

## **DVCTA Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 10, 2020**

Attendees:

Megan Mendenhall

Lisa Knox

Sharon Sexton

Chris Poole

Eliza Herman

Joan Chain

Jen Holmquest

*We did not have a quorum but held the meeting to get updates and pick committees.*

Joan joined the schooling show committee. She will update the DVCTA membership benefits tri-fold brochure if needed. She will also distribute DVCTA membership forms and the brochures at the schooling show locations, as well as check their level of supplies; for example the new DVCTA stemless wine glasses that will be the high point awards for 2020. Joan and Jen will tag team attending schooling shows to try and attract new members.

Lisa presented a summary of the junior activities - there are 3 teams (possibly 4) that will be working to attend the June USDF Region 1 show in Culpeper, Virginia. There is also an Alexa Derr junior clinic on March 22nd at Second Nature Farm.

Eliza will be coordinating the combined test and horse trials committee. Megan asked for her to coordinate with the Linda Drejza who does educational activities. The goal is to have 2 eventing based (mounted or unmounted) clinics this year.

Jen presented a summary of the 2019 year end awards, which is attached at the end of the minutes. The board also discussed increasing the minimum number of qualifying scores to 2 for horse trials categories. The addition of eventing medals which will not be calendar year limited was received favorably, and summary information on this program (to be based on USEA program) is also attached to this document.

Jen asked Eliza about collaborating on an eventing members meet and greet dinner, similar to the Quad Squad (quadrille) format. Eliza noted that it is somewhat late in the year, but perhaps we can drill down to members' interests whether it be group lessons, team competitions, DVCTA team gear, etc. Jen asked Sharon for a city/state report from the membership database so we can determine the best meeting place.

Lisa reported that \$3715 was made at the annual banquet from the Juniors' silent auction. 110 dinner banquet tickets were sold, but she is awaiting final dinner meeting data. Some members had banquet concerns about running out of food and other issues. Lisa has asked for everyone to compile their concerns and email or text her. Lisa did give her email and cell phone number, but as the minutes will be posted on the public website, please use contact [jrteam@dvcta.org](mailto:jrteam@dvcta.org). Lisa will consolidate all of the feedback before speaking with Loch Nairn management.

Sharon reported that our current membership is 115 members with 26 new and 89 renewals. She also received 4 emails today which will increase that total. Megan reported that we need approximately 200 members to stay viable. We had approximately 180 members back in 2018 and 210 last year. The schooling shows will be a good opportunity to talk up the membership benefits. Jen also noted that 19 of the 2019 year end award winners have not rejoined as of this morning's USDF GMO membership listing.

Megan asked Jen about high score ribbons for the DVCTA awards at sanction schooling shows. Ribbons have been distributed for the winter shows, and Jen will check the remaining inventory. Aneesa/Jen did plan to phase out the ribbons in lieu of the new stemless DVCTA logo wine glasses for 2020. (See attached picture at the end of the minutes.)

Jen also has a significant number of DVCTA can cozies, some golf towels, DVCTA logo face brushes, and a few hats/tote bags. We also have two embroidered dressage pads left over from the year end awards. These simply say champion on them without the year so they can be re-purposed. Lisa Leana has the new inventory of wineglasses.

Sharon will update membership data to USDF on a weekly to bi-weekly basis as members increase so the sanctioned schooling shows have the most accurate listing. Aneesa also sent the same GMO link to all show organizers so they have the ability to verify DVCTA members prior to live scoring. The USDF GMO web link for DVCTA is:  
<https://www.usdf.org/clubs/people.asp?GroupPass=121@ionpass=1&TypePass=GMO>

Eliza asked a question about the DVCTA scholarship program. A member asked whether the Full Moon clinic and follow on ¼\* event would be a valid activity. Lisa confirmed that it is an educational event that culminates in a horse trial classic/long format. Megan concurred that this activity is valid and acceptable for scholarship use.

Eliza will assume the head of scholarship committee. Typically 2 scholarships are approved in any given calendar year, and the last few years have only seen 1-2 applications. If additional scholarship applications are received, additional committee members will be needed to review the applications for approval.

Chris had a question on volunteer hours. She knows of at least 2 people with approximately 40 valid volunteer hours that were somehow overlooked. Megan agreed that for this significant level of volunteer effort, we can retroactively send 2019 volunteer awards. Chris will send the recipient information to Megan, who will obtain the awards and mailed them to the appropriate people. Chris then asked the board if any other volunteers had been missed.

