



# The Contact

Keeping Members Informed

Nebraska Dressage Association - [www.nebraskadressage.org](http://www.nebraskadressage.org) - November/December 2012 Edition

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## Member Appreciation and 2013 Membership Renewals!

In the spirit of the upcoming holiday season, the NDA Board would like to thank YOU, our wonderful members, for your participation in our organization's events and for all the hard work and volunteering everyone did over the course of the year. The shows and events couldn't have gone on without the help and support of all of you. So THANK YOU! Congratulations to all of you who participated in the successful shows and events. We hope your year was one of continued progress towards being a better Dressage rider. Keep up the hard work - we look forward to the upcoming 2013 show season!

That's right - it's almost 2013. The beginning of another year! And that means it's time to renew your membership. Even better - you can now renew your membership online! Visit the Nebraska Dressage Association website or simply [click here](#) to renew.

## 2012 Year-End Award Recipients

Congratulations to everyone who participated in our shows this year. Here is a list of all the year-end award winners and their mounts.

- Lynn Beideck on Flintwood Not An Issue
- Diane Hopkins on Walden

### Second Level

- Tillie Jones on MGRM Darby O'Gill

### Grand Prix

- Kristina Wang

### **Red:**

### Intro Level

- Arnie Cole on Madison

### Training Level

- Kathryn Hanford on Peppermint Patty
- Susan Hahn on Zippo's Patty

### First Level

- Kathleen Miller on Lee Peppy
- Kathleen Duncan on Easy's Delight

## Rider Rosettes

### **Blue:**

### Intro Level

- Abby Galitzky on Penny
- Jessica Koelsch on It's Ctmarie C
- Kathryn Hanford on Peppermint Patty
- Lynn Beideck on Marich RC Miss Ginger

### Training Level

- Kathleen Duncan on Easy's Delight
- Mala Erickson on Trusted
- Ashley Duran on Manatee
- Sierra Nelson on Bart's Patty

### First Level

- Candance Ehmen on Canaska Dancer

*I bless the hoss  
from hoof to head -*

*From head to hoof,  
and tale to mane! -*

*I bless the hoss, as I  
have said,*

*From head to hoof,  
and back again!*

*James Whitcomb  
Rileyjend*

## NDA Silent Auction Brings in Large Crowd and Larger Donations

*By Lisa Van Stratten*

The annual Silent Action, one of NDA's largest fundraisers, was held during the NDA Banquet and Annual Meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. About 80 people attended to bid on 92 items, making 2012 the NDA's best year to date for funds raised during the silent auction! Three members contributed to the accumulation of the many wonderful items and services that went up for auction. Heidi Helmer, former fundraising chair, Ashley Murray, and Lisa Van Stratten, current fundraising co-chairs, worked their magic with the sponsors and contributors for donations. It was a great year to attend the banquet. We raised a total of \$2,712.00 in sales from the donations!

Nearly all of our faithful donors contributed items once again this year. Hillcrest Animal Clinic donated both a dental exam and chiropractic exam; Empyrean Brewing Company donated a bucket of beer; and Laureen Van Norman once again offered up a weekend at her Log Pine cabin. New this year were fantastic framed photographs and prints donated by Jeff Murray, Ashley Murray, Kathy Hanford, and Kathy's daughter, Susan Kachman. Equestrian Entries also offered up a certificate towards a show entry.

The biggest hit of the night was the Fleck whip with a beautiful Swarovski Crystal handle, donated by Regg & Wally's. Congratulations to the high bidder, Loye Jaeger. Another big winner was Karen Stricklett, the proud new owner of a gorgeous horse-themed tote bag donated by Loye Jaeger. Make sure to check out these items next time you see Loye and Karen!

This was also a great year for lesson donations. Pretty much every trainer in the area donated a lesson. This is a great opportunity for any rider to meet with and learn from some of the new trainers in our area, or take a lesson with a different trainer that you've always wanted to try. There was even a jumping lesson package donated by Brent Cudmore, a new donor this year.

