\$ were paid, what \$\$ were due, and the end profit/loss. The secretary works with the Treasurer to make sure all declared Paypal entry \$\$ were actually executed, and then the secretary turns in any checks/cash to the Treasurer for deposit.
- After the show, the Secretary produces a Results Report, as well as the Profit/Loss statement, and sends it to KDEA Officers. The results also are sent to the Thoroughbred Incentive Program coordinator for recording.

Manager – The manager assists the Secretary as needed (i.e. Secretary can call the manager for help) but the manager’s primary job is ensuring that the show flows smoothly for both riders and volunteers. Two to three weeks before the show, the manager needs to coordinate with the volunteer coordinator about potential volunteers. The manager is also responsible for training any volunteers the day of the show (if needed). The manager also needs to make contact with the judge about a week before the show to advise the judge of the start time for the show, and the manager arranges housing for the judge (if necessary) and meals the day of the show. Weeks ahead, the manager needs to coordinate with the facility manager to assure that the facility will be ready on Friday for set up, and stabling requests are able to be met. The manager then must assure that the dressage ring (and stadium course, if a combined test) is set up the day before the show and that directional signs are put out for the office and designated parking. After the show, the manager also obtains a bill from the judge, and sees that the judge, as well as the facility, is paid. The manager then oversees the tear down of the arena and storage of the arena in the KDEA trailer. At a final walk around, the manager ensures that all trash is picked up and that we have left the facility in good order.

So – did you find something you think you can do? Surely there is something here that you’d like to do for a few hours on a weekend. While you are volunteering, you get to see people ride their horses (you might get to see someone’s new horse) and you get to talk to other horse folks. If you want to show, it can be worked out that you ride your classes and then volunteer for a few hours (or vice versa).

If you are interested in helping with a KDEA schooling show this year, email Susan Lang at smlang2@cox.net or Marty Foster Dennett, Volunteer Coordinator at shobewalkin@gmail.com

April 13th

KDEA Dressage Schooling show and Combined Test - at Eagleview. Judge: Gail Matheus, "R" Western Dressage, L Graduate with Distinction, "r" dressage candidate.

May 18th

KDEA Dressage Schooling show at Three Wooden Crosses. Judge: Laurie Hedlund, L Graduate, USDF Certified Instructor. USEF "r" Western Dressage applicant

June 15th

KDEA USEF "Lite" Western Dressage Show - at Eagleview. Judge: Melissa Creswick, "R" WD

July 13th

KDEA Dressage Schooling Show and Combined Test - 20x40 ring only - at Twin Creek Trails. Judge: Cassie Black, L Candidate

August 17th

KDEA Dressage Schooling Show at Three Wooden Crosses. Judge: Holly Luke, L Graduate

September 14

KDEA Dressage Schooling Show and Combined Test - at Eagleview. Judge: Sherry Guess, L Graduate, USDF Certified Instructor

Sept 27-29

KDEA Biomechanics Seminar – with Alejandra Gonzalez

KDEA General Membership and Board Meetings 2024 Most will start at 6:30 with a min-education session

April 2nd – at Kelly Wolf’s house in Augusta – Educational Topic: Scoring

June 4th – Educational Topic: Trailering

Aug 6th – Educational Topic: Show Warmup

October 1st

December 3

Newsletter Submissions. We are always in need of articles and write ups for the newsletter. If you read a good book, saw a good video or DVD, or went to a clinic, please write up your notes and send them in to Susan at smlang2@cox.net. There is no deadline...whenever articles come in, they go in one of the upcoming newsletters. Thanks!