

November 2023

Collected Remarks



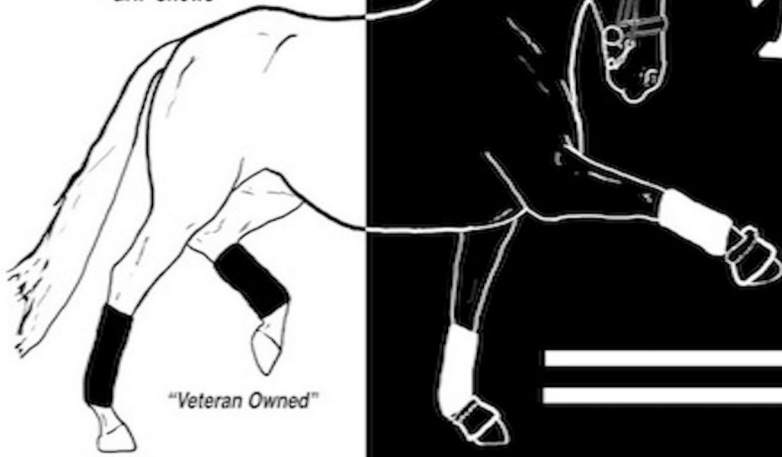
Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc.

GDCTA is a Group Member Organization of USDF.

Shows-Clinics-Sales-Lessons

Official Videographer

US Dressage Finals
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Dressage at Devon
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In This Issue

STORIES

Outside the Sandbox - *delivering general articles and activities*

- 5 - Letter from the President *Caren Caverly*
- 7 - USDF Benefits for GDCTA members
- 8 - Awards Gala
- 9 - Horse Trailering: Sharing the Road

Dressage - *inside the sandbox*

- 13 - JJ Tate In Photos *Custom Taylord Photography*
- 14-15 - The Art of Putting on a USDF Dressage Horse Show: A Step-By-Step Guide

Eventing - *3 times the fun*

- 17 - Starter Division to be Added to 2024 Area III Championships

GDCTA Business - *a glimpse behind the curtain*

- 20-21 - GDCTA Board & Committees
- 22-23 - Donors
- 24 - Meeting Notes
- 25 - USEF Calls for Nominations for Board of Directors & Athlete Advisory Committee
- 26 - Calendar of Events



GDCTA

Georgia Dressage & Combined Training Association

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Check us out



GDCTA.org



Outside the Sandbox

delivering general articles and activities

Dear Members:

Can you believe it's nearly Thanksgiving? Christmas is practically here. Wow! Is it just me or has time sped up?

This past board meeting was both our regular meeting and the annual General Meeting where we summarize the year and vote in the next Board of Directors.

Here's one highlight: Current membership is 861 which 2.1% greater than last year. This is the largest membership GDCTA has ever had. Welcome, one and all!

Please welcome our new board of directors:

POSITION	NAME	TERM
President	Caren Caverly	2024
VP Dressage	Abigail Kroupa	2024
VP Eventing	Joanne Morse	2024
Treasurer	Peter West	2024
Recording Secretary	Ashle Boyd	2024
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Tresan	2024
At Large		
	Liz Molloy	2024-2025
	Lindsey Burns	2024-2025
	Janie Pride	2024-2025
	Danielle Perry	2023-2024
	Lacey Halstead	2023-2024
	Julie Shannon	2023-2024

Scores, Standings and the Awards Gala:

You can find the links to all the scores here: <https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/Awards>. You have time to review them and let me know if there are issues before the deadline of November 30th. Once the scores are finalized, we are on to the Awards Gala which is January 20, 2024.

The Awards Gala is in greater need of your support than ever before. It is our largest fundraiser, and we are actively seeking sponsors (you can sponsor a set of ribbons or awards for a specific level, among other options which you can find on the event on the website), collecting silent auction donations and Barn Baskets for the raffle. Feel free to contact me for donations or to join the committee working on this event. Event details: <https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5182572>

We will be transitioning our website to the Wild Apricot platform in early 2024, and eventually, it will be accessible through the gdcta.org URL. In the meantime, we invite you to peruse the Wild Apricot website and share any feedback on how we can improve its readability, navigation, and overall user experience. Your input is invaluable, and you can reach out to June at webmaster@gdcta.org with your suggestions.

Remember that membership fees will be increasing by \$10 per level on December 1st. However, if you **renew your membership before December 1st**, you can maintain your current rate for your 2024 membership. Please take advantage of this offer by renewing online as the system will recognize these renewals as 2024 memberships.