Going forward, Ashley and I will be putting together the final touches on our new sponsorship program for NDA. We will be rolling it out soon so watch for that. Proceeds from our fundraising and sponsors go towards clinics and educational events for our members.

Thanks to Heidi for all her work as Fundraising Chair over the last several years. NDA would not be where it is today without her dedication. Give Heidi special thanks the next time you see her.

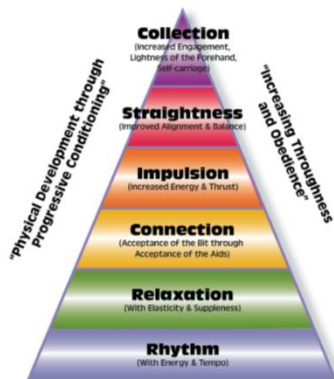
We are always looking for new sponsors and donors so if you would like to help out NDA just let us know. There are lots of ways you can contribute!

### Fundraising Co-Chairs

Lisa Van Stratten - [dalevanstratten@huntel.net](mailto:dalevanstratten@huntel.net)

Ashley Murray - [murray\\_ashley4@yahoo.com](mailto:murray_ashley4@yahoo.com)

## Training and Development of the Dressage Horse



The pyramid of training

## Pyramid of Training Part 1

By Shaina Kennedy

This series of articles will focus on the Pyramid of Training, also known as the German Scale of Training. The elements of the training scale describe the essence of dressage training whether you are working at backing a 3-year-old or perfecting your piaffe-passage transitions. Any problems encountered during training, provided they are not due to physical or psychological problems, can be traced to a weak link among the building blocks of training. In this first edition we will focus on the basics: Rhythm and Relaxation, the basis of the pyramid.

### RHYTHM

The first and most important building block is rhythm. Because rhythm is at the base of the pyramid, you cannot be focused on improving straightness if the rhythm at any gait is poor. In fact, you cannot be entirely focused on suppling exercises (building block #2) if the rhythm is poor. Likewise, you cannot be entirely focused on contact (building block #3) if the horse is tight and tense (absence of suppleness). The key to adopting the Training Scale is to understand how each block or element is related to the next. The term "rhythm" refers to the regularity of the steps or strides in each gait: They should cover equal distances and also be of equal duration. The rhythm should be maintained through transitions and turns as well as on straight lines. No exercise or movement can be good if the rhythm falters; and the training is incorrect if it results in loss of rhythm.

### RELAXATION

Looseness is a prerequisite for all further training and, along with rhythm, is an essential aim of the preliminary training phase. Even if the rhythm is maintained, the movement cannot be considered correct unless the horse is working through its back, and the muscles are free from tension. Only if the horse is physically and mentally free from tension or constraint can it work with looseness and can it use itself to the full. The horse's joints should bend and straighten equally on each side of its body and with each step or stride, and the horse should convey the impression that it is putting its whole mind and body into its work. Indications of looseness are a swinging back, snorting, and a closed but not immobile mouth. Looseness had been achieved when the horse will stretch its head and neck forwards and downwards in all three gaits.

### References:

[http://www.classicaldressage.co.uk/Training\\_Scales/training\\_scales.html](http://www.classicaldressage.co.uk/Training_Scales/training_scales.html)  
<http://www.artofriding.com/articles/trainingscale.html>



## The Dressage Arena – Where Did Those Letters Originate?

By Shaina Kennedy

Have you ever wondered how the letters marking the different points around the dressage arena were chosen? Where exactly was this seemingly random assortment of letters devised? After all, the letters seem arbitrarily chosen. They're not in alphabetical order, and they don't follow any recognizable pattern. So where did the letters come from?

