



# NDA Board Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2024

## Attendees

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### Board Members Present:

- Kathy Hanford, President
- Jen Weaver, Vice President
- Carrie Cross, Treasurer
- Karen Stricklett, Secretary
- Darian Kauk – Jr Representative
- Laureen Van Norman
- Sara Loseke
- Jenna Vogt
- Linda Smith

### NDA Members Present:

- Jennifer Rawlinson

## Call to Order

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The meeting was held via Zoom due to inclement weather. President, Kathy Hanford, called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

## Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

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The December 11, 2023 NDA meeting minutes were reviewed. Jenna Vogt moved to accept the minutes as written. Karen Stricklett seconded the Motion. Motion carried and Minutes were approved.

## Officer Reports

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### President:

No report

### Vice President:

No report

### Secretary:

No report

### **Treasurer:**

Sara presented her year end report and shared her concerns about NDA's financial status. Excel spreadsheets are available to view online. Cash balance in the main account is \$160.79. NDA lost \$1500 on the banquet and \$2500 on the Cornhusker Classic. Margo did an excellent job saving money on the banquet this year by cutting costs. Unfortunately, the bids on the silent auction items were extremely low and, as a result, our income was low as well.

Sara pointed out that she actually paid for the 2023 insurance policy and the 2024 insurance policy in the same year (2023) which explains the higher cost for insurance in 2023. But the bottom line is that we are losing money with everything that we do, and we need a strategy to bring in more money to cover our expenses.

It was agreed that a special meeting focusing on strategic Budget planning for NDA in 2024 would take place on 1/29/24 at 6:00 PM at Carrie's church in Lincoln, NE.

New signature cards for the bank accounts will be needed. Kathy, Carrie and Sara will be the signers on the bank account going forward this year.

## **Committee Reports**

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### **Membership:**

Angie McLelland was not present, but it was noted that we have 37 confirmed members plus 9 more expected with a total of 46 NDA members thus far.

### **Competitions:**

Jennifer Rawlinson, Mike Smith and Amy Blum are on this committee. Jennifer Rawlinson reported on behalf of the committee. For the Cornhusker Classic, they are adding a new team competition – it will be called the Cornhusker Classic Scramble. There will also be a competitor's party with the location to be determined. The dates for the Cornhusker Classic will be the 25<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2024. The CC schooling show will take place on May 19<sup>th</sup> at Salt Creek Wranglers in Lincoln.

The Schooling Show Championship will take place on September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Sand Hills Global Event Center (formerly known as the Lancaster Event Center).

Tentative dates for a schooling show and clinic with Marie Maloney are either March 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> or April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. She is certified for both Western and Classical dressage. NDA will be applying for a Grant to help with costs for that clinic. This clinic will be a Ride A Test format with scores counting towards schooling show championships and year end awards. There will be several educational components provided at that clinic. Educational stations will be set up and will provide guidance in such areas as volunteer opportunities at a show, how to prepare for a show, how to complete the required forms, how to ensure consideration for year-end awards. Location to be determined.

The competitions committee has also been looking into Virtual Show options as a fundraising event. Jennifer sent two links to the NDA members to be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting. Linda had previously noted that these options were discussed at the USDF convention as good income producing events for some of the GMO's.

### **Awards:**

Kathy Hanford will stay on this committee but is not able to Chair the committee due to her position as President. Jen Weaver agreed to Chair this committee with Kathy's help. Jen Weaver suggested that we send thank you cards to sponsors of the annual awards and request a donation to cover the

cost of engraving those awards each year. It was noted that NDA has plenty of stationary on hand.

### **Publicity:**

No report but we will need to find a Chairperson for this committee and some volunteers to assist with this marketing effort. It is critical that we make every effort to increase our membership and increase participation in the upcoming shows and educational events.