Caren

Caren Caverly
President, GDCTA
ccaverly@comcast.net
770-713-4025





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~GDCTA members are Group Members of USDF!~



USDF

UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION™

Group Membership Benefits

ELIGIBLE TO:

- Compete at USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions without paying the USDF non-member fee
- Participate in the [USDF Rider Award Program](#)
- Participate in the [GMO Volunteer Incentive Program](#)
- Earn [USDF University education credit](#) for participating in accredited educational opportunities
- Access content, and opportunity to submit content for possible publication, on *YourDressage.org*

RESOURCES:

- Printed *USDF Connection* magazine (six issues, including annual yearbook*)
- *USDF Member Guide*
- Full access to USDF's digital publications, including *USDF Connection*
- USDF eNews, sent monthly to all USDF members
- Access to USDF's online education resources, including USDF University
- Full access to [USDFscores.com](#), the official USDF source for the most accurate and complete dressage scores

**Membership must be received by USDF, by December 31, to receive the yearbook.*

DISCOUNTS:

- [USDF Store](#) – 10% discount
- Discounted rate at USDF events
- Discounts with [USDF Member Perks Partners](#)

Visit the Member Perks page of the USDF website for detailed information and discount codes (must be logged in to view discount codes)

IMPORTANT GM INFORMATION

- The USDF membership year is December 1 through November 30.
- USDF GM is issued directly through a GMO, not by joining USDF directly.
- USDF Participating Membership is required for most year-end award and championship programs.
- Only individuals that renew their USDF Participating Membership, Business Membership, or Group Membership before December 31 will receive the yearbook issue of *USDF Connection*.
- For information on rider/handler/owner/horse eligibility for specific programs, please visit the [USDF website](#) or the online [USDF Member Guide](#).

Renew your GDCTA membership now
<https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/join-us>

GDCTA Awards Gala

January 20, 2024

*Atlanta Marriott Alpharetta
5750 Windward Parkway
Alpharetta, GA 30005*

Tickets go on sale on December 13th

Award winners will receive an email invitation.

The GDCTA Annual Awards Gala is a standout event in the equestrian calendar, celebrating excellence in dressage and combined training. Attendees engage in thrilling experiences like a competitive silent auction for exclusive items and a barn basket raffle featuring fantastic equine-related prizes. Door prizes and swag bags add an extra layer of appreciation for all guests. The highlight of the night is the prestigious awards ceremony, recognizing outstanding riders and horses. This must-attend gala not only fosters a sense of community but also serves as GDCTA's primary fundraiser, supporting clinics, shows, forums, and more. Join us for a night of celebration, competition, and camaraderie!

Donations being accepted now!

Gala Chairwoman:

Caren L. Caverly ccaverly@comcast.net 770-713-4025

Silent Auction / Door Prizes:

Abigail Kroupa abigailkroupa@gmail.com 561-284-3228

Joanne Morse joannemorse1@yahoo.com 770-313-6283

Lacey Halstead wholehorsesaddlefit@gmail.com 404-590-1064

Raffle Barn Baskets:

Julie Shannon julie@shannondale.com 770-317-3336

Katie Patton kpatton01@gmail.com 404-663-8916

Horse Trailering: Sharing the Road

Improving horse trailering involves not only ensuring the safety of your horses but also being considerate of other road users and being mindful of environmental impact. Here are some additional tips to enhance your horse trailering experience:

1. **Regular Vehicle and Trailer Maintenance:** Besides having the right equipment, regularly maintain your tow vehicle and trailer. Check the brakes, tires, lights, and electrical connections to ensure they are in working order before each trip. Ensure the trailer floor and dividers are in good condition.
2. **Proper Loading:** Distribute the weight evenly in the trailer to prevent imbalance and ensure your horses can maintain their balance during travel. Overloading the trailer can lead to safety issues and discomfort for the horses.
3. **Practice Safe Loading and Unloading:** Take the time to load and unload your horses safely and calmly. Rushing this process can cause stress and



- injuries to your horses. Consider using a ramp or step-up based on your horse's preference.
4. **Use Adequate Bedding:** Provide sufficient bedding in the trailer to cushion your horse's ride and reduce the impact of road vibrations. This will help keep your horses comfortable during transit.
 5. **Monitor Temperature:** Ensure proper ventilation in the trailer, especially in hot weather. Install fans or vents to keep the air circulating and maintain a comfortable temperature for your horses. In cold weather, provide extra insulation if necessary.