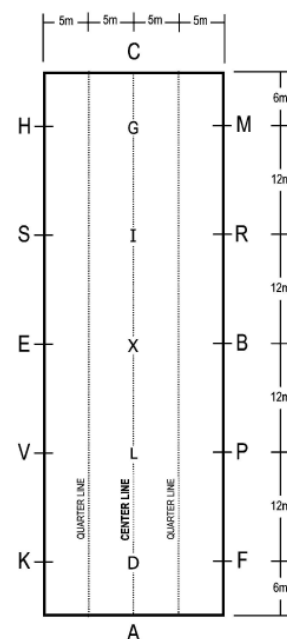
There are actually two arena sizes in dressage: a small arena that measures 20 meters by 40 meters, and the standard arena, which is 20 meters by 60 meters. The small arena features the letters A, K, E, H, C, M, B, and F around the perimeter. The letters D, X, and G are on the center line of the arena, with X in the center. The standard dressage arena uses the letters A, K, V, E, S, H, C, M, R, B, P, and F. Along the center line are the letters D, L, X, I, and G, with X again in the center.

There are several theories as to why these letters were chosen. The most plausible is that the letters represent the first letter of different 19<sup>th</sup> century German social ranks. During the 1800s, armies consisted of cavalry (men on horseback) rather than tanks and planes. Equestrian training was therefore part of every soldier's military education. For thousands of years, horses were war machines and their level of training and willingness to obey their rider could mean the difference between life and death for a soldier. The German military organized demonstrations of riders and their horses in arenas roughly the size of our modern standard arena, which were attended by various members of the German aristocracy. Letters were posted upon the walls to inform each attendee where to stand. These letters were the first letters of each rank, as follows:

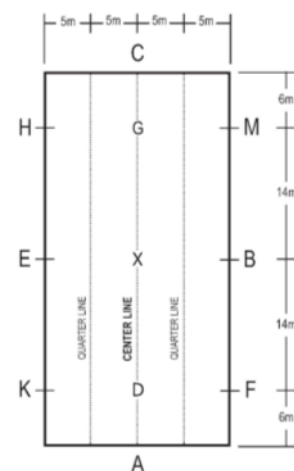
- K** - Kaiser/King
- F** - Furst/Prince
- P** - Pferd knecht/Ostler
- V** - Vassal
- E** - Edeling/Ehrengast/Guest of Honor
- B** - Bannertrager/Standard Bearer
- S** - Schzkanzler/Chancellor of Exchequer
- R** - Ritter/Knight
- M** - Meier/Steward
- H** - Hofsmarschall/Lord Chancellor

You'll notice not every letter is accounted for in the list. The most plausible explanation for the missing letters is that as the sport of dressage grew and the tests became more complex, additional letters were chosen to mark the arena completely.

### Dressage Arena Basics



**Standard Arena**



**Small Arena**

### Upcoming Events and Clinics

- Cornhusker Classic: June 7-9, 2013 at the Lancaster Event Center
- Nebraska Horse Expo: November 1-3, 2013

### USDF on YouTube!

If you haven't had the opportunity to check out the wealth of videos available on YouTube through the United States Dressage Federation, you're missing out! From training pieces to symposiums, there is something to be learned for everyone. Best of all, these videos are available for viewing for free. Just search for the user 'USDFORG' and subscribe to the channel to stay up-to-date on the newest videos.

I highly recommend the following videos taken from the 2007 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention. This series of

videos consists of equine veterinarian Dr. Martinelli explaining new technologies in lameness diagnostics, as well as his own personal grievances about our Dressage horses here in the U.S. and how our training and care of the animals can contribute to lameness.

- [New Technologies in Diagnostics with Dr. M. Martinelli Part 1](#)
- [New Technologies in Diagnostics with Dr. M. Martinelli Part 2](#)
- [New Technologies in Diagnostics with Dr. M. Martinelli Part 3](#)
- [New Technologies in Diagnostics with Dr. M. Martinelli Part 4](#)
- [New Technologies in Diagnostics with Dr. M. Martinelli Part 5](#)
- [Pet Peeves of a Dressage Horse Veterinarian](#)

### Equine Genetics Education – The Grey Gene in Horses

Gray is a genetic modifier that, over time, causes depigmentation of the horse's hair. Horses born with this modifier are born colored but gradually lose pigmentation and can become mostly white in 6-8 years. The vast majority of white horses are in fact horses that have fully grayed out.

