



US
EQUESTRIAN
FEDERATION

**2023 USEF
TRAINING LEVEL
TEST 1**

NODA News



2023, Issue 3

MICHELLE NEWMAN
HORSE - SPOTT ON

DODGE - MIKE OSINSKI

0:04:34



11:27 AM
1/7/2023

INSIDE

News You Can Use - Member Services Directory, Class sponsorship Opportunities	<u>page 4</u>
Putting Your Best Hoof Forward at the Schooling Show	<u>page 6</u>
Clinic Review - Dressage For Everyone With Richard Williams	<u>page 10</u>
Recognized Show Sponsorship and Advertising Opportunities at all Levels	<u>page 12</u>
Scribe Clinic Registration Information	<u>page 13</u>
Member Ads - affordable and fun!	<u>page 16</u>
An Overview of NODA's New Test Seminar with Margaret Freeman	<u>page 18</u>
Dressage Scoring System and What the Numbers Mean	<u>page 20</u>
NODA Bucks 101	<u>page 24</u>

This is the last issue of NODA News you will receive if you have not renewed your membership for 2023



Northern Ohio Dressage Association
is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit
Education Organization

2022/2023 NODA BOARD

Executive Board

President

Danielle Menteer O'Donnell
517-513-1515
President@nodarider.org

Vice President

Kathy Kirchner
330-995-6010
VP@nodarider.org

Treasurer

Dee Liebenthal
216-534-1911
Treasurer@nodarider.org

Secretary

Beth Scalabrino
216-780-9238
Secretary@nodarider.org

Parliamentarian

Parliamentarian@nodarider.org

Directors at Large

Barb Soukup
440-339-3980
Barb-DAL@nodarider.org

Mary Lou Gallagher
216-941-6582
MaryLou-DAL@nodarider.org

Melissa Borrer
440-668-0861
Melissa-DAL@nodarider.org

Tay Laster
513-703-9455
Tay-DAL@nodarider.org

Karen Puchalsky
TDFRep@nodarider.org

Board Meetings

Second Wed. of the Month
Conference Call

NEXT MEETING
February 8, 6:45 PM

A Message from Your Editor

Hello Readers!

March is upon us and spring is right around the corner. There's mud in our futures, but with the crazy weather we've had in northeast Ohio this winter, it's been a constant mud season since November with the occasional freeze break down my way. But horse friends - green up and warm weather are NOT far behind. **Now is the time to really start thinking about what you'll be doing through 2023 and NODA News has you covered. And heads up! This is your last newsletter if you haven't renewed for 2023!**

For our Summer Series Schooling Show Fans, Karen Puchalsky has written an insightful article on [page 6](#) about the benefits of schooling shows from the perspective of judges, trainers, and rider and *earned some NODA Bucks for her efforts*. And Suzanne Sherbundy, our schooling show manager has been lining up venues, dates, and judges for the series, so it's time to go to www.nodarider.org and plan your seasons.

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at scribing for a judge? Get the tools you need and build your confidence at the Scribe Clinic with Barb Soukup. It's free with light refreshments. All the details are on [page 13](#).

There are other upcoming education events; ride-a-test, The DPI, an Evening with Jennifer Baumert, and the NODA Adult Adventure - Dressage and More (the new name for camp) **coming up that you may want to register for.** It's all in the Education Corner under "News You Can Use" on [page 4](#).

I attended the New Test Clinic presented by Margaret Freeman and came away with so much information I had to share it in an article ([page 18](#)) with other NODA members. Besides sharing, writing always helps to reinforce what I've learned. Margaret provided us with a blue print for using the test sheet, both blank and scored, to guide our training. Also included in this edition is information from the USDF on the numerical scoring system used by the USDF. That coupled with Margaret's remarks on how to read a test should arm you with better interpretation skills when you receive your scored test back from the judge.

USEF professionals, PLEASE NOTE, it's Member Services Directory update time and we want ALL our member professionals included. *The directory is free advertising and is on our website for a full year and in the May newsletter.* Please, take time to shoot me an email at mosie-editor@nodarider.org with your business information and a photo. Details on [page 23](#) or at www.nodarider.org MEMBERSHIP, Member Services Directory. Riders, if your Pro is too busy, can you help them out with this?

For all of you readers who send me a quick email about an error in a newsletter - thank you for reading! We are happy to post corrections and update information.

Calendar submissions are always appreciated and you're welcome to send them to mosie-editor@nodarider.org.

Looking forward to see you out and about!

Mosie Welch

Cover: Margaret Freeman, USEF "S" Judge presents NODA's New Dressage Test Seminar on January 7 at the Bainbridge Library. Photo by Mosie Welch

NODA Chairpersons & Committees

Communications

Correspondence Secretary OPEN
Correspondence@nodarider.org

Member Services Directory Mosie Welch:
330-618-5838
Directory@nodarider.org

Newsletter

Lead Editor, Content/Layout Mosie Welch
330-618-5838 Mosie-Editor@nodarider.org

Advertising/Classifieds Editor
Jennifer Cooper
216-469-3920
Advertisers@nodarider.org

Corral Magazine Mosie Welch
330-618-5838 Mosie-Editor@nodarider.org

Website, Facebook & E-News

Webmaster Patty Keim
440-503-6214 Webmaster@nodarider.org

Instagram & Twitter

Administrator, Patty Keim
440—503-6214 Posts@nodarider.org

Membership & Liaisons

Membership Chair Fran Cverna
440-834-1774 Membership@nodarider.org

External Relations Barb Soukup
440-339-3980 Barb-DAL@nodarider.org

Junior/Young Rider Liaison Jennifer Cooper
216-469-3920 Jr-YR@nodarider.org

Adult Amateur Liaison: Kathy Kirchner
330-995-6010 AA@nodarider.org

Professional Liaison Emily Gill
Pro@nodarider.org

Western Dressage Liaison Sara Justice
WesternDressage@nodarider.org

The Dressage Foundation Liaison
Karen Puchalsky TDFRep@nodarider.org

Historical Archives

Historian : Fran Cverna
440-834-1774
Historian@nodarider.org

Education Programs

Education Co-Chair Patti Valencic
i216-955-0985
Education@nodarider.org

Education Co-chair Sally Burton
440-221-7544
sabcampisme@yahoo.com

Competitions

Recognized Shows

Chair Suzanne Sherbundy Groselle
561-596-1189
RS-Chair@nodarider.org

Volunteer Coordinator Karen Puchalsky
RS-vol-coord@nodarider.org

Sponsors/Advertising Dee Liebenthal
216-534-1911 Sponsors@nodarider.org

Program Coordinator Mosie Welch
330-618-5838 Program@nodarider.org

Schooling Shows

Chair/Manager Suzanne Sherbundy Groselle
561-596-1189
SchoolingShow@nodarider.org