6. **Regular Breaks:** Plan for regular rest stops during long trips to allow your horses to stretch their legs, eat, drink, and relax. This can help reduce stress and fatigue during the journey.
7. **Water and Food:** Offer your horses water and food during stops to keep them hydrated and nourished. Avoid heavy feeding right before or during travel, as it can lead to digestive issues.
8. **Emergency Preparedness:** Carry essential supplies such as first-aid kits for both horses and humans, tools for minor repairs, and a list of emergency contacts. Be prepared for unexpected situations on the road.
9. **Horse Behavior Understanding:** Learn to recognize signs of stress, discomfort, or illness in your horses during transit. Address any issues promptly to ensure their well-being.
10. **Stay Informed:** Keep up to date with horse trailering regulations and safety guidelines in your area. Laws and recommendations may vary, so staying informed is essential.

11. **Horse Trailer Training:** Train your horses to be comfortable with the trailer before embarking on long journeys. Gradually increase the duration of trailer rides to familiarize

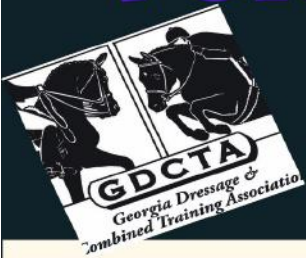
them with the experience.

12. **Driver Training:** If you're new to towing a horse trailer, consider taking a trailer towing course to improve your towing skills and knowledge of safe trailering practices.

By following these additional tips and prioritizing the safety and comfort of your horses, you can enhance your horse trailering experience and help ensure that both you and your horses arrive at your destination safely and stress-free.

*Liz Faso Memorial VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
sponsored by Wilsun Custom Horse Products*

Liz Faso Memorial Volunteer of the Year



sponsored by
Wilsun Custom Horse Products



GDCTA.org



~Volunteer incentive program for GDCTA Volunteers~

(check the events calendar https://bit.ly/GDCTA_Events to find the events that will work for you!

Board members, paid positions and Chairs are not eligible.)

- 1) \$1000.00 to the member with the most hours volunteered at GDCTA events and participating shows*
- 2) \$750.00 to member with the 2nd highest number of hours*
- 3) \$500.00 to member with the 3rd highest number of hours*
- 4) \$250.00 raffle consisting of every volunteer with 24 hrs volunteering*

This program is running from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, and will be awarded at the Awards Gala in January 2024.

Volunteer! Become a volunteer by registering through each event or by going to <https://bit.ly/3DQLbt8>

GDCTA is a member-focused and member-run organization that depends on volunteers! We encourage you to become involved in any of the many activities we offer. Share the excitement from the inside!



GDCTA Seeks a Volunteer Coordinator.

The Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for overseeing Volunteer activities for organization events particularly dressage show.

A Volunteer Coordinator helps organize all aspects of volunteering, from recruiting new volunteers to promoting opportunities for people who want more hours in their schedule for the volunteer program. They also keep event organizers informed about administrative changes, schedule changes, and who needs training or has experience, et cetera.

If this is your jam, please contact Caren Caverly (ccaverly@comcast.net).

Also seeking a Sponsorship Coordinator. Ask Caren for details!

DRESSAGE

inside the Sandbox



Jessica Jo (JJ) Tate dressage clinic October 28-29 at Noble Steeds in Canton Photos by Custom Taylord Photography



The Art of Putting on a USDF Dressage Horse Show: A Step-by-Step Guide

Dressage, often referred to as the "highest expression of horse training," is an equestrian sport that emphasizes the harmony, precision, and beauty of horse and rider working together as one. The United States Dressage Federation (USDF) hosts a variety of dressage competitions throughout the year, providing riders with the opportunity to showcase their skills, bond with their equine partners, and compete at different levels. If you're considering putting on a USDF dressage horse show, this comprehensive guide will help you navigate the process from start to finish.

Step 1: Define Your Goals and Objectives



Before diving into logistics, it's essential to clarify your goals and objectives for the USDF dressage horse show. Are you organizing a local show for educational purposes, or are you aiming for a

larger, regional event? Understanding your purpose will help you make informed decisions throughout the planning process.

Step 2: Assemble Your Team

Organizing a dressage show is a substantial undertaking. Form a dedicated team that includes individuals with expertise in various aspects, such as competition management, marketing, and horse care. Assign roles and responsibilities to ensure a smooth execution.

Step 3: Select a Date and Venue

Choose a date that doesn't clash with other major equestrian events and allows ample time for preparation. Secure a suitable venue that meets USDF requirements, including regulation-sized arenas and appropriate stabling facilities.