The Gray modifier is a fully dominant gene meaning a single copy of the gene will cause a visibly graying effect on the base coat. Horses homozygous (having two copies of the same gene, one from each parent) for the mutation showed an increased rate of graying, as well as more evenly distributed effects during the final stages of graying, than a heterozygous (having only one copy of the gene, inherited from only one parent) gray horses.

Gray occurs in almost every breed although it is more common among a handful of breeds. Different breeds of horses that commonly show this phenotype are Andalusian, Arabian, Connemara, Icelandic, Lipizzaner, New Forest Pony, Shetland pony, Thoroughbred and Welsh.



Gray horses, especially horses that are homozygous for the gene, have an extremely high rate of dermal Melanomas.

- Melanoma is the most serious type of skin cancer that begins in skin cells called melanocytes.
- Melanocytes are the cells that make melanin, which gives skin its color. Melanin also protects the deeper layers of the skin from the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays.
- If the skin receives too much ultraviolet light, the melanocytes may begin to grow abnormally and become cancerous. This condition is called melanoma.

Research conducted in Sweden showed that 70-80% of gray horses age 15 and older have melanomas. Primary melanomas are generally benign but later metastasize to internal organs.

N/N	No copies of the gray gene. The horse will not turn gray.
N/G	One copy of the gray gene. The horse will turn gray. Approximately 50% of offspring will be gray.
G/G	Two copies of the gray gene. Horse will turn gray. All offspring will be gray.

**Reference:** Pielberg G.R., Golovko A., Sundstrom E. et al. A cis-acting regulatory mutation causes premature hair graying and susceptibility to melanoma in the horse. *Nature Genetics*, 40 (8):1004-1009 (2008).

## SHOW PREPARATION – BRAIDING

By Sharon Biggs, USDF Connection

### How to: Braid for Dressage

First, the rules. Although the US equestrian Federation rule Book states that braiding the horse's mane for dressage is optional, the unwritten rule is always to braid, except perhaps for unrecognized competitions (schooling shows). Most dressage riders consider braiding a traditional form of showing respect for the judge and the competition, as well as a way of enhancing the look of their horses' necks.

As you may know, braiding can be a tricky craft to conquer. For guidance we turned to Charni Lewis, trainer and instructor at Flintridge Riding Club in La Canada Flintridge, CA, and the author of *Braiding Manes and Tails: A Visual Guide to 30 Basic Braids* (Storey, 2008).

“Braiding styles have changed over the years,” says Lewis. “Style is a personal preference, but for a long time there was a school of thought that said braids should extend up along the top of the horse's neck. But it's difficult to get that line even. The dressage bun [aka the button braid] is a popular style that lies close to the neck and give a nice, smooth topline. The other benefit to the bun is that all the hair is contained, and so the braid doesn't look fuzzy. They also tend to last really well and look fresh for a couple of days. Shavings are fairly easy to brush off.”

**What you'll need:** Spray bottle, sponge, hair clip, pullthrough, pulling comb, comb, braid aid, seam ripper, and yarn that matches your horse's mane.

**Step 1:** Prepare the mane by pulling it to about five to six inches in length. Shampoo the mane a few days before you plan to braid, but omit conditioner and any products that will make the hair slippery, such as “sheen” sprays.

**Step 2:** Cut the yarn into pieces of about ten to twelve inches in length. Tread the hank through your belt loop or through the ring in your horse's halter—somewhere that will be easy to reach while you braid. Dampen the mane with water or with a braiding product such as Quic Braid. Use a braid aid or comb to section of a clump of mane. If you're using a comb, mark a space on it with black tape so all braids are the same thickness, Lewis advises: an inch to an inch and a half apart for hunter braids, and up to two inches apart for dressage buns. Use a hair clip to hold the rest of the mane away from the section you'll be braiding.