Show Secretary OPEN, PAID position, contact
Suzanne Groselle @
SchoolingShow@nodarider.org
For details

Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Morehead
440-336-1311
SS-Volunteers@nodarider.org

Year-End Awards

Chair Janeen Langowski-Grava
440-666-6182 Yearend-Awards@nodarider.org

Silent Auction

Chair Kirk Morehead
440-336-1311
SilentAuction@nodarider.org

Year-End Awards Banquet

Banquet Chair Kirk Morehead
440-336-1311 Banquet@nodarider.org



www.nodarider.org

NODA's Newsletter Advertisers

A.R.T. Dressage

**Big Dee's Tack
& Vet Supply**

Lake Erie College

**North Crest
Equestrian Center**

Poulin Dressage

Rivendel Farm

**Please Support
NODA's Advertisers
with your Business!**

When You Are Done Reading,
please share your
copy of NODA News
with a friend or
at the stable.

Member Benefit!

FREE year round Advertising for Our Members

2023 Member Services Directory

Printed in the May Newsletter

Online on NODA's website May 1 through April 30

Deadline April 10

Feel free to include the information requested in an email.

USEF member professionals are entitled to send a photo or logo 300 dpi or higher via email
To mosie-editor@gmail.com

Members, take advantage of this free advertising!

Details on page 23

This is the last 2023 issue of NODA News you will receive if you have not renewed your membership.

See page 25 for the mail in membership form

OR

Join online at

www.nodarider.org/membership



The Summer Schooling Show Series is seeking a Show Secretary

Paid position, Contact Chair/Manager Suzanne Groselle
561-596-1189 SchoolingShow@nodarider.org

NOTICE!!!

The Date of the September Schooling Show is September 10 at Chagrin Valley Farms

Make the change on your calendar!

Members Note!

Recognized Show Class Sponsorships are back For Dressage 2023 and Dressage 2023 Encore at two affordable levels!

Honor a horse, a trainer, your groom, or a mentor

For details see page 14

or go to www.nodarider.org/event-5122946



Education Corner



with co-chairs Sally Burton and Patti Valencic

DPI - opens March 1

Year Two of the Dressage Professionals Initiative is in the planning stages for another year of learning for our NODA teaching professionals. This year Jennifer Baumert, USDF certified instructor, USDF gold medalist, USDF education committee member, Grand Prix rider and coach, will be joining us as the clinician. **The first session will be April 16-17, 2023 at Endeavor Farm/ART Dressage in Hudson, Ohio. Cost for this two day session is \$250. Registration opens on March 1 for NODA professional members only www.nodarider.org/event-5132808 Renew TODAY!**

NODA Adult Adventure - open March 1
June 8-11, 2023 at Brecksville Stables featuring dressage lessons from Barb Soukup and Danielle O'Donnell with Emily Gill instructing Working Equestration. Plan on Sunday fun day, trail rides, lectures, games, freebies, and more! The price for camp this year is \$375. **Registration opens for NODA members on March 1 at www.nodarider.org/dressage-camp-for-adults. See ad page 18.**

An Evening with Jen Baumert - April 16 for all Members—Opens MARCH 1

Join us for an evening with Jen Baumert. Jen is an amazing rider, 2019 Pan Am bronze medalist, certified dressage instructor and published author of articles in dressage magazines. She understands the horse and rider and is an avid student of dressage. www.nodarider.org/event-5174169

Learn to Scribe

Registration Opens March 15
April 15, Bainbridge Library, 9:30 - 11:30am with Barb Soukup, L Graduate with Distinction.

FREE

Refreshments provided!

Details [See page 13](#)

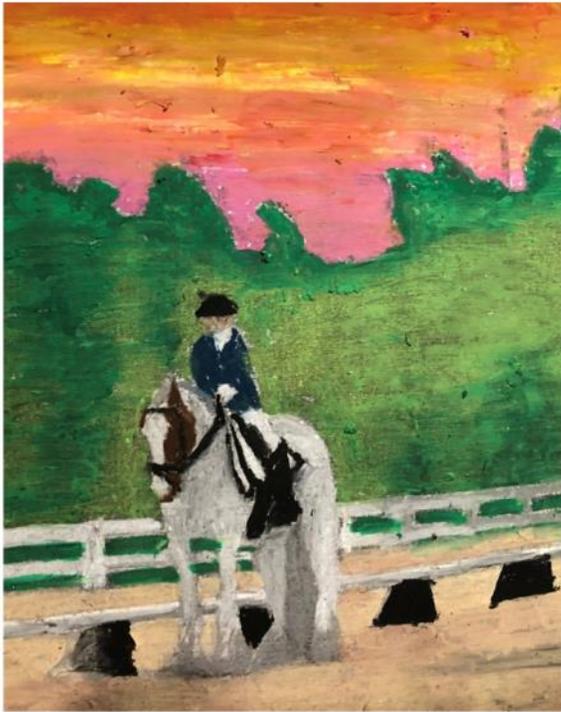
www.nodarider.org/event-5132765

Ride-a-Test with Barb Soukup - Open May 5 May 27, the day before the first schooling show of the season at Chagrin Valley Farms! Check out the details on this link, www.nodarider.org/event-5132780



Northern Ohio Dressage Association

Recognized Show Program & Annual Awards Program Cover Art Contest 2023



Are you artistic?

What says dressage to you?

Color Art or Black and White is acceptable

Show Program is online and can be color

Awards Program is in grayscale*

Art for the Volunteer Shirt is in Black and White

See Details Below for Entry Guidelines and Specifics

**The Winning Artists Will Receive
a \$100 BIG Dee's Tack and Vet Supply
Gift Certificate**

***If the Banquet Committee decides to have a
printed Awards Program in 2023**

Left: Winner of the 2022 Recognized Shows Cover Art Contest, Youth member Claire Welder, submitted Early Kentucky Sun.

Submission Details

Size of cover space: 8 1/2 wide X 11 inches high portrait including background

Space Use: Artist must leave room for cover text within the 8 1/2 wide X 11 high inch space
Art does not have to be centered

Submission format: JPEG attachment to an email, 300 dpi or higher

Deadline for ALL submissions: April 1, 2023

Email Your Submission(s) as a JPEG attachment 300 dpi or higher to: mosie-editor@nodarider.org

Winners are selected by the Recognized Show committee—all decisions are final

Recognition

The winning artist for the show program and tee shirt will be announced in Issue 4 of the NODA Newsletter, and credited for the work the Recognized Show Program.