Step 4: Obtain Necessary Permits and Insurance

Check local regulations and obtain any necessary permits or approvals for your event. Additionally, ensure you have liability insurance to cover potential accidents or mishaps during the show.

Step 5: Develop a Budget



Create a detailed budget that covers all anticipated expenses, such as facility rental, judges' fees, prizes, promotional materials, and more. Accurate financial planning is crucial to avoid unexpected costs.

Step 6: Hire Judges and Officials



USDF dressage shows require certified judges, stewards, and other officials. Contact USDF or your regional dressage association to

find qualified professionals and ensure their availability on the chosen date.

Step 7: Promote Your Event

Effective marketing is key to attracting participants and spectators. Use a variety of channels such as social media, equestrian websites, flyers, and email newsletters to spread the word about your show. Highlight any special features, such as renowned judges or unique classes.



Step 8: Plan the Competition Schedule

Work with your team and the hired officials to create a detailed competition schedule. Include class divisions, warm-up times, and breaks, allowing participants to plan their day accordingly.

Step 9: Register Participants



Set up an online registration system to streamline the entry process. Ensure that all participants meet USDF membership and horse registration requirements.

Step 10: Prepare the Facilities

In the days leading up to the show, ensure that the facilities are in excellent condition. This includes arena maintenance, stabling, and setting up any additional amenities like food vendors and restroom facilities.

Step 11: Execute the Show

On the day of the event, have your team and officials ready to manage various aspects of the show, including registration, warm-up areas, and the competition itself. Be prepared to address any issues that may arise.

Step 12: Awards and Closing Ceremony

Conclude the show with a formal awards ceremony to recognize the achievements of participants. Ensure that all prizes and awards are distributed promptly.

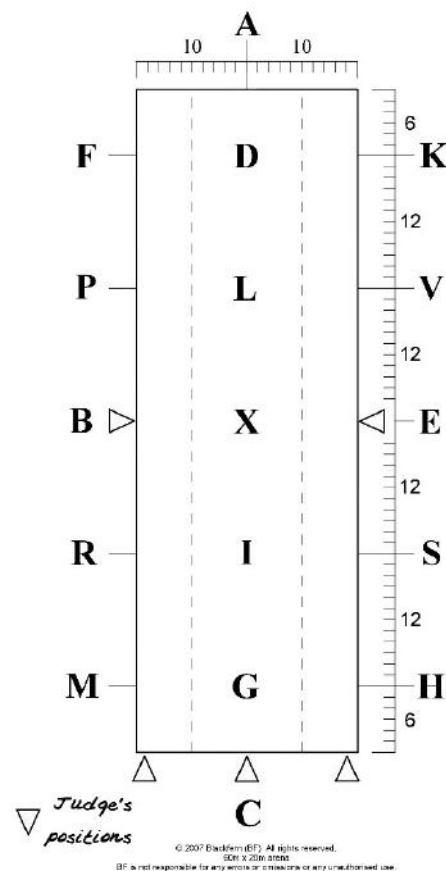


Step 13: Post-Event Evaluations

After the event, conduct a debriefing session with your team to evaluate the show's success and identify areas for improvement. Gather feedback from participants and spectators to gain valuable insights for future events.

Conclusion

Putting on a USDF dressage horse show is a rewarding endeavor that allows you to contribute to the growth of the sport and showcase the incredible bond between horse and rider. With careful planning, attention to detail, and a dedicated team, your dressage show can become a memorable and successful event within the equestrian community.



EVENTING

3 times the fun



Starter Division to be Added to 2024 Area III Championships

The USEA has added the Starter division to recognized horse trials, and starting in 2024, Area III will offer a Starter Rider division at the Area III Championships. The championship will be held at Chattahoochee Hills in Fairburn, GA on June 28-30, 2024.

The criteria to qualify follows that of all Area III championship rider divisions: the rider and horse, together as a pair, must place 1st through 5th at one event with no cross-country jump penalties.

The qualifying period for the new 2024 Starter Rider championship division is December 1, 2023 to June 11, 2024.

USEA STARTER LEVEL REQUIREMENTS & REGULATIONS

Effective December 1, 2023

OBJECTIVE: To serve as the entry point into the sport by providing a low-impact introduction to the sport of eventing, competing in all the three phases of a horse trial: dressage, cross-country and show jumping. The experience should be fun and educational.