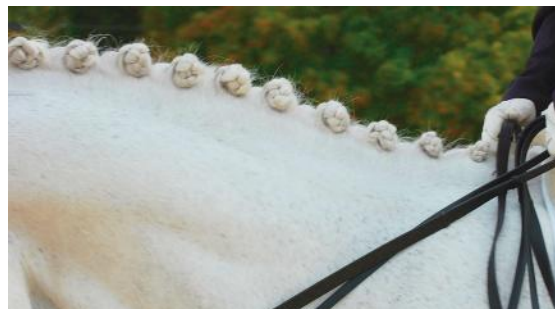
Divide the mane into three equal sections and plait down from the crest, putting pressure on the braid in a downward motion. Avoid pulling the braid out and away from the crest, which will create a “Pippi Longstocking” look. Halfway down the braid, fold a piece of yarn in half,

incorporate it into the braid, and continue plaiting. When you reach the end of the braid, pinch the end with one hand as you loop the yarn tightly around it and make a double knot. Repeat until the entire mane is braided down.

**Step 3 (for traditional hunter braids):** Insert the looped end of your pull-through into the braid near the crest until the loop pokes out from the bottom side of the braid. Tread the yarn ends through the pull-through loop. Pull the tool back up through the braid, bringing the yarn ends through the middle of the plait. Tie the yarn under the braid in a square knot by crossing the strings over each other twice; tighten; then tie the ends right over left, left over right. Bring the ends around to the front and make another square knot against the crest so that a little bump is created. Cut off the excess yarn and repeat down the neck.



**Step 3 (for dressage buns):** This style wraps the end of the braid around itself, securing the plait against the horse's neck. Use the pull-through tool as described above, but pull the entire braid through the middle of the plait (the end will be above the crest). Remove the yarn from the pull-through. Insert the tool back up through the base of the plait, loop pointed up. Wrap the end of the braid under the plait from right to left. Insert the ends of the yarn through the pullthrough loop from back to front, and pull the yarn and what's left of the braid down through the plait. Make sure to keep the braid tight. Separate the ends of the yarn and bring them up above the crest. Hold the braid with your thumb and tie a square knot as above. The braid will lie flat. Cut the excess yarn and repeat down the neck.



Use the same techniques for the forelock. If you like, you

can wrap white braiding tape around the top of each mane and forelock braid. Shoot for an even line down the length of the neck.

(Some riders leave their horses' forelocks unbraided. Traditionally the unbraided forelock signifies a stallion. A well-known example is the Danish stallion Calecto V, owned and ridden by Tina Konyot, whose hallmark is his luxuriant loose forelock.)

**For long-maned horses:** Some breeds, such as Friesians and Iberian horses, are traditionally shown with long manes. Instead of creating many separate neck braids, use a French "running" braid along the crest. Section a clump of mane about one and a half inches wide. Separate into three pieces and start braiding. With the first turn, gather a piece of mane into the braid. Work your way down the crest, gathering an even piece of mane into the braid each time. Be sure to keep the braid parallel to the neck. At the end, braid down and secure with a rubber band. Fold the braid up and secure again.



"You can also finish this braid with a bun," says Lewis.

## **NDA Board Meetings**

### **October 8, 2012, Minutes**

NDA president, Heidi Helmer, called the October meeting to order at Parker's Smokehouse at 6:37pm.

**Board Members Present:** Lisa Van Stratten, Amy Blum, Felice Rose, Heidi Helmer, Brian Duran, Brianna Bartlet

**Board Members Absent:** Donna Michelson, Tish Gade-Jones, Casey Blum

**NDA Members Present:** None

The August meeting minutes were reviewed. Brianna moved to approve the minutes; Felice seconded. Motion carried.