The winning artist for the Annual Awards Program will be recognized in the January 2024 Newsletter.

ALL Artists work will be published in the NODA News and in the Show Program

Artists retain the rights to the artwork with a request that it not be published until after the 2023 Show Program is released.

Contact Mosie Welch at mosie-editor@nodarider.org with questions

Putting Your Best Hoof Forward at the Schooling Show

By Karen Pulchasky NODA The Dressage Foundation Liaison and Recognized show Volunteer Coordinator

NODA has a strong schooling show program and engages both USEF rated judges as well as USDF L Program Graduates to provide competitors an educational and affordable competition experience. I wanted to find the perspective of judges, trainers, and competitors who participate in the Summer Schooling Show Series, so I asked judges, competitors, and NODA member professionals who attend our schooling shows to provide input and these are the people who responded. To my call.

To get the judges' point of view I talked with several judges. Robin Birk is a USEF "r" Dressage Judge and USDF Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medalist and has also provided clinics and ride-a-tests for adult camp participants.

Robin said "Preparation is crucial when you go to a schooling show or any show. Robin's favorite four letter word is PLAN. Know what your goals are before you go to a show." Start your plan by choosing the shows you are going to attend and for what purpose. For example, does the rider need more experience in a show environment? Do you have a young horse that needs exposure? Do you want to ride a higher-level test for the first time? The more you prepare ahead of the show, the more likely you will be successful at obtaining your goals.

It is always a good idea to check out the venue you are going and make sure it will help to achieve your goals. Is there enough space in the warm up that you can warm up more privately if you have a young nervous horse or a nervous student who could be intimidated by a very crowded warm-up? Are the stalls safe for a young horse? What is the footing like? Make sure your show site is suitable for your needs.

Always be prepared to ride your test. This means not only knowing the pattern of the test (how to get from point A to point B), but also knowing how to prepare for each movement BEFORE you get to the letter to start that movement. It is important to read the directives of the test and each movement in the test to understand the requirements of the test and the essence of each movement.

Know what your warm-up preparation will be exactly. Robin suggests don't change your plan and warm up differently at the show than you do at home. The warm up ring is not the place to make changes. From the judge's point of

view, she does not know what the rider's plan is for the show or what their goals may be. As a judge, Robin says that she judges like a mirror, and the reflection from that mirror must be transformed into words and numbers on the score sheet.



A Young Rider competes a test read to her by her trainer at the July 2022 schooling show. Riders learn how to prepare, organize, and ride movements independently during their tests preparing them for so many life experiences.

Photo by Suzanne Sherbundy.

What is most important for Robin to see as a judge is that horses are performing as happy athletes. Are the horse and rider performing in harmony? Is the horse and rider performing as a team and demonstrating correct basics for the level shown? If you are doing a second level test for the first time, make sure you can perform the movements with ease. Again, do your homework and make sure you and your horse are prepared. Robin's advice is to be schooling your horse one level above what level you are showing. No matter what your riding status is or

what level test you are riding, the judge sees you for only eight (8) minutes and we can only judge what we see in those eight (8) minutes. Robin strongly suggests understanding what the scores mean. If you get a 6 on one movement understand that is satisfactory, you have met the minimum requirements for that movement. But also understand that you have an opportunity to improve another 40%. Knowing what each score means will help you prepare for the next test you ride.

Mistakes happen in a test, it is only one score in one box. If a mistake happens, do not let it consume you. Quickly, focus on the next movement coming and reorganize as quickly as possible... Don't let one mistake get you off your game plan. If you don't fix your mistakes as quickly as possible, sometimes the mistake of one box can continue onto the next box. Robin's example, if you are riding a test and you have to canter, but you get the wrong lead and do not recognize you are on the wrong lead or cannot get it changed before the next movement, that mistake will now be reflected in a second box. Always try to fix your mistakes as soon as possible. Don't make an extra circle to get a correction made as it will also incur in an error.

There are lots of new rules! Take the time and read the rule book. There is lots of good learning in the rule book as well. You may avoid a costly mistake and learn something in the process.

Continued on page 8

Time for an Upgrade?

We've got you & your horse covered, head to toe.



Helmets & Apparel



Tack



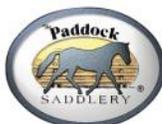
Pads, Boots and Grooming Supplies



Presenting Sponsor of the USDF Regional Adult Amateur Equitation Finals! 

9440 St. Rt. 14 Streetsboro, OH 44241
800-321-2142
www.bigdweb.com

Home of the:



BIG DEE'S
TACK & VET SUPPLY

Showroom Hours: Monday-Saturday: 10am-5pm or Call ahead for drive through pick up • Sunday: Closed

Be on time! Be ready a few minutes before your ride time to avoid being late and adding in more nervous tension. Have a good ground person with you so they can watch the clock and check in with the ring steward. It is your responsibility to get into the ring on time, not the ring steward's job. Always be kind to the volunteers, they are there to help and without them, we would not have any shows.

Scribes are an important part of the show! Experienced scribes are always appreciated by all judges. As judges, we must be at the ring early to make sure we can train the less experienced scribes as they are volunteering and are eager to learn

Robin expressed how much she enjoys judging at NODA shows because they are always well organized and are held at good venues. Robin also expressed her personal appreciation to the NODA GMO for their support they have demonstrated to her during shows and the Adult Camp. They have always been rewarding and educational experiences.

I also chatted with Nicky Vogel, USEF "R" Judge – USDF Certified Instructor/Trainer to Fourth Level and certified with the British Horse Society.

Nicky believes preparation is key to success at any schooling show. Be prepared for the level you are riding. Know your test. When judging a higher-level test, it is harder for the judge when the rider is unprepared. The scores and comments will reflect that the rider was unprepared. Preparation includes how you look when entering the ring. Nicky likes to see horses braided and the rider dressed as they would if they were going to a recognized show.

Judging a school show can be more difficult for any judge because you don't know the status of the rider and horse. Is it a green horse or rider, the first time the rider is riding at this level, or other reasons they are riding in a schooling show? However, Nicky explained that going through the USDF "L" program, it is emphasized that you do not judge differently between a recognized show and a schooling show. The program stresses that competitors should not expect the judge will give higher scores because they are riding in a schooling show versus a recognized show.

I have ridden in many clinics with Nicky and have often joked with her that I would be afraid to ride in front of her

as a judge, because I would be thinking that Nicky would know that I could have done that movement better! Nicky shared with me early in her career as a judge she was able to ignore who the competitor was riding in front of her. She was in England; new to judging and still nervous when the rider that came into her ring was from the Royal Family. For her to ignore who the rider was, she looked at the rider from the neck down and judged the rider's and horse's movements like any another competitor at the show. When she judges today, she never looks at the rider's name or status on the test form and continues to judge the movements of rider and horse without identifying the rider.