- a. **Dressage:** Competitors should be prepared to do a walk, trot, and canter dressage test with 20-meter figures and a halt.
- b. **Cross-Country:** Obstacles, solid in appearance, with ground lines, where appropriate, to enhance the fence profile.
 1. There must be no jumps before or after a water crossing within 25m (78 ft) before and 16m (54 ft) after.
 2. There should be an option for a ditch or water crossing if a ditch or water jump is part of the course.
 3. Combinations are not allowed.
 4. The track of the course must avoid turns of less than a 20-meter radius.
- c. **Show Jumping:** The jumping course should be inviting and straightforward.
 1. Recommend lines of 25m (82 ft) or more.
 2. Combinations are not allowed.

MEMBERSHIP/HORSE REQUIREMENTS

Membership Requirements: The rider may be of any age. Membership with the USEA is optional. Membership is mandatory to accumulate year-end award points on the USEA Leaderboard, to earn qualifications for area championships, and to earn qualifications for future USEA American Eventing Championships (AEC). A 14-day grace period will be extended to join the USEA or renew membership upon the conclusion of the competition. The USEA will consider on a case-by-case basis a reinstatement of qualifications for the current year championships and current year-end awards, only. A fine of \$100 will be assessed for each inquiry to consider reinstatement. Inquiries must be submitted within 30 days after the 14-day grace period has expired.

Horse Requirements/Registration: The horse must be at least 4 years of age or older. Horse registration is optional. A limited or full registration is mandatory to accumulate year-end award points on the USEA Leaderboard, to earn qualifications for area championships, and to earn qualifications for future USEA American Eventing Championships. A 14-day grace period will be extended to register the horse with at least a limited registration, upon the conclusion of the competition. The USEA will consider on a case-by-case basis a reinstatement of qualifications for the current year championship and current year-end awards, only. A fine of \$100 will be assessed for each inquiry to consider reinstatement. Inquiries must be submitted within 30 days after the 14-day grace period has expired.

GDCTA BUSINESS

a glimpse behind the curtain

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

For information about advertising in the *Collected Remarks* newsletter, please email:

webmaster@gdcta.org

Ad space is limited. Scheduled ads are due by the 5th of the month prior to publication. Information about advertising is also available online at:

GDCTA.org/advertise

The deadline for articles is also the 5th of the month prior to publication. Advertisements and Articles should be emailed to: webmaster@gdcta.org

The advertisements contained herein are paid advertisements. The information is provided by the service provider. The GDCTA makes no specific recommendations for any particular company, individual, or service.

ORGANIZE A GDCTA-RECOGNIZED SCHOOLING SHOW

If you are organizing a schooling show and wish to have it GDCTA Recognized (so riders can use the scores towards our year-end awards), submit the Recognition form. Shows won't be added to our calendars until the Recognition form is received.

Please review the other information and specifications/guidelines we have provided. For specific questions regarding recognition procedures, email Carol Tresan at Happy_horses@hotmail.com

Recognition details:

<https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/GDCTA-Recognition>

VOLUNTEERING 101

A STEP-BY-STEP LOOK AT HOW YOU ARE NEEDED



WATCH & LEARN

In addition to watching great and not-so-great riders, volunteering can teach you the nuances of the rules, the details on scoring systems, and maybe net you some pointers from judges and technical delegates.

BE IN THE ACTION

Most volunteer posts involve spectating, putting you in prime position do a show report, give live-action updates to friends at home, and be the first to post video on Facebook

MAKE FRIENDS

Volunteering is a great way to meet new people in your area who share your passion.



SUPPORT THE SPORT

We all know that it takes a lot of time, energy, and money to put on an event, and volunteering is a way to help out the gracious hosts and organizers, as well as help make sure entry fees are kept down.

GOOD KARMA

Volunteering is a good deed and helping others brings deep personal satisfaction

For Information & To Sign Up

LIZ FASO MEMORIAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
SPONSORED BY WILSUN CUSTOM HORSE PRODUCTS

Caren Caverly, Volunteer Coordinator (temp.)
ccaverly@comcast.net / 770-713-4025

GDCTA Board 2023

OFFICERS

President: Caren Caverly
VP Dressage: Abigail Kroupa
VP Eventing: Joanne Morse
Treasurer: Peter West
Corresponding Secretary: Carol Tresan
Recording Secretary: Ashley Boyd

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Lindsey Burns
Lacey Halstead
Liz Molloy
Katie Patton
Danielle Perry
Katie Patton
Julie Shannon