The September meeting minutes were reviewed. Brian moved to approve the minutes; Brianna seconded. Motion carried.

#### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

**President:** None

**Vice President:** The banquet details are being finalized.

**Treasurer:** See full report attached. Brian moved to approve the treasurer's report; Amy seconded. Motion carried.

**Secretary:** None

#### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

**Membership:** Membership committee has decided that all membership forms turned in on or before the banquet date (11/3) will be put in to a drawing for prizes. Turn in your entries early to be a winner!

**Competitions:** Looking for judges for 2013 show.

**Awards:** Lisa made a motion that we keep the award amount for the Schooling Show Medal Series the same as last year; Amy seconded. Motion carried.

**Communications:** None

**Publicity:** Update on the Horse Expo 2013 was given. They are looking for dressage clinicians. The board made up a list of names of clinicians we would like to see to forward to the committee heading up the Horse Expo. Heidi will also ask them if NDA gets any kind of break on vendor pricing for being a non-profit. She will update us at the next meeting.

**Fund Raising:** Lisa and Ashley are currently working on 2013 sponsors. The board would like to see them done by the end of January in order for them to go in the 2013 Handbook.

**Equipment Management:** None

**JR/YR:** Looking at holding a social event at Providence Farm the second weekend in November. Casey will finish up the planning for this event.

**Education:** The committee would like to set up a series of educational meetings at Stillwaters for 2013. Felice will work things out with Char Cole.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**NEW BUSINESS:** We have three openings on the board for 2013. Jane Fucinaro, Dara Liss, Kathy Hanford and Laura Stueck have all shown an interest. We will get bios from them for the banquet.

The next board meeting will be November 12th at Bredeaux Pizza in Ashland.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Brian moved to adjourn the Board meeting; Felice seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Blum, NDA Secretary - 2012

### November 3, 2012, NDA Annual Meeting Minutes

NDA President, Heidi Helmer, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at Parker's Smokehouse in Ashland, NE.

**Board Members Present:** Briana Bartlet, Amy Blum, Casey Blum, Brian Duran, Tish Jones, Donna Michelson, Felice Rose, Lisa Van Stratten.

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Treasurer's Report:** Tish Jones gave an annual financial report. The balances in the NDA accounts are, Main Account \$11,853.33, Show Account \$7,060.46 for a total of \$18,913.79. She then went on to let us know some of the things NDA spent money on in 2012 which included the Sarah Martin Symposium, the Cornhusker Classic Schooling and Recognized shows (at which we had a profit of \$2000) and the Western Dressage Clinic. Tish then gave us some historical NDA facts about what things cost in 1975 (and various other years) vs. what they cost now.

**President's Report:** Heidi gave her report to members and covered a lot of ground! She touched on things we have just completed and are working on for 2013. They include:

- We would like to sponsor JR/YR competing for NAJYRC in 2013
- Memberships can now be completed online and paid by credit card at PayPal. Links are on the website.
- Next year's goal is to have the ability to pay for your schooling shows online.
- Your NDA Board is trying its best to make NDA better.
  - Char Cole is the new Education Chair and is working on more educational events for 2013.

- She would like to get ideas from members on what they would like to see or even what they might be willing to teach.
- We all have something to teach and we all have something to learn! Let's all share what we know.
- Char would like to add a Ride-A-Test sometime in 2013
- A Book Club idea has been suggested if someone would like to take this on.
- NDA would like to offer a scribing clinic in 2013
- We would like to add some training/volunteer/educational videos.

Heidi talked about all the volunteer work that is put into NDA to make it all run smoothly. There are lots of big jobs that can be broken down into smaller pieces that won't take up much time but lightens the load for others. We have a list of smaller jobs that we would like to have people volunteer for. If you would like to help out with an event, please contact Heidi at [hjhelmer@gmail.com](mailto:hjhelmer@gmail.com).

