

**DVCTA BOARD MEETING**  
**March 1, 2016**

Members of the DVCTA Board met for its regularly-scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at Danni Toscano's Pony Island Farm, 418 McFarlan Road, Kennett Square. A quorum being present, President Danni Toscano called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Officers attending: Danni Toscano, President; Alix James; Elizabeth Brenner, Co-Vice-Presidents; Elizabeth Bailey, Recording Secretary; Elsie Kellerman, Treasurer; Megan Mendenhall, Corresponding Secretary.

Board members attending: Tracey Basler; Sara Gartland; Susan Neilson; Gaye Bergstrom; Lisa Knox, and Darcy Miller.

Board members excused: Susan Springsteen.

Board members absent: MaryAnne Ost.

Guest: Anne Miller.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Board's February 10, 2016 meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. TREASURER/FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Elsie Kellerman**

The club has a total of \$92,000 in the checking accounts currently held by various committees, and has \$26,758 in the operating account.

**B. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Elsie Kellerman**

The club has 152 members as of this date; 138 members from last year have not renewed.

**C. SCHOOLING SHOW COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Darcy Miller**

The four venues for sanctioned schooling school shows - Blue Goose Stables, Dunmovin' Farm, Second Nature Farm and Straight Forward Dressage, have each agreed that their 2016 show programs will function as sanctioned shows for DVCTA and have agreed to

send DVCTA volunteer and results information to DVCTA for its use in putting on the DVCTA Championship Show and for year-end schooling show awards.

**D. CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Darcy Miller**

The scheduled date for the 2016 Championship Show - October 22, 2016 - will be put on the calendar. Darcy is exploring ways to improve the visibility and appeal of the show.

**E. EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Karen Walsh**

The Board reviewed current and proposed events to examine their popularity and their economic viability. Rita Lowry informed the club that the April 10, 2016 cavaletti clinic, to be led by Anne Moss, will be losing money because of some unforeseen changes by the venue. Rita was given the go-ahead nonetheless because the clinic is full (with 16 riders having signed up) and cancellation at this late date would seem precipitous. Karen Walsh's lecture will also proceed as scheduled.

The bomb proofing clinic, however, will require a \$500 investment by DVCTA (over entrance fees), so the Board agreed not to hold the clinic, as too expensive.

**F. DVCTA SPRING SHOW COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Carol Lipa**

Sally O'Connor will be the judge for the Spring Show.

**G. HORSE TRIALS COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Danni Toscano**

Lisa Knox will co-chair this Committee with Danni.

**H. NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

**Chair:**

Revision of the by-laws to dispense with use of the the newsletter for notices to the membership and to use e-blasts, Facebook and "election-buddy" in its place.

**I. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Liz Brenner**

No report.

**J. DVCTA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Sue Springsteen**

Sue Springsteen the following write-up and guidelines for the DVCTA Scholarships for the Board's review:

The MISSION of the program is as follows: DVCTA has aside funds each year for TEN scholarships to promote education while rewarding DVCTA members who support the organization through their active participation and loyal volunteerism. Scholarships may be used to defray the cost of attending or participating in dressage or jumping educational events. Members of any riding level are encouraged to apply. Both riding and non-riding educational events (excluding continuing education programs are eligible for consideration). (DVCTA separately offers grants to support judges' education through the Marilyn O. Heath Judges Education fund).

The REQUIREMENTS/ELIGIBILITY standards are as follows:

- \*Applicant must be a DVCTA member in good standing for a minimum of 2 years at the time of application;

- \*An individual may receive a scholarship no more than once every 12 months;

- \*A minimum of 8 hours of volunteer service within the previous 12 month period;

- \*Funds must be used for specifically stated objectives (i.e. clinic, riding camp, seminar, etc.) Scholarship money may not be used for regular lesson programs, tack, clothing, or show expenses.

- \*The applicant must complete the DVCTA Scholarship Application prior to the event and send it to the committee chair, Susan Springsteen at the email address below.

- \*The applicant must write an account of the experience and submit it for publication on the DVCTA website, e-news and Facebook page. This must be submitted within 60 days of the event or the scholarship is void. The check for the scholarship is issued after the article is published.

The maximum amount of scholarship money to be awarded per person per year is \$100.00 or 75% of the cost of the event, whichever is greater.

