



# NDA Board Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2014

## Attendees

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### Board Members Present:

- Katie Miller, President
- Melissa Ward, Secretary
- Tish Gade-Jones, Treasurer
- Tillie Jones, Junior Representative
- Jane Fucinaro
- Dara Liss
- Kathy Hanford

### Board Members Absent:

- Briana Bartlett, Vice President
- Laura Stueck

### NDA Members Present:

- Heidi Helmer, Former (2013) President
- Mike Smith
- Felice Rose

## Call to Order

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President Katie Miller called the January meeting to order at FireWorks Restaurant in Lincoln at 6:48 pm.

## Approval of October Minutes

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The October 2013 NDA meeting minutes were reviewed. Kathy motioned to approve the minutes. Tish seconded. Minutes approved.

## Officer Reports

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**President:** Katie reported that she had received a thank you from the Iowa Dressage & Combined Training Association for our donation of a gift for their silent auction, which was shared with the board.

**Vice President:** No report.

**Secretary:** Melissa reported that the website has been partially updated with the new 2014 Board members' contact information. She procured information from the outstanding members and will update the contact page further.

**Treasurer:** Tish presented the 2013 Treasurer's Report. The net for 2013 was \$804, which is \$100 over projections. The current main account holds \$13,736.66. The show account holds \$8,571.04.

Tish presented the new budget for 2014. Board members will research budget items relevant to their positions and contact Tish with any concerns or changes. The 2014 budget will be revised and presented at the next meeting for approval.

Jane moved to approve the 2013 Treasurer's Report. Dara seconded. Motion carried.

## Committee Reports

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**Membership:** Katie relayed a report from Diana Spaulding stating that the current membership is 40, the same as last year.

**Competitions:** Mike reported on the conflict of the currently scheduled dates of the 2014 Cornhusker Classic show (June 13-15, 2014) and the Iowa Dressage Classic, scheduled for the same weekend. This conflict will exist both in 2014 and 2015. Due to a shared participant base, holding both shows on the same date would result in lower attendance and income for both shows and be harmful to both organizations. Our existing venue, Lancaster Event Center, will not allow us to change the dates.

Jim Urban has volunteered his facility in Omaha, Quail Run, to host the show on two possible dates, 5/30/14 or 6/8/14. (Jim Urban's preference is 5/30/14, to avoid competing with the College World Series for resources.) Price is as yet unknown, but it is likely that there will be some increased cost to NDA.

The Board weighed the options and risks for holding the shows simultaneously, or changing both the venue and the dates. It was agreed that NDA should maintain a good relationship with the IaDCTA as well as not decrease the number of recognized shows available to NDA members; therefore we should move our show.

Melissa motioned to move the 2014 Cornhusker Classic venue to Quail Run and the date to 5/30/14. Jane seconded. Motion carried.

The Board agreed not to move the Schooling Show Championships in September away from the Lancaster Event Center. The show will remain at LEC as scheduled.

**Awards:** Kathy Hanford will be joining awards committee alongside Laureen Van Norman & Karin Nilsson. Kathy suggested organizing an educational workshop for kids on awards forms and paperwork.

**Communications:** Shaina Kennedy will be stepping down as editor for The Contact, and a new editor is needed. Melissa agreed to send another email and Facebook post advertising the position, and Board members are encouraged to recruit.

Dara relayed that Jonette has agreed to update the Member Handbook again this year.

**Publicity:** The 'No Bull, Just Horses' Expo will be March 7-9, 2014. NDA had a booth last year; this year a booth will cost \$350. The board was hesitant to renew, as the expo does not appear to be a draw to dressage enthusiasts. Katie will reach out to see if they have any clinicians that might increase return on investment for NDA, and she will decide whether or not to reserve a booth.

**Fund Raising:** Lisa Van Stratten is stepping down as Fundraising Chair at the end of 2014. A replacement will be needed, and will be trained by her in the meantime. Katie will include a note in the President's Email about the open position.

**Equipment Management:** Melissa suggested replacing the current NDA booth TV with a newer TV/DVD/VHS combo. She also reminded the board that we have educational laminated dressage posters available for NDA use that are currently stored at Middle Cross Stables.

**Education:** Heidi Helmer and Sandie McConnell are the 2014 co-chairs of the education committee with Jane Fucinaro supporting. Heidi and Sandie are currently procuring clinicians for the spring.

A winter/spring education series will take place, including possibly combining efforts with the existing 4H education series. Heidi and Katie suggested scholarships for sending trainers to national conferences to become certified.

Jane will be meeting with Jennifer Rawlinson and Angie McClelland on 1/15/2014 to discuss the possibility of dedicating one day of the Middle Cross Schooling Show to a volunteer training clinic. Board members are invited to attend that meeting Wednesday night at Middle Cross Stables at 8:30.

**Junior/YR:** Tillie suggested having education "parties" throughout 2014 for juniors to learn about show etiquette, horse handling, show volunteer roles, etc.

Jane invited Tillie to be a guest speaker for the local dressage 4H group as a junior ambassador from NDA. They will work together to schedule speaking engagements.

Kathy suggested having an Omaha-based educational event for juniors. Mike suggested organizing a games-based junior team event or competition.

## Old Business

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None.

## New Business

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Tentative dates for 2014 shows:

- Shaggy Horse Show: April 5-6, 2014
- Middle Cross Schooling Show: May 5 or 12, 2014
- Cornhusker Classic I and II: May 30-June 1, 2014
- Lincoln Equestrian Center Schooling Show: June 14 or 28, 2014
- S&L Summer Solstice Schooling Show: July 12 or 19, 2014
- Providence Farm Schooling Show: August 2, 2014?
- Lancaster County Fair: July 31-Aug 9, 2014

Scholarship rules and definitions will not change from last year. The deadline for submitting applications will be May 1, 2014, and winners will be selected at the May NDA meeting.

## **Next Meeting Scheduled**

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The next meeting will be February 10, 2014, 6:30 pm at FireWorks.

## **Adjournment**

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Kathy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 pm, Tish seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Melissa Ward  
NDA Secretary, 2014