NDA wants to apologize for not getting an updated 2012 Handbook out. That was one of the jobs that didn't have a volunteer. We are working to get the 2013 Handbook updated and out to our members by the end of March.

After the President's report was completed, all members nominated for the 2013 Board were asked to step forward and say a little something about themselves. Nominations were also taken from the floor. Laura Stueck made a motion that Kitty Duncan be nominated for the JR Board member position. Lisa Van Stratten seconded the motion. Kitty was added to the ballot.

We took a break from the meeting for voting on the new board members. After the votes were tallied twice (it was a very close race!) the new board members were announced. Dara Liss, Jane Fucinaro, Laura Stueck and Kitty Duncan were elected to the board. The new board met to decide on officers.

The 2013 officers are as follows:

- Heidi Helmer - President
- Briana Bartlet - Vice President
- Donna Michelson - Secretary
- Tish Jones - Treasurer

At large members are Felice Rose, Dara Liss, Laura Stueck, Jane Fucinaro and Kitty Duncan (JR).

At 8:29 pm, Amy Blum made a motion that we adjourn the meeting. Casey Blum seconded the motion; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Blum - NDA Secretary 2012



**NDA Award Winners, continued**Third Level

- Dallas Van Stratten on Vainquer E

Grand Prix Freestyle

- Krstina Wang on Belladiva

**White:**Intro Level

- Rebecca Barry on MM Reign Dancer

Training Level

- Abby Galitzky on Penny
- Sheila Purdum on The Unknown Woman

**Qualified Rider Certificates**

- Jessica Koelsch
- Lynn Beideck
- Ashley Duran
- Mala Erickson
- Kathleen Duncan
- Kathryn Hanford
- Abby Galitzky

**Awards for Participation in USDF/USEF Recognized Shows****Rider Awards**Intro Level (Jr. 14 & Under)

- Champion: Abby Galitzky on Penny - 67.656%

Training Level (14 and under)

- Champion: Ashley Duran on Manatee - 66.160%
- Reserve Champion: Kathleen Duncan - Easy's Delight - 65.800%

Training Level (AA)

- Champion: Nancy Dostal on Catullus - 68.784%
- Reserve Champion: Sheila Purdum on Unknown Woman - 60.800%

Training Level (Open)

- Champion: Laura Stueck on Orlando - 70.600%

First Level (Jr. 14 and under)

- Champion: Tillie Jones on MGRM Darby O'Gill - 70.251%

First Level (AA)

- Diana Hopkins - Walden 67.235%

First Level (Open)

- Champion: Laura Stueck on Umbro - 70.700%

- Reserve Champion: Laura Stueck on Orlando - 68.857%

Second Level (Jr. 14 and under)

- Champion: Tillie Jones on Darby - 67.725%

Second Level (AA)

- Kristin Feese - Celebrity 67.641%

Third Level (Jr. 15-21)

- Dallas Van Stratten on Vainquer E - 65.488%

Third Level Freestyle

- Champion: Dallas Van Stratten on Vainquer E - 65.533%

Fourth Level (Open)

- Jami Kment on Chivalry - 71.760%

FEI PSG (Open)

- Jami Kment on Zania - 73.878%

FEI Grand Prix (AA)

- Kristina Wang on Belladiva - 68.361%

Grand Prix Freestyle

- Kristina Wang on Belladiva - 75.870%

**Horse Awards**Intro Level

- Champion: Abby Galitzky on Penny - 67.656%

Training Level

- Champion: Laura Stueck on Orlando - 70.600%
- Reserve Champion: Nancy Dostal on Catullus - 68.784%
- Third: Ashley Duran on Manatee - 66.160%
- Fourth: Kathleen Duncan on Easy's Delight - 65.800%

First Level

- Champion: Laura Stueck on Umbro - 70.700%
- Reserve Champion: Tillie Jones on MGRM Darby O'Gill - 70.251%
- Third: Laura Stueck on Orlando - 68.857%
- Fourth: Diana Hopkins on Walden - 67.235%

Second Level

- Champion: Tillie Jones on Darby - 67.725%
- Reserve Champion: Kristen Feese on Celebrity - 67.641%

Third Level/FEI JR.