I asked Nicky if a competitor that rides two tests in front of her in the same show, does she like to see that the rider made any improvements based on her comments. Nicky thought were at schooling shows, it is hard for this to happen because a lot of times the competitor doesn't see their prior test before they ride their second test. Even if they do, it is usually hard to "fix" anything at a show. Maybe, easy ones could be fixed: going the wrong direction, not getting into the corners, or putting corners in a circle, but harder ones would need coaching and training after the show.



Rider at the May 2022 schooling show. Adults prepare themselves and their horses to compete in recognized shows as well take advantage of an affordable option to compete. Photo by Suzanne Sherbundy

When judging a test, Nicky validates every score she gives. Her comments always include something good and something that needs to be improved. If she gives an eight, she feels the rider should know why they got an eight and didn't get a nine.

What improvements can be made for NODA schooling shows to be better for the judges? Nicky likes to get her schedule at least a day before the show. She likes to print the schedule so she knows what tests she will be judging, in what order and how long the show will run. Nicky is so grateful that people volunteer to be scribes. No judging can occur without scribes. If the scribe working with her is inexperienced, she will adjust her comments to 2 or 3 words that will still validate the score. Nicky also appreciates that the scribe minimizes "chatter" while writing down the comments. She needs to be focused on the next movement and can't be distracted because of chatter about the previous movement.

As with any schooling show, getting tests completed and to the competitors is always a problem. In some of the schooling shows in her area, they are using software called Compete Easy and having good results. Nicky did not know the cost of the software but suggested it might be something NODA could investigate. Overall, Nicky felt that NODA schooling shows are well organized and always held at good venues. She always enjoys working with NODA.

To get the USEF/USDF professional point of view I spoke with Alyssa Moran, Dressage, Owner/Trainer of AM Edelweiss Equestrian. Alyssa goes to schooling shows because she has a string of fairly green horses and clients that are being introduced to Dressage. Schooling shows are a great environment to help them start out in the sport. She finds schooling shows are great for her too. Her goal at the show is to get the horses more confident and relaxed. It is also a great place to test out moving up a level and getting the judges' feedback.

Alyssa has not gone to USDF recognized shows but has attended USEF rated shows with her clients. She tries to stick to the same warm-up at rated shows as they do at home and schooling shows. The clients (kids) warm up their horses at both shows!

Alyssa likes to use schooling shows to get the horses more confident and relaxed. To accomplish this, she encourages the horses to relax at the shows (and the riders too), she utilizes the warmup arena before their classes and takes advantage of the fact that we can school in the rings the day before. So much of it is getting the horses used to the sights and sounds of horse shows. She likes to send the horse out to the warmup with a buddy and really walk them through their warmup. Focusing on exercises that we use at home and making that connection with the work in a new environment helps the horse relax.

I asked Alyssa if NODA's schooling shows should be run differently than a recognized show. Alyssa's answer was that running them similarly is good preparation for when everyone is ready to show at recognized shows. Her expectation is that horses and riders at schooling shows are likely there because they need experience. They have just started showing so she does like to see the judges give a little extra feedback on the scoring sheets. The riders get to come home with homework, but hopefully the feedback is not discouraging but helpful.

Alyssa likes to have her students come to the show and stay for the whole day. She feels it is important for them to watch other riders and learn as well as cheer each other on. She expects them to learn show etiquette and what all goes into attending and caring for their horse at the show. Schooling shows are a great place to work on "show nerves". It is hard for everyone to ride their best in front of a judge and spectators. Alyssa likes to use schooling shows to get through all the challenges a rider confronts.

When asked how NODA can improve our schooling shows, Alyssa said "We love going to NODA shows and will be bringing an even larger crew next year!" She believes she is lucky to have clients who want to learn about all aspects of riding and competing, as well as great, supportive parents. She would like to see a little more encouraging feedback on the junior/young rider test sheets. She understands that it is tricky to keep the show running on time, but the junior/young riders are the future of Dressage. They can get discouraged by the way a judge's comments come across. Some of the judges were wonderful and wrote suggestions at the end of the test. The kids love that!



Show day is only a small part of the commitment to ride and compete. A Youth member cleans tack getting ready for a schooling show.

Photo by Mosie Welch

And finally, I was happy to get Claire Welder, a NODA Junior Young Riders point of view. Claire goes to schooling shows to get experience for her and her young horse. They are both learning dressage with trainer, Chelsea Nau. Claire goes with her trainer to the show so she and her horse do their best at the show. She is also grateful that her Mom goes to the shows to give her support. There are several of Claire's friends from the barn that goes to the shows which makes it more fun for everyone. Claire hopes that going to the schooling shows will help her get more experience and help build her confidence. She appreciates getting feedback from the judges that provide her areas where she can improve. Claire's plan is eventually to go to recognized shows and continue to improve. She would like to be able to compete at the level she does at the schooling shows and above.

NODA's Summer Schooling Show Series is a centerpiece of NODA's education and competition programs. I would like to thank each person who agreed to be interviewed for this article. I learned so much from everyone I talked with and really appreciated their willingness to share their perspectives.

Some Thoughts to Ponder from An Evening Talk - Dressage For Everyone With Richard Williams

By Mosie Welch, NNODA News Editor

On February 10 Richard Williams gave a talk coordinated by Danielle Menteer O'Donnell in the cozy lounge at Chagrin Valley Farms . Homemade soup, salad, bread and desserts were served. Discussion was based on clinic rider's question which Richard answered in depth with background information.

What Level Are the Horse and Rider At?

A rider asked about levels and how to know when to move up a level. Richard said the horse is "showing" at a level and that gives a trainer a group of skills that the horse needs to be successful at the level. But the horse is either green or showing at a specific level(s) but that should not confine the horse to working and training only those movements and riders must not be afraid to try movements from levels far beyond where they are showing. For success, a horse must be doing movements to develop strength, flexibility, and muscle memory. For instance backing up, shoulder in, passage, or learning piaffe. No rider should wait until Second Level to begin backing their horse and many start their young horses in passage and piaffe. If you wait till you get to the Intermediare Level, to piaffe or passage, it is too late. A rider is at no level - they are riding "the level" the horse is showing and the movement the horse is schooling. IF YOU'RE NOT AT Grand Prix, you need to be working with an eye towards it and training that to get to Grand Prix or you will never get there. Do not confine yourself to thinking at a level or ONLY working at a specific test level. Each rider will do hundreds of shoulder-in's and half passes as they develop their horse and will learn from both their mistakes.

