

DVCTA Board Meeting – Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Board Member Attendees:

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|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Megan Mendenhall | Lisa Knox | Mike Broomall | Chris Poole |
| Linda Drejza | MaryAnn Luke | Joan Chain | Lisa Leana |
| Sharon Sexton | Jen Holmquest | | |

Guest: Doreen Garland

The board meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

The main topic of the evening was the DVCTA recognized dressage show on May 30th. Doreen presented a list of concerns in going forward with the show:

- USEF mandate has all activities suspended until April 30. There is no information on whether this period will be extended.
- The contracted judge, Jennifer Roth, is concerned about safety/the ability to fly in to support the show. She is OK with canceling for 2020, and will commit to a 2021 show date.
- The technical delegate, Robin Nunley (sp?) is based in Virginia, where there is a stay at home order through June 1. The TD will waive her fee if our show is canceled. (Aside: the TD works for the government, and has a letter allowing travel, and is willing to do so. However, essential business letters should be only used for that purpose, and not to circumvent state orders or place burden on enforcement authorities.)
- Hodges Badges (ribbon supplier) is taking orders, but is currently closed – their ability/timeframe to support ribbons is unknown.
- Doreen's show facility is currently closed, but could be open in May depending on PA stay at home direction.
- The state of Delaware currently has a stay at home order to May 15.
- Volunteers, always a sparse commodity, may be unwilling to support a show where social distancing could be difficult to maintain (e.g. sitting by judge to scribe).
- Many commercial barns are closed to comply with stay at home orders for non-essential business, so without the ability to ride/practice, riders may not wish to invest money in showing at this point in time (only 7-8 entries have been received to date.)
- The Devon horse show and country fair (which runs the same weekend as the DVCTA recognized show) has already been canceled for 2020.
- Many other shows are attempting to postpone shows and obtain later dates – but having difficulties securing judges and TD's.
- USEF must still clear revised show dates, although the mileage separation rule may be waived regarding concurrent shows. Megan noted that with overlapping shows, entries and revenue could be depressed.
- USEF will return the licensing fee due to the extraordinary circumstances, but refunds may run at least 3 weeks behind.
- USEF is taking information for delayed 2020 shows as well as 2021 show date requests, but it is unclear whether they are fully staffed during the coronavirus related events.
- Doreen has not incurred any expenses that DVCTA needs to reimburse.

Lisa Knox made a motion to cancel the 2020 DVCTA recognized dressage show. Several board members seconded simultaneously. All voted in favor to cancel the show.

Megan will draft announcements for both the DVCTA website and Facebook page to announce the cancellation. Doreen will be asked to review the content prior to Annie posting the data.

Lisa Knox reported that the end of June USDF Region 1 show for the junior teams has not been canceled as of today. USDF has requested that all GMO's support the show by donating \$100. Lisa made a motion to donate a total of \$200 (\$100 each from the DVCTA general fund and the junior's fund). Sharon seconded the motion. All voted to approve the donation. Lisa Knox will forward the donation check information to Lisa Leana.

Note: USDF had requested the funds several weeks ago, but understood that DVCTA was not meeting until tonight, 4/14 – so the timeframe to donate is near term.

Mike asked whether any Dressage at Devon decisions had been made regarding their show date. None of the board members have seen or heard of any changes as of today.

Membership stands at 123, with only 1 new over the last month. Not unexpected with the COVID-19 uncertainty, many organizations are in a hold/wait-and-see pattern at this point.

Jen reported that she sent out the March minutes for review this morning – however, the board may not have received them, as she used her work email which is not a “member” of the dvctaboard group email and therefore the content required moderator approval. The minutes were re-sent from her eventjen@yahoo.com email during the meeting. Please reply if there are any corrections that need to be made for March, or “approve” if the content is OK. If the Board approves the minutes, Jen will contact Annie to get the file posted on the website. The April minutes will be sent prior to the meeting to allow more review time, and more efficient approval process.

Finally, Megan stated that if the stay-at-home orders are extended, there will be little activity to discuss for next month, and the May board meeting could be canceled.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

[Placeholder]

Post-meeting, Lisa Leana emailed a Treasurer's update, showing the current club account balance at **\$TBD** (Previous month balance was \$83,414.82.)

Remaining 2020 Meeting Schedule

(Note – subject to change based on availability, Megan sends email invites each month)
May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8. At least 1 meeting needs to be in person, but with active social distancing guidelines, that date is TBD.

**** Please see next page for carry-over ACTIONS from February – still need some website checks/updates – if you have some extra time due to stay-at-home orders, please peruse the DVCTA website/pages and help update them where needed! ****

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/>

Year End Award Program

Open for comment – changes for 2020 year end awards (this could be OBE due to COVID-19)

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.