- Champion: Dallas Van Stratten on Vainquer E - 65.488%

FEI

- Champion: Jami Kment on Zania - PSG 73.878%
- Reserve Champion: Kristina Wang on Belladiva - GP 68.361%

Freestyle Horse of the Year

- Champion: Kristina Wang on Belladiva - 75.870%

**Special Awards (read from handbook)**

- Sedlacek-Rose Swedish WB Award - Highest T-Level Score by an Adult Amateur: Nancy Dostal on Catallus - 76.458%
- Peeter Rose Memorial Trophy - Jr. Highest Adjusted Median Score Any Level: Michelle Rohman on Pan's Dance - 71.071%
- David Funk Memorial Trophy - Adult with Highest Adjusted Median Score, 2<sup>nd</sup> Level or Above: Jami Kment on Zania - PSG - 73.878%
- FEI Jr/YR award: Dallas Van Stratten
- Western Dressage Trophy - Donated by Felice Rose to Recognize Participation in the Growing Sport of Western Dressage: Sheila Purdum on The Bar Exam - T-Level - 60.000%
- NDA High Score of the Year - New trophy this year donated by Karin Nilsson (a vintage trophy won by her sister in the 1950's) to honor the NDA member with the highest score of the year: Michelle Rohman - 77.600%
- Horse of the Year - winners received gift certificates from Regg & Wally's:
  - Champion: Jami Kment on Zania - PSG Adjusted Median Score 73.878%
  - Reserve Champion: Laura Stueck on Umbro - 70.700%

**Schooling Show Medal Series (scholarship amounts announced)**Intro (14 and under)

Gold: Abby Galitzy on Penny - 66.875%

Silver: Rebecca Barry on MM Reign Dancer - 58.438%

Intro (15-21)

Gold: Kathleen Miller on Mirrhi - 64.125%

Silver: Kate Rawlinson on RG Denmark Royal's Image - 62.719%

Intro (AA)

Gold: Kathryn Hanford on Peppermint Patty - 65.000%

Silver: Lynn Beideck on Marich RC Miss Ginger - 64.950%

Bronze: Jessica Koelsch on It's CTmarie C - 63.100%

Training Level (Jr. 14 and Under)

Gold: Michelle Rohman on Pan's Dance - 71.071%

Silver: Ashley Duran on Manatee - 70.471%

Bronze: Kathleen Duncan on Easy's Delight - 68.714%

Training Level (AA)

Gold: Sydney Ash on Dale's Dakota Legend - 66.361%

Silver: Kathryn Hanford on Peppermint Patty - 62.238%

Bronze: Sheila Purdum on Unknown Woman - 60.800%

Training Level (Open)

Gold: Laura Stueck on Orlando - 74.190%

First Level (14and under)

Gold: Tillie Jones - Darby - 67.996%

First Level (15-21)

Gold: Ashley Murray on Send me Dancing - 67.767%

First Level (AA)

Gold: Loye Jaeger on Unicum - 63.739%

Silver: Candace Ehmen on Canaska Dancer - 62.880%

Bronze: Lynn Beideck on Flintwood Not An Issue - 62.379%

Second Level (14and Under)

Gold: Tillie Jones on Darby - 67.388%

Second Level (AA)

Gold: Kristin Feese on Celebrity - 69.457%

**Nebraska Dressage Association Contact**

Calling all members and enthusiasts! Do you have any submissions for the Contact? I will try and include any and all suggestions and ideas. I can always use topic ideas; photos of shows and events; write-ups about clinics or symposiums; horses, tack, and equipment for sale; and just about anything else Dressage-related. Please submit via email to Shaina Kennedy at the email address below.

Thank you!

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402.669.0099

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