

# **NDA Board Meeting Minutes**

April 13, 2020

## **Attendees**

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### **Board Members Present:**

Melissa Ward  
Jane Fucinaro  
Margo Hamilton  
Lana Erickson  
Michaela Schieffer  
Angie McClelland  
Heidi Helmer  
Mia Newman  
Gracia Huenefeld

### **NDA Members Present:**

Jennifer Rawlinson  
Kathy Hanford  
Amy Blum  
Sheila Purdum

## **Call to Order**

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President Melissa Ward called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM via online Zoom Meeting.

## **Approval of Minutes**

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The February 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed. Margo moved to approve minutes, Lana seconded. Motion carried, minutes were approved.

## **Officer Reports**

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**President:** Melissa has updated the website to add in Covid-19 information, including event cancellations. The Dressage Foundation has asked for a \$100 donation to support the Century Club. The Board approved.

**Vice President:** No report from Margo.

**Secretary:** No report from Jane.

**Treasurer:** As of the first of April, the main account has \$5,591.90. Show account has \$14,074.12. PayPal has a balance of \$339.31. Lana refunded those who signed up for the Grooming Clinic through PayPal. NDA had paid \$77 for hook-ups for electricity at the International Omaha which has been refunded. NDA has also paid D&O and event liability insurance. NDA is all up to date on insurance and taxes. Jane motioned to approve the report, Margo seconded. Motion carried.

## Committee Reports

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**Competition:** Amy and Jennifer joined to discuss how Covid-19 will affect the Cornhusker Classic. USEF may or may not extend their deadline of no competitions. The Committee discussed how the decision may be made for us through USEF. It should be announced at the end of April or beginning of May. Currently, statewide mandates/DHM Guidelines are being followed, the Event Center is cancelling or postponing events through May 16th. If cancelled, NDA would owe each judge \$100, if we rescheduled within the calendar year, they would not charge us for facility fees. Jennifer asked the Event Center for several options for rain dates. She suspects numbers would be down if we had to postpone until the end of the season, however, they will have a new outdoor arena with good footing and outdoor stalls in the Fall. June or July would probably be in competition with other Regional shows. NDA could also postpone until after November 1 for scores to count for 2021. Anne Sushko advised waiting as long as we possibly can to make a decision to hear what USEF says. The Event Center is asking all event hosts to pay half of the facility fee if we cancelled without rescheduling (without shavings, etc.) which is approximately \$3,000.

Lana said that according to the budget, we would have to tighten up quite a bit, as a global pandemic was not accounted into NDA's budget! The effect of a cancelled Cornhusker Classic won't be direct to the budget, as the competition account is

separate from the main account. The primary effect might be from fundraising and membership due to the current times.

Amy and Jennifer thought that rescheduling the Classic it would be a viable option IF we got decent dates. Additionally, judges could be difficult to reschedule, but we may not be able to have a breed show.

The Board discussed the financial situation of many people at this time, will people be able or willing to spend money on competitions this season?

Amy recommended waiting until the beginning of May to host the show. NDA would not be losing any money if we waited until then.

The Board mutually decided to wait to hear if USEF releases any further guidelines or wait to hear from the state DHM.

NDA has been contacted several times with people that are interested in Virtual Shows. As of now, USDF has no plans to support virtual shows for actual scores. Sheila Purdum has been in touch with an organizer from WI who has arranged some virtual shows. The WDAA Board has decided to accept scores from shows at half the amount of points.

The NDA Board discussed that it would be up to individual show managers to run virtual shows, however, NDA Awards only consider NDA recognized shows.

The Board further discussed creating a "Virtual Tournament" for getting dressage tests scored and keeping our membership involved. Kathy and Jennifer will head this up along with the Education Committee. May is the target date.

**Junior/Young Rider:** Mia reported that everything is on hold for now.

**Membership:** Angie reported that NDA has 106 current members. One email reminder has been sent out in early March. NDA will hold off on reminders until there is a tangible event to renew membership for.

**Awards:** Kathy Hanford reported that all the ribbons have been ordered for the Cornhusker Classic.

**Publicity:** Melissa reported that there are 307 people on our email list. Most of the last month has been logistical communications.

She has included coronavirus messaging on the website.

Lana and Melissa are working on setting NDA's Facebook page up for fundraising.

Michaela wants to include a letter from Melissa and the Competitions Committee. She will prepare the Contact when there has been a decision made about the Classic.

**Fundraising:** Margo hasn't had much luck asking donors for money right now, aside from prior year donors. She will continue efforts in making asks.

**Equipment:** No report.

**Education:** The Grooming Clinic has been postponed with dates TBD after Covid-19 passes. The Board and Committee discussed guest speakers for a panel over Zoom Meeting. Jane will put a poll on Facebook to see what membership is interested in.

**Volunteer:** No report.

**Western Dressage:** To be discussed in the May meeting.

## **Old Business**

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The 2020 USDF Convention is still on track. Anne Sushko is planning fundraising initiatives for the Welcome Party.

## **New Business**

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No new business.

## **Next Scheduled Meeting**

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The next meeting will be held on May 11th, details TBD.

## **Adjournment**

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Heidi motioned to adjourn, Margo seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Fucinaro, 2020 NDA Secretary