Training Forward

On the topic of training "forward," Richard talked about the fight or flight instincts of both horses and humans. Horses tend towards flight when they are startled and their natural tendency is forward. Just watch them in the field. A human is very "handsy" and does things with their hands to control their world all of the time. We drive, type, fix things, and grab onto things. A human sitting on a horse when the horse does something unpredictable like spook or bolt tends to grab back with the hands and try to control the situation. Just think back on that feeling of when you were new to riding. We don't need to train forward in the horse, we need to train ourselves not to restrict forward. A rider trains themselves by reacting with a more measured and effective response over and over again until allowing forward is the response. If not, both

the horse and human work against each other which stifles the horse's forward tendency. Leading into a discussion on impulsion.

Impulsion

Richard said of impulsion the horse must, "move forward with energy the horse MUST perceive that they CAN go forward, have a willingness to go forward, have the ability to go forward, and develop the athleticism to move forward." Here are the basics of what the horse MUST perceive to engage with impulsion:

Perception

With a bit in their mouth, a horse must feel that she can go forward. How many of us have applied aids that say both "go and whoa" at the same time? If a rider has static unyielding hands or pulls back the horse feels confined, restricted, and even compressed and is reluctant to move forward. The remedy is for the rider to develop the ability to soften the hand and give, allowing the horse to understand that, yes, the rider does want forward.

Willingness

Does the horse trust us? We must develop a mutual trust and engender willingness in a horse by our actions and by being consistent and fair. If we pull, the horse pulls. By being a benevolent leader, leading fairly and with intent, we develop trust over time.

Ability

Can the horse go forward? If there is no physical impediment and a horse is not forward it may be because the rider is not allowing forward. We must practice forward like we practice movements and the horse will learn that they can go forward because they have done it before and it was more comfortable than being compressed. It is the horses job to move forward just like they do out in the field on their own and the riders job to allow forward.

Athleticism

After forward is established, gymnastizing the horse by working patterns and exercises will develop strength and flexibility and allow the horse to move in straightness, better symmetry, and develop a stronger topline. Richard mentioned using belly lifts and butt crunches on the horse to develop understanding and awaken the muscles to achieve correct carriage and movement.

I appreciate Richard Williams insights and well thought out explanations which will be useful as my horse and I continue on. I hope these thoughts are helpful to you too.



ASHLEY RAND-TORRES

USDF BRONZE, SILVER & GOLD MEDALIST
USDF CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

A.R.T. Dressage



NOW ACCEPTING TRAINING HORSES AND LESSONS



Ashley is located at Endeavor Farm in Hudson Ohio. Ashley has recently come back to Northeast Ohio from South Florida. She is now accepting horses in training at her facility. Is available for haul in lessons at her farm and travels to surrounding areas. Please contact Ashley with any questions you may have.



 (330) 715-2403

 22910 Old Mill Rd Hudson Oh

 aerand22@gmail.com



Dear Loyal Friend, Member and Supporter,

Northern Ohio Dressage Association has an average annual membership of 250-300. Since 1988 NODA has organized and supported annual Recognized horse shows in Ohio. For 2023 these shows, **Dressage 2023** and **Dressage 2023 Encore**, will be held May 13 and 14 at Chagrin Valley Farms in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. We couldn't host these shows or fund all of NODA's many educational programs without the continued support of generous sponsors, patrons, advertisers, and competitors. We invite you to join in and support us for this exciting weekend.

Dressage 2023 and **Dressage 2023 Encore** competitions are licensed by the United States Equestrian Federation and the United States Dressage Federation and bring out competitors and spectators from Ohio, New York, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. **This year we are bringing back the Saturday evening Musical Freestyles rides accompanied by the annual party.** These shows offer an excellent opportunity for you to support equestrian education and competition while getting your message out on our dynamic award-winning website, show program, NODA's FB page and in the monthly [NODA News](#).

NODA offers sponsorship and advertising opportunities at many levels to meet your unique needs as an individual, organization, or business. Commit to one of our **Gold, Silver, Bronze or Blue and Red Ribbon level** sponsorship packages, that provide high visibility reaching NODA's membership and other horse enthusiasts long after the competition is over. We also offer **affordable Class Sponsorships** which allow an individual or small business to sponsor a class in your name, your barn's name, or in honor or memory of a beloved horse or friend.

We count on your support to sustain NODA's Recognized shows and to provide much needed funds for educational programs which include schooling shows, many and varied clinics and our scholarship and grant programs, all of these benefiting adults, junior/young riders, amateurs, and professional members. Please visit our website, [Northern Ohio Dressage Association](#) for more details.

Thank you for your efforts in continuing to help NODA.

Sincerely,
 Dee Liebenthal, Treasurer
 Patty Keim, Webmaster
 Recognized Shows - Sponsors & Advertising Northern Ohio Dressage Association

Dressage 2023 and Dressage 2023 Encore Sponsorship and Advertising Opportunities
 See details & levels on [page 14 and 15](#).
 Sign up for you sponsorship or advertising package online at www.nodarider.org/event-5122946



THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION

Karen Puchalsky

NODA's Dressage Foundation GMO Liaison

www.dressagefoundation.org

The Dressage Foundation Announces New Grants for U.S. Military Members and Dependents

The Dressage Foundation (TDF) is honored to announce its new Military Grant Fund, established by Colonel David and Sue Bender of Beech Island, South Carolina. Through their generous gift, the Benders wish to recognize the contributions of military members and dependents to our country and sport.



The purpose of The Dressage Foundation's Military Grant Fund is to provide \$1,000 grants for dressage-related education to riders who have served, or are currently serving, in the United States military and their dependents. The Fund is open to all branches of the military to include active duty, reserves, and veterans. Amateur or youth riders, to include para-dressage riders, are welcome to apply. "These individuals are constantly giving to this country in many ways, sometimes with little ability to concentrate on their personal goals," said Sue Bender. "While serving, the pay received is not large and there are usually moves required every two to three years. We hope that this Fund will ease the financial burden of dressage training and will allow recipients to take the time to focus on their riding goals."

"Historically, dressage has a long connection to the military," said Jenny Johnson, TDF's Executive Director. "We extend our thanks to Colonel and Sue Bender for their generous gift to establish a Grant Fund to honor that history and provide support for U.S. military members and their families who are passionate about dressage."

The grant guidelines and application for the Military Grant Fund can be found at the following links on the TDF website:

Adult Amateurs

Youth & Young Adults

Para-Dressage Riders

The application deadline will be May 15th of each year.

NODA News 2023, Page 13

SCRIBE CLINIC

LEARN to SCRIBE!

Clinic will be conducted by popular L Graduate* Barb Soukup with demonstration videos, her comments, and a chance to practice!