YOUTH MEMBERS

Parker Mallernee
Caroline McQueen

*The 2023 Board was seated at the
January 16th meeting*



Committees 2023

- 1) Nominating – 2 Non out going board members
- 2) Grievance – 2 VP's and only if there is a complaint.
- 3) Finance
 - a. Chair – Peter West
 - b. Sponsorship – Alexa Ryan-Oat
- 4) Awards
 - a. Grants –Janie Pride
- 5) Award Banquet
 - a. Chair – Caren Caverly
 - b. Silent Auction – Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa
 - c. Barn Raffle – Jen Scherrens
- 6) Education
 - a. Chair – Julie Shannon
 - b. Clinics – Caren Caverly, Joanne Morse
 - c. Kudzu – Danielle Perry, Jenn Scherrens
 - d. USDF Education Program – Janie Pride
- 7) Youth
 - a. Chair – Joanne Morse, Abigail Kroupa
 - b. Schooling or Grassroots – Open
 - c. Recognized – Liz Molloy, Janie Pride
 - d. Collegiate – Amanda Garner
- 8) Communication
 - a. Chair – Joanne Morse
 - b. Yearbook – Penny Morse, June Brewer
 - c. Newsletter – Penny Morse, June Brewer
 - d. Website – June Brewer
 - e. Social Media – June Brewer, Abigail Kroupa
 - f. Membership – Mary Lou Freil
- 9) Show
 - a. Chair – Julie Shannon
 - b. Recognized – Caren Caverly
 - c. Schooling – Caren Caverly
 - 1 Horse Show Recognition – Carol Tresan
 - d. Regionals
 1. Chair – Caren Caverly
 2. Vendors – Open
 3. Hospitality – Abigail Kroupa, Danielle Perry
 4. Awards Chair – Peri Lambros
 5. Grounds – Open
 - e. Volunteer Coordinator – OPEN

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Collected Remarks is the official publication of the Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc.

(GDCTA), a non-profit, exempt corporation organized under Section 501© (3). It is the monthly newsletter designed to inform, educate and entertain the membership. The Editors encourage members to submit original advertising, articles, photographs, and artwork for possible publication. The editors of 'Collected Remarks' reserve the right to reject any advertising or article deemed to be unsuitable for this newsletter.

- Editorial contributions of 600 words or less (accompanied by photos with permission to publish, if applicable) are welcomed although publication cannot be guaranteed.
- GDCTA is not responsible for the opinions and statements expressed in signed articles or paid advertisements.

GDCTA Collected Remarks welcomes submissions of quality color dressage and sport-horse photographs. All mounted riders must be wearing appropriate headgear (a safety helmet, a derby, or a top hat). Photos must be accompanied by complete captions, including the full names of all subjects.

For print, only high resolution (300dpi) Jpeg or PDF files will be accepted.

Please submit electronically to designonpenny@yahoo.com and webmaster@gdcta.org.

DISCLOSURE

- Complete GDCTA Board of Directors meeting minutes are available upon request to the Recording Secretary.
- Financial records are available upon written request to the Treasurer.
- For information regarding Awards, Show Recognition, Membership, Education, or the Web Site, contact the appropriate chairperson on the website Contact Us page.

Thank you for you

Before we list the GDCTA GOATs, we must clarify who those GOATs are. T

Abby Cameron Taylor
Abbey Dondanville
Abigail Puthoff
Alice Kline
Amanda Moretz Bodywork
Amber Cavalier Splier
Amy Hoffield
Andrea Krakovsky
Annie's Equestrian Apparel
Ashley Marascalco
Atlanta Marriott Alpharetta
Atlanta Saddlery
Atlanta Youth Dressage Challenge
Autumn Lewis
Barbara Johnson
Becky Aukamp
Bella Medspa - Alethea Tinkle
Brad Thatcher
Caitlyn Brennan
Cara McNamee, DVM
Cardinal Crest Farm –
Chandilyn Wicker
Caren Caverly
Carolyn Rice
Caryl Berzack
Celeste Barnes
Chanda Smith
Charlotte Detienne Photography
Cherokee Feed and Seed
Cheryl Williams
Chip Caverly
Christi Meyers
Christine Murray, DVM
Cindy Thaxton
CornerStone Equestrian
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Courtney Hildebrant
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Georgia Sport Horses
Gillespie's Peanuts - Nancy Roger
Glenn Mitchell
Go With It Farm
Golden Shield Business Brokers
Great American Insurance Group
GumBits
Harmony Grove Farm
Harmony Saddle Fitting - Nancy Bardy
HGF Equestrian
High Point Farm
High Time Photography
Holland Portraits
Horse&Country TV
Isabella Smith
Janie Pride
Jennifer Melcher, DVM
Joel Bailey
Julie Ballard Haralson
Julie Norman
June Brewer
K & L Ribbons
Karen Lipp
Katharine McQueen
Katherine Wallace
Kathy Gilker
Kayce Redmond
Kelli Agnew
Kelly Herd Jewelry
Kelly Karson
Kelsey Abbott