A discussion followed on how to improve the volunteer hours for 2020. This included a reminder to all members that they need to be proactive and follow up with volunteer hours to Liz Brenner. Another suggestion was to create a DVCTA form that volunteers can bring to each schooling show and hand to the secretary to aid in recording hours correctly. It was noted that Darcy is already planning to do this for Blue Goose Stables shows this year. A mass email several times a year reminding volunteers to check their recorded hours was also suggested. Volunteer form data can be sent to Annie Duncan, who will create/post to the DVCTA website.

Post-meeting, Lisa Leana emailed a Treasurer's update, showing the current club account balance at \$83,414.82.

The meeting concluded at approximately 8:10 p.m. Meetings will be continue to be held every month on the 2nd Tuesday, with the exception of January when the annual banquet is held. At this time the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting is planned to be in person – details TBD. At least one in-person meeting is required per year, and the board generally tries to have at least 2 in case board members' schedules get hectic.

#### 2020 Baseline Meeting Schedule

(Note – subject to change based on availability, Megan sends email invites each month)  
April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8.

#### Board Member Contact Information

Board Member Contact information on the website is still listing the 2019 Board. We need it redlined for 2020 and sent to Annie Duncan – Megan, can you do this?

\*\* Also, if you are a committee point of contact, please ensure that the DVCTA specific emails are linked to your preferred email account – and then do a test run from the website to ensure that the email reaches you!

Here is the web link for DVCTA emails:

<https://www.dvcta.org/contact-us/>

DVCTA 2020 schooling show high-point award – stemless wineglass:



## 2019 DVCTA Year End Awards Summary

### Division Statistics

21 recognized dressage divisions, 12 uncontested	3 recognized horse trial divisions, 2 uncontested
22 schooling dressage divisions, 12 uncontested	10 schooling horse trial divisions, 7 uncontested
	9 combined test divisions, 6 uncontested

65 overall division champions (39 uncontested)

26 reserve champions

11 divisions up to third place, 5 up to fourth place,

2 divisions up to fifth place, 1 up to seventh place

### Most Popular Divisions: (# submittals)

Schooling Dressage, Training Level, Adult Amateur (7)

Schooling Dressage, Training Level, Open (5)

Schooling Dressage, First Level, Adult Amateur (4)

Combined Test, Intro Level, Adult Amateur (3)

### Division Levels

Lead line, Junior (4), up to Grand Prix, plus Western dressage and musical free style

### Horse Trial Division Comments

1. Not instituting a minimum 3 score submittal does increase uncontested winners
  - a. While not a current issue, if the entire membership decided to submit only a single score per division/level, the awards cost could go up dramatically in the future – and the organization is striving towards cost neutral activities.
  - b. Suggest a minimum of 2 scores for 2020
    - i. 2019 winners that would have been affected were also champions in 1-2 other divisions (i.e. not really losing out on single special award given to each person regardless of divisions- Aneesa implemented that policy in 2019, and it makes sense – no one really needs 3 matching DVCTA champion saddle pads for a single year)
    - ii. Single qualifying scores could be used towards a new Eventing medal category – similar to USEA
  - c. Past years have had unlimited score submittals (aligns with USEA leaderboard)
    - i. I would like to see a minimum of 2 week separation between events - Running back to back weekends, especially in the summer is not a good model/stewardship for chasing points/championship. OR:
    - ii. We could limit to maximum 6 scores (main local season runs April – October). This allow reduced cost for members to be competitive within DVCTA. (Review of 2019 award submittal data shows no change in final results if rule had been in place and 6 best scores were used.)
2. Proposed Eventing Medal award category
  - a. Not calendar year restricted
  - b. Earn 1 per level, at each bronze, silver and gold level (50/45/35 final score for Elem/Intro/BN/Training; USEA has lower threshold for Novice (not sure why?), higher for Modified and Prelim. Will need to review DVCTA members' score trends to assess impact on score thresholds for medal type.)
  - c. No XC penalties allowed in qualifying scores
  - d. Can reuse scores for next higher medal if they meet more strenuous score criteria
  - e. Would allow same “earned” award as USEA but for schooling horse trial divisions, particularly for Elementary and Introductory - which have no USEA recognition.
  - f. USEA requires different XC venues for qualifying scores, but we could waive that for DVCTA program, as many competitors go to repetitive Fair Hill/Plantation Field events – usually the dressage judges are different (and dressage is huge driver for final scores at lower levels), and XC fences/courses change between events
  - g. If acceptable to the Board, rules can be redlined and sent to Webmaster for update by April 1.