Carla Rogowsky has been in charge of keeping the Website updated in the past and needs to be contacted to see if she is willing to continue this role. Carrie Cross volunteered to help keep the website updated with upcoming events and this information will also be advertised on the NDA Facebook page and other social media. Melissa Ward has assisted with publication of the Handbook in the past. Margo Hamilton is no longer on the NDA Board but has agreed to stay on as liaison for the Contact. Planning on a January issue and quarterly issues after that in 2024.

### **Fundraising:**

Tillie Jones did an excellent job this year attempting to raise funds for the organization. We still have quite a few items left that were ordered for the USDF Convention – Christmas Ornaments and Anniversary Mugs. These items are currently at Jennifer Rawlinson's home. The NDA Calendars have been a money-making endeavor that has been successful, as we are only ordering calendars for those who have committed to purchase them. The spreadsheet prepared by Carrie Cross was reviewed; this provided the expenses and costs for each fundraising item in 2023.

One fundraising idea provided by Jen Weaver was putting together gift baskets to raffle off at various events, such as the Cornhusker Classic. Fund raising options that have been used in the past have included "no braid" donations and items for sale by the Junior Young Riders group.

It appears that all but two of the arena letters have been purchased by sponsors. This may be sufficient to proceed with the purchase of the new letters for the arena.

Currently, there is no Chairperson for this committee.

### **Equipment Management:**

We are hoping that Ken Timmerman will continue his role as Equipment Manager. Someone will need to confirm with him that he is willing to do this for us in 2024.

### **Education:**

A discussion was held about offering a Ride A Test Clinic with Jane Fucinaro, USDF L Graduate, in Omaha at her facility, Coda Cavallo Dressage. Due to the fact that the competitions committee has already scheduled a clinic event with Marie Maloney that will include a Ride A Test component, it was agreed that we would revisit that option later in the year. Jen Weaver reported that Stillwaters in Lincoln is offering a clinic with Pernille Andree the first of February. Jen Weaver noted that USDF will also be hosting a Region 4 Youth Outreach Clinic on March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> for 8 – 10 riders. An email about this event was sent out to all USDF members on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

Karen Stricklett is Chairperson of this committee but is requesting assistance from others to plan and implement upcoming educational events such as "Getting Ready to Show"; hosting Amberley Snyder as a potential speaker for a motivational seminar; requesting a nutritional presentation from Purina and/or Nutrena; inviting a Vet from NEVC to talk about horse health and new developments in the industry. Lots of good ideas from the group.

### **Junior/YR:**

The Junior Young Rider Clinic was reported to be well-received and quite a success! Carrie reported that Cece Holst had sent her the numbers from the clinic, and it looks like NDA made a profit of

\$80.00 for that event. Darian Kauk discussed the event as being very conducive to getting like-minded young riders together to share their experiences. Darian volunteered to serve on the Education Committee and had several helpful suggestions as to how NDA can attract and recruit more junior/young riders.

### **Volunteer:**

Karin Nilsson declined to head up this committee again this year. We will need to find a new Chairperson as well as people who would be willing to help round up volunteers for the CC Schooling Show on May 19<sup>th</sup> and the CC I and II on May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Western Dressage:**

No report. Amanda Percival was the Chairperson of this committee last year, but contact has not been made with her as of this date to discuss her willingness to continue in this role due to a family tragedy.

## **Old Business**

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Discussion of standing committee assignments and recruiting of new members through outreach efforts

Website maintenance – Carrie Cross has agreed to help with this effort

## **New Business**

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Safesport – adding policies to Handbook for procedures for handling complaints. Linda Smith had previously offered to serve on this ad hoc committee

Discussion and approval of changes to the awards programs what were proposed by Kathy Hanford at the Annual Meeting

Budget planning for 2024 to address NDA's need for increased income to cover expenses.

## **Next Meeting Scheduled**

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A special Budget meeting will take place on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in Lincoln, NE.

The monthly meeting will take place at a location in Lincoln, NE on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

## **Adjournment**

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Laureen Van Norman moved to adjourn the meeting and Linda Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Stricklett, NDA Secretary