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Pat Borders
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Richard Cohn
Richard's Equine Videos

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Riding Warehouse
River Mist Equestrian LLC
Robin Puryear
Sandra Almond
Sandra Carnet
Sandy Osborn
Sarah Light
Sarah Patrusheva Schroth
Schneiders Tack
Seminole Feed
Shannon Klepper
Shannondale Farm
Silent Hawk PEMF
SmartPak
Soul Passion Farm
Stephanie Petron
Sue Bender
Susan Easton Burns
Susan Day
Susan Tammy Pearson
Susanne Lauda
Sydney Lee
Tamara Gomez
Terre Davies
The Collected Pony
The Dressage Club of New Mexico
The Dressage Foundation
The Drew Boot
The Kroupa Team Real Estate
The Mane Monogram
The Metallic Horse
The Riding School - Laura Casey
ThinLine
Thompson & Associates Equine Med
Tin Roof Equestrian LLC - Carol Glover
Top Hat Dressage - Christi Meyers
Topline LLC - Sarah Southern
Triple Crown Feed
UGA College of Vet Medicine
USDF
Virginia Harrison
Virginia Woodcock



GOAT—Greatest Of All Time

Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association

Regular Meeting
October 16, 2023

President Caren Caverly called the membership meeting of the GDCTA to order on October 16, 2023, at 7:00 pm on Zoom.

VP of Combined Training, Joanne Morse, performed a roll call. A quorum of the board consisting of Caren Caverly, Joanne Morse, Peter West, Katie Patton, Lindsey Burns, Lacey Halstead, Julie Shannon, Daniel Perry, Liz Malloy, and Carol Tresan were present. Samantha Radesky and Amber Lopresti were on as guests. The minutes of the regular meeting September 15, 2023, were emailed to board members prior to meeting. Joanne motioned to approve minutes, and Carol seconded, and the minutes were passed by the board.

Treasurer's Report – (Peter): September was an off month. Loss due to the Labor Day Classic show.

VP Dressage Report – (Abigail): no report

VP Combined Training – (Joanne): Working on a plan for clinics in 2024.

Membership Report – (Mary Lou): Up from last year in the membership report. 885 members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Communication** (Joanne): October newsletter is ready to go out as soon as this meeting is over so that we can include any updates. Discussion on putting the yearbook online rather than printing it in 2024 to cut costs.

Possible advantages to putting it online rather than not doing it at all. Lacey made a motion that we continue the Yearbook. Lindsey seconded. Discussion followed on the pros and cons. Motion passed to publish the yearbook online for next year.

- **Show Committee** (Julie): New dates for Wills Park for the USDF/USEF dates. Labor Day date will be a schooling show now. October date will be a recognized dressage show. Looking to pick up some middle of the week dates at Wills Park for USDF shows. Looking into adding on a Friday one-day recognized before the April Spring Fling show.

- **Finance** (Peter): Not having an October show cost us \$2300. Caren was able to talk the Park down on that expense.

- **Youth Program** (Joanne): Letterman applications coming in for schooling show and letterman. Recognize letterman deadline extended to October 31.

- **Awards** (Janie): no report

- **Education** (Julie): Abi and Julie are working on the JJ Tate clinic. Waitlist currently. Takes place on October 28-29.

- **Gala** (Caren): Board members signed up for jobs for the Gala. Emailing the winners an invitation rather than printing and mailing to save money. Discussed different items to look for silent auction items. Silent Auction will be a team effort from the whole board. Gala date is January 20, 2024.

- **Nominating** (Julie & Lacey): Voting is currently open for voting for the 2024 board.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Email Blasts** – (Caren): JJ Tate, Schooling and Recognized awards have been posted. Send out deadlines for inquiring about scores.

NEW BUSINESS

- Members for November with Danielle.
- June asked for input on a letter to the membership regarding Regionals and changes in the club. Julie has offered to give her input and do a rewrite of the letter and will email it to the board.

Lacey made a motion to adjourn. Katie seconded. Motion passed.

Next Meeting:

November 13 at 7:00 PM Sharp

Contact Caren Caverly at ccaverly@comcast.net to be included in the Zoom invitation email.

US Equestrian Calls for Nominations for Board of Directors & Athlete Advisory Committee

The call for nominations opens on November 14th and will close on November 28th.

by US Equestrian Communications Department | Nov 13, 2023, 12:56 PM

Lexington, Ky. - US Equestrian is calling for nominations for athlete representatives on the USEF Board of Directors and the Athlete Advisory Committee (AAC).