April 15, 9:30 -11:00 AM

Bainbridge Library

Register online by April 12. Space is limited.
<https://www.nodarider.org/event-5132765>

FREE!
and promises to be fun!

Refreshments Provided!

**If you feel any trepidation
about volunteering for this role,
let us reassure you!**

Judges are very appreciative and respectful
of their scribes.

You learn what the numbers 1 – 10 represent from
the judging handbook.

You learn the abbreviations and meanings
of their comments.

You learn what a judge is looking for and how to
ride a test from their point of view.

You meet judges from around the country with
varying degrees of judging and training experience.

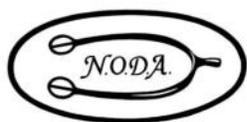
They often share nuggets of new information about
all things dressage.

You become aware of the many people and horses
in your local dressage community.

Scribes are extremely vital volunteers.
Dressage shows cannot exist without scribes!!

NODA has Shadow Opportunities!





Northern Ohio Dressage Association 2023 Recognized Shows
Sponsorship and Advertising Opportunities
Dressage 2023, May 13 and Dressage 2023 Encore, May 14

Sponsorship Level	Show Program Ads	Ring Sponsorship Ring named for sponsor	Banner(s) Displayed on Show Days	Vendor Spot Show Days	Sponsor's Promo items for Competitor's bags	Announcement(s) Show Days	Ad Feature NODA News July Issue	Links & logos NODA Recognized Shows Webpage	Feature on Social Media or "Thank You" from NODA	Logo on Volunteer T-Shirts
Gold \$1500	Full Page	2 Rings Available to 1st 2 sponsor requests	3	Yes	Up to 5	X	Full Page	Yes	3 ads	Yes
Silver \$1000	Full Page	N/A	2	Yes	Up to 4	X	Full Page	Yes	2 ads	Yes
Bronze \$500	Half Page	N/A	1	Yes	Up to 3	X	Half Page	Yes	1 ad	Yes
Blue Ribbon \$250	1/4 Page	N/A	1	N/A	Up to 2	X	1/4 Page	Yes	N/A	N/A
Red Ribbon \$100	Bus. Card	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	X	Bus. Card	Yes	N/A	N/A
Warm-up Ring Sponsor \$75	Bus. Card	1 Ring Available	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	Bus. Card	N/A	N/A	N/A
Class Sponsorship - 2 classes \$50	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Class Sponsorship - 1 Class \$30	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Advertising Only		Full Page \$150.00	Half Page \$100.00	1/4 Page \$75.00	Bus. Card \$50.00					

Easy Registration & Payment Online

It has never been easier to Register online and support NODA's 2023 Recognized Shows. Use the following link: <https://www.nodarider.org/event-5122946> or go to the Recognized Show page on the NODA website: [Northern Ohio Dressage Association - Recognized \(nodarider.org\)](http://www.nodarider.org). Upon completing registration and payment, you will receive an email acknowledgment, containing important due dates for your ad, logo, banners, etc. Also, because we know how busy we all get, you will also receive reminder emails. We hope you will take advantage of this new registration and payment system.

Postal Service

For those preferring to use the postal service, you will find the registration form in the February through April issues of the *NODA News* and also on available to print from the website. Mail completed form and payment to:

Dee Liebenthal—address below

Didn't see a package that works for you? Please contact us to get a customized package.

NODA also accepts "in-kind" donations for goods and services.

Contacts:

Dee Liebenthal, treasurer@nodarider.org Phone: 216-534-1911 , 738-3 Claridge Lane, Aurora, OH 44202

Patty Keim, webmaster@nodarider.org Phone: 330-350-2775

Select your sponsorship or advertising level and use the form on page 15 or
Sign up for you sponsorship or advertising package online at www.nodarider.org/event-5122946

Please feel free to call and chat with Dee or Patty if you have any questions. We would love to hear from you!



NODA 2023 Recognized Shows—Sponsorship & Advertising Information
Dressage 2023 May 13 & Dressage 2023 Encore May 14

Ad Requirements, Due Dates and Contact Information

Ads and Logos must be received by April 24, 2023

- ◆ Submit color ads electronically in "JPG" or photo format, 300 dpi or higher resolution by e-mail to treasurer@nodarider.org in a copy & drop condition.
- ◆ Ads may be returned for rework if not sized in (300 dpi or higher) format.

Ad Sizes

- ◆ Full page ad size with bleed: 8.7639 x 11.2639
 - ◆ Half page ad size with bleed: 8.75 x 5.75
 - ◆ Quarter page ad size: 3.6389 x 4.8889

Sponsor's literature & banners: received by May 10, 2023

Contact Information

Dee Liebenthal, 216-534-1911, treasurer@nodarider.org

Patty Keim, 330-350-2775, webmaster@nodarider.org

Sponsorship/Advertising Selection & Payment Form & Options

- ◆ **Checks** make payable to: NODA, mail to: Dee Liebenthal, 738-3 Claridge Lane, Aurora, OH 44202
- ◆ **Credit Card** Payment through PayPal link [Northern Ohio Dressage Association - Recognized \(nodarider.org\)](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.nodarider.org) or email Dee Liebenthal at, treasurer@nodarider.org to request an invoice sent to your email.

Choose from Sponsorship & Advertising levels below

Gold Silver Bronze Blue Ribbon Red Ribbon
 Warm-up Ring 2 Classes 1 Class Advertising Only

Class Sponsorship: If you choose 1 *class*, please provide information for 1 class. If you want to sponsor 2 *classes*, please provide information for both classes.

1 Class Sponsorship: 1 Class 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

2 Classes Sponsorships: 2 Class 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Class Sponsor Sentiment: _____
Optional—45 Characters

Advertising Only: Full Page Half Page Qtr Page Bus Card

Name/Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email _____ Amount: \$ _____

Northern Ohio Dressage Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization
Tax ID#34-1378890 . Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.
Consult with your tax professional regarding the nature and extent of your tax deduction



New for 2023!
Place Member Ads
in the NODA News &
on the Advertisers & Sponsors
page of the Website

Say Thank You, KUDOs
or honor a special horse or person!



Kudos to your hard working rider, the rider who tried something new, high point, medal recipients, or year end ribbon and trophy winners!

Shout Out to your trainer, barn owner, groom, parents, your horse, clients or friends!



Ads in honor of OR in memory of that special person or horse are welcome.

Sign up online at www.nodarider.org/Member-Ads/

Deadline: 10th of the month.