- \*Approval of the Scholarship is made by the Scholarship Committee based on applicant eligibility and information provided in the application. All Scholarship Committee decisions are final. Scholarship Committee members may submit applications for a scholarship but may not vote on its approval.

The mission and requirements/eligibility will be posted on the website and Facebook as notice to the membership.

#### **K. MARILYN O. HEATH JUDGES EDUCATION FUND (MOH)**

**Chair: Rita Lowry**

The MOH awarded Angie Bean a \$500 scholarship toward completion of the L program.

The musical freestyle judges' clinic currently has 4 paid participants and 10 auditors. Darcy is looking for more participants to sign up by the March 9 closing date. Anne Miller has arranged for numerous demonstration riders for the second day of the clinic.

#### **L. EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Danni Toscano**

The Board approved Danni and Lisa taking possession of the left-over equipment and Danni will examine left-over jumps to determine if they should be donated, sold or scrapped. With the exception of the left-over items, DVCTA now owns no more equipment and maintains possession only of archived paperwork.

#### **M. VOLUNTEERS COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Elizabeth Brenner**

After discussion, the Board agreed with Liz that the DVCTA “dollars” program is anachronistic and thus will be dropped. Volunteer hours will continue to be recorded for year-end awards purposes.

#### **N. AWARDS COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Sara Gartland**

No report.

#### **O. QUADRILLE TEAMS COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Anne Miller**

The February 28 Playdate was held at Kealani Farm with 12 riders participating. Anne Moss led the event. The next playdate will be held Sunday March 13 at Ardara Sporthorses. The Quadrille dinner is scheduled for March 30, 21016, at Anne Miller’s house.

Also, the Board needs to discuss how to handle insurance coverage for the kinds ofpraytice sessions the Quadrille teams hold.

#### **P. SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Danni Toscano/Liz Brenner**

Each Committee will be responsible for obtaining sponsorships for each of its events. General sponsorships for the club are still available for \$500, in exchange for advertising on the website.

#### **Q. BANQUET COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Lisa Leanna**

No report.

#### **R. JUNIOR TEAMS/ADULT TEAMS**

**Chairs: Lisa Knox/Sara Gartland**

The budget has been completed for the Junior Teams. Lisa reported that the Silent Auction had about 90 items and likely will have brought in \$4,000-5,000 after inventory is completed. About 20 juniors and “kids” will be participating in the Morven Park and Dressage for Kids events. This interest is before recruiting has begun.

The Board discussed with Lisa the Juniors needs for more financial support but reached no resolution this meeting and tabled the issue for later discussion.

No report for the Adult Teams.

**S. DAD PUB**

**Chair: Lisa Knox**

No report.

**T. DIGITAL MEDIA COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Alix James**

After discussion of a proposal from Annie Duncan of \$750.00 to redo the website and then to put items on the website as requested at an hourly rate, the Board unanimously passed the following motion made by Sue Neilson and seconded by Sara Gartland:

MOTION: that the club hire Annie Duncan to redesign the website for \$750.00.

Liz Brenner will oversee the progress of Annie's work. The Board agreed to give Jenn 30-60 days notice that a new person will be working on the website and that Jenn should continue to work the website while the new website is being completed.

**U. GIFTS/PRIZES**

**Chair: Danni Toscano**

All volunteer awards are stored and ready for the banquet. There are enough tokens for volunteers, judges, clinicians in storage for the year 2016. All that may be needed are gift cards for Hi Score DVCTA riders at outside shows and door prizes for Board meetings. The Board will decide whether handing out the gift cards for the Hi Score Program for DVCTA riders at outside shows and for door prizes for meetings should continue.

**V. ON THE WAY TO FEI CAMP**

**Chair: Darcy Miller**

No report; Darcy will have more information in April.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Sue Springsteen reported that DVCTA has officially partnered with Dressage Training Online. Sue will be receiving a welcome packet in about two weeks which will include a 25% discount off the membership fee for DVCTA members and DVCTA will receive \$45 for each member who joins. As soon as she receives the coupon code, Sue will create an announcement for the website and Facebook.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- \* Sheelagh Christensen has resigned her seat on the Board. Liz Brenner will ask Theresa Monturano to take Sheelagh's seat.
- \* The Board appointed Darcy Miller to represent the club at the Region #1 meeting at Hassler's Dressage on March 13th. The club will reimburse Darcy \$20 for lunch and .50 per mile. Darcy will report back to the club on the results of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Bailey,  
Recording Secretary