The nomination window opens November 14th and will close on November 28th. Following the nomination period, elections will occur in December for the athlete representative seats listed below.

If elected, an athlete's service will begin in January 2024 for the term indicated below.

USEF Board of Directors:

One Athlete Representative from the Olympic or Paralympic disciplines will be elected for a 4-year term. A position description and eligibility criteria for this seat can be found [here](#).

Athlete Advisory Committee:

Additionally, eight (8) Athlete Representatives will be elected to serve on the Athlete Advisory Committee. One athlete from each of the FEI disciplines, with the exception of Para Equestrian which will have two athletes, will be elected to serve a 2-year term beginning in January 2024. A position description and eligibility criteria for this committee can be found [here](#).

Election Process:

Nominations for the Athlete Representative seats will be accepted directly from athletes wishing to serve. Interested athletes are encouraged to thoroughly review the information in the documents linked above to verify their understanding of the criteria and to ensure their willingness to fulfill the

duties and responsibilities of Board and/or committee membership.

Interest in AAC

Those athletes interested in serving in the role of Athlete Representative on the Athlete Advisory Committee can express their interest beginning **November 14**. Interested athletes must submit a **Letter of Interest and current bio/resume/CV** to nominations@usef.org no later than **5:00 pm ET on November 28, 2023**. Athletes must be current with their SafeSport Training.

Interest in Board of Directors

Those athletes interested in serving in the role of Athlete Representative on the Board of Directors can express their interest beginning **November 14**. Interested athletes must submit a **Letter of Interest, current bio/resume/CV, and social media handles** to nominations@usef.org no later than **5:00 pm ET on November 28, 2023**. Athletes must be current with their SafeSport Training and must successfully complete the background check under the USEF Safe Sport Policy. Any athlete who is currently in compliance with the background check requirement is not required to resubmit for another until the expiration of two years from the initial submission. The Board of Directors Athlete Representative information packet can be found [here](#). After November 28, the Athletes' Advisory Council will place on a ballot for electronic voting no more than two Athlete Director candidates per seat who are eligible under the criteria.

Voting will commence on December 4 and will close on December 12. The election results will be announced following the close of the election.

For additional information contact Sonja S. Keating, USEF General Counsel, at skeating@usef.org or (859) 225-2045.

GDCTA EVENT CALENDAR *(GDCTA Events are in RED)*

To find events online, go to https://bit.ly/GDCTA_Events

GDCTA Events

- **Dec 18**
Christmas Meeting Zoom Caren Caverly ccaverly@comcast.net
- **Jan 20, 2024**
Awards Gala Alpharetta, GA Caren Caverly ccaverly@comcast.net

GDCTA-Recognized Schooling Shows

(green=pending, black=approved, red=GDCTA hosted)

Caren Caverly, GDCTA AWARDS CHAIR
Recognized & Schooling Shows
ccaverly@comcast.net
770-713-4025

2024 Show / Award Season		
AYDC GIHP 1996 Centennial Olympic Pkwy Conyers, GA Nov 11 The Lisa Seger Insurance AA Medal class is offered on all dates. (Training Level, Test 3) Elizabeth Molloy missliz@tamiaridingschool.com 770-634-4089 tamiaridingschool.com	High Point Farm 3551 Colham Ferry Rd Watkinsville, GA Nov 18 The Lisa Seger Insurance AA Medal class is offered on all dates. (Training Level, Test 3) Mary Lou Freil maryloufreil@gmail.com 770-330-2489 highpointfarm.org	LEAF Series at Honeysuckle Hills Farm 4186 Nopone Road Gainesville GA Nov 18 The Lisa Seger Insurance AA Medal class is offered on all dates. (Training Level, Test 3) Dana Ferguson 678-519-0158 allfergs2@yahoo.com
Poplar Place Farm US Hwy 27 Hamilton, GA Nov 18 The Lisa Seger Insurance AA Medal class (Training Level, Test 3) is offered on all dates. poplarplacefarm.com	Chattahoochee Hills Eventing at Bouckaert Farm 9445 Browns Lake Road Fairburn, GA Dec 2-3 info@chatthillseventing.com 770-892-2117 chatthillseventing.com	FCHP Full Circle Horse Park 5555 Wolf Creek Road Pell City, AL Mar 23, 2024 Janice Ballard janice@fullcirclehorsepark.com 205-516-9052 Fullcirclehorsepark.com

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