Example: February 10 to Run in March Newsletter

Ads available to members and family members at 1/4 of the cost of commercial advertising

Questions? Mosie-editor@nodarider.org

Proceeds will go to NODA Education Events to be split evenly among Youth, AA's and Pro offerings

Format Your Own JPG Ad at the Base Ad Cost

E-mail print ready ads in JPEG format. Select high quality or commercial printing, 300 dpi or higher when saving the file.

Email to Mosie-editor@nodarider.org

OR NODA will format for you for the base price of the ad plus the formatting fee listed below.

	Size	One month base cost	One time Format fee
Full Page	7.5" X 10"	\$25.00	\$25.00
Half Page	7.5" X 5"	\$14.00	\$14.00
Quarter Page	3.75" X 5"	\$ 7.00	\$7.00
Business Card	3.75" X 2"	\$ 5.00	\$5.00

2023 Dressage and More Camp for Adults

June 8-11, 2023
 Brecksville Stables



\$375 for four days of learning and fun

dressage lessons, lectures, working equitation, trails, Sunday fun day and more

Registration opens March 1: For more information

www.nodarider.org/dressage-camp-for-adults



NODA Newsletter and Website Advertising
 Northern Ohio Dressage Association
 is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Education Organization

Ads go in the NODA News and ALSO on the NODA Website
 reaching dressage enthusiasts by mail and on the web!

What do YOUR ad fees support?
 The NODA News - in print and online
 AND NODA Education Events

Get the WORD OUT about YOUR Services!
 Support NODA!
 Support DRESSAGE in NE Ohio!

SAVE when you pay for more months up front!
 Secure ONLINE application and payment with a credit card or PayPal
 at www.nodarider.org/Advertisers&Sponsors

NODA Schedule of Advertising Options				
Page Size	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
Full Page	\$100.00	\$250.00	\$500.00	\$900.00
Half Page	\$55.00	\$137.00	\$275.00	\$495.00
Qtr Page	\$26.00	\$65.00	\$130.00	\$235.00
Bus Card	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$180.00



FAIRMOUNT FARMS

Pan Am Games Gold Medalist
Kate Poulin now permanently
located at Fairmount Farms,
a custom built, world class facility
located in Hiram, Ohio

www.KatePoulin.com
1 386 624 3968
@FairmountFarmsDressage

SAVE the DATES for 2023 Schooling Shows, Education, and Recognized Shows!

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| March 11 | JR/Young Rider Clinic with Cassandra Hummert Johnson, Flow Equestrian |
| April 15 | Scribe Clinic, Bainbridge Library |
| April 16 - 17 | Dressage Professional Initiative 2023, Instructor, Olympian Jen Baumert |
| April 16 | An Evening with Jen Baumert - open to all members |
| May 13 & 14 | Dressage 2023 and Dressage 2023 Encore, USEF/USDF Recognized Shows, Chagrin Valley Farms |
| May 27 | Ride-a-Test Clinic, Chagrin Valley Farms |
| May 28 | NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms |
| June 8-11 | Dressage and More Camp, Brecksville Stables |
| June 25 | NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Rocky River Stables |
| July 30 | DATE CHANGE NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms |
| August 20 | NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Rocky River Stables |
| September 10 | NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms |
| October 7 | NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms |
| October 8 | Summer Series Schooling Show Championships, <i>must be a member must qualify</i> , Chagrin Valley Farms |

*Details on all events will be posted in the newsletter and on NODA's Website
www.nodarider.org when available*

An Overview of NODA's New Test Seminar with Margaret Freeman

By Mosie Welch, Editor NODA News

On January 7 About 50 NODA members spent the day in the warmth of the Bainbridge Library participating in the New Test Seminar with Margaret Freeman, USEF "S" Judge.

Over the course of the day, using the USDF "On the Levels" thumb drive containing test rides, Margaret presented changes in the new 2023 USDF Introductory Level and USEF Training through Fourth Level. Margaret took advantage of the other judges in the room and all participants got a good perspective as these seasoned professionals engaged in brief discussions on some of the finer points. But true to form, Margaret, who has presented new tests clinics several times for NODA also spent time reviewing test tips from the judge's perspective, providing a few thoughts on "showmanship," and answering many questions. We all enjoyed a boxed lunch as well as snacks along with some time to chat. Here are some highlights of this very informative event coordinated by Sally Burton and Patti Valencic, NODA's Education committee Co-chairs.



About 50 members joined Margaret Feeman and NODA at the Bainbridge Library for NODA's New Test Clinic at the Bainbridge Library on January 7. Photo by Sally Burton.

Advance Preparation for a Show

READ your test sheets and start with the purpose. Do this well in advance of your competition so you know how to direct your training. It should be no surprise what a judge is looking for because it's listed next to each movement on the test sheet in the column labeled directives and is like a blueprint you're your training. The directive is what the judge will evaluate in the order listed for each movement. At Training Level test 1, movement 1, "A Enter working trot, X Halt, salute, Proceed Working trot," the directive reads, "Regularity and quality of trot; willing, calm transitions; straightness; attentiveness; immobility (3 seconds)." If a horse's gait is not regular that will impact the score even if the halt is square and immobile.

Memorize your test. Even though you plan to have a reader, if you memorize you can focus on riding movements instead of worrying about what is next or which way to turn when you're in the test ring. And if your reader makes a mistake (and they do), you can continue on with your test ride without panic.

Visualize yourself riding the test including using your cor-

ners, your circle touch points, and where you anticipate a half halt to be needed. "Know the test so well that you are actually riding the horse and not the test. Then practice riding half halt to half halt." Visualize the correctness you want to achieve.

Practice, practice, practice

riding your test at home. Know what it feels like to ride the test and learn to correct mistakes quickly.

Coefficients always focus on movements that focus on impulsion and submission. Take the time to train these movements at home. For instance, practice your walk tours in a test.

Print off a copy of the Dressage Rules and put them in your gear bag. They can be found at <https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/F3p8pgrWgAo/dr-dressage-division>. That way you don't have to depend on someone else at a show or worse, suffer because you accepted incorrect information from someone at the show.

The Judges Point of View

Accuracy Matters! Don't leave points on the table. Circles should be round and the correct size. Ride a correct corner. Transitions should be between or at the designated letters. Know how to ride a loop at the designated gait for your test.

Twenty-meter circles are round and "the basic exercise of all the work that we do in dressage." A twenty-meter circle demonstrates the correctness of the training we do for the benefit of the horse. A circle is four arcs and there are no straight lines. Riders must know the touch points for the size circle they are riding.

Halt requires the horse being immobile for three seconds. Remember the halt before a rein back is a halt. When you are preparing to halt at X, don't look to the side to find E or B because that can affect your straightness. Instead, when you are on the centerline and E and B disappear from your peripheral vision, that is where you halt. If you overshoot the centerline when making your turn, get back on the

center line ASAP. A crossed front leg into the halt is a loss of balance caused by using more hand than leg into the halt. Halt is only one component of the first and last movement on each test, not the whole movement. Note that quality of gaits is listed before immobility in the directives in each of these boxes.

Movements on the centerline require that you understand how to ride straight on the line A – X - C. Anytime you are off the line during a movement meant to be ridden on the centerline you will receive a lower score for that movement. If you get off the center line, move back to it as quickly as possible.

Basics are the key at every level. Training Level skills are crucial and necessary to ride 3rd Level right through the FEI Grand Prix. A great example is the Stretchy Circle. “The stretchy chewy (circle) is not about gravity it’s about connection. The goal is to develop a trained response so when a rider softens the hand forward the horse reaches for the bit.” The judge is looking to see that when the riders’ hands move forward the horse follows. This trained release with a correct response by the horse is necessary for the Grand Prix. One use of the release by good upper-level riders is to “provide the horse with subtle releases which allow for momentary breaks” in the demanding work of the test or upper-level schooling.

“Corners are your windows of opportunity” and an essential skill of test riding at all levels. You should learn to ride a good corner as early as possible. “Think of riding corners as a real estate concept. If you cut your corners you are throwing away arena space and the opportunity to re-balance your horse.” Don’t rush through the corner, instead ride corners with the goal to half halt and rebalance to prepare for the next movement in the test.

Collection is the key to Second Level. A horse needs more engagement, more lift, and more carrying. Collection is “bigger” not smaller and takes more conditioning. The transition from First to Second Level is tough and many times judges see horses at this level “slowed down” rather than collected. Take the time to develop the necessary strength through the correct use of shoulder in, simple changes, and counter canter in your work.

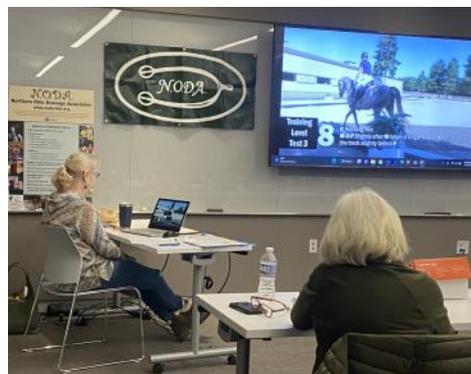
Schooling shows are great preparation for a recognized show. The change in venue, the distractions, and the busy warm-up can and probably will affect you or your horse. Take the opportunity at schooling shows to learn how to fix a movement that goes wrong as quickly as possible. When you find yourself off course, in the wrong gait, or managing a spook, the faster you fix it, the higher your

score will be. If your horse takes the wrong canter lead, swaps leads, or drops out of a gait, get the correct gait back as soon as possible. If a horse drops out of a gait if you don’t fix it you will get dinged for both dropping out of the gait and for the transition the judge never got to see. Learn to ride with distractions at home and on the show grounds. It’s easy to tell the kids to stop running or wish the person with the squeaky wheelbarrow would go away, but these are opportunities for training, and we should all learn to manage them. And above all, do not “expect a unicorn at the show.”

“Take each comment relative to the score in the box beside it.” When you get your test, review your movement scores, judges’ comments, collective marks, and further comments in relation to the purpose of the test and movement directives. For instance, at Second Level, test 1, movement 19, Medium Trot if you receive a score of 5 (marginal) with engagement and uphill balance underlined in the directive and a comment of “needs more from behind,” your horse is not demonstrating this today and you have work to do to receive a score of 6 (satisfactory). Now you’ve done your homework and additional training and you get the same comment with a 7 (fairly good) and you wonder why the judge is giving you the same homework. This judge does not have to make a comment but is taking the time to tell you that they see the opportunity for more from your horse and this is the work you need to do to get an even higher score. Be happy because the judge thinks your horse can go further. No comment is required with scores of 7 or above, so a 7 with lack of comment may mean the judge thinks your horse is doing the best it can.

A Few Notes on Actual Test Changes

We did spend the day reviewing each test with changes and significant information at each level. Here are a few tidbits and test changes. I’m not going to try to list every single test change here.



Patty Keim (seated at the front table left) volunteered to manage the USDF “On the Levels” video for Margaret over the course of the day. Photo by Mosie Welch

Intro Level is introductory for green horses or riders. Judges with an eye to Training Level Standards is what riders should expect “or there would be no standard. When changing diagonals at this level there should be no

Dressage Scoring System and What the Numbers Mean

From the USDF Website - go to www.usdf.org/about/about-dressage/competition/tests.asp

Each movement is scored on a scale of 0 (not performed) to 10 (excellent). Total points for the test are added up and noted as a percent to the total possible number of points for that test. A percentage of 65% or higher is generally thought to mean the horse is ready to move up a level.

Score	Performance Level
10	Excellent
9	Very good
8	Good
7	Fairly good
6	Satisfactory
5	Marginal
4	Insufficient
3	Fairly bad
2	Bad
1	Very bad
0	Not performed

Review Your Test Early

Read the Purpose.

What movements does this test introduce?

Read the directive for each movement.

Be familiar with the scores and collective mark categories.

Let this be your training blueprint.



Collective Mark Categories

Gaits: The freedom and regularity.

Impulsion: Desire to move forward, elasticity of the steps, suppleness of the back, engagement of the hindquarters.

Submission: The horse's attention and confidence, lightness and ease of movements, acceptance of the bridle, lightness of the fore-

Rider's position and seat.

Rider's correctness and effect of the aid.

RIVENDEL FARM

DRESSAGE INSTRUCTION
BOARDING - TRAINING

INDOOR & OUTDOOR RINGS - CROSS COUNTRY COURSE
QUALITY CARE - TURN OUT

Dale Lappert
"R" Dressage Judge

Garrettsville, OH
Cell 440-813-4009

Bonnie Gray
Instructor/Trainer

North Crest Equestrian Center



Julie R Taylor

Instructor/Trainer

Northcrest44@aol.com

**Dressage Lessons & Training
Lesson Horses Available**

31735 Walker Road, Avon Lake OH 44012
440-933-4654 www.NorthCrestEquestrian.com

disruption of the regularity of the gait. If a test says the something can happen between two letters, use all your “real estate.” So if the test says between C & H Medium Walk, you can transition down at C or H or anywhere in between. The goal is to allow the rider to prepare for a quality change of movement.

In Training Level Test 3 the serpentine is out and the look is back with a diagram on the back of the test sheet showing how to ride the loop. Key in this movement are gaits, bend, use of corners, and knowing your touch points. The directions are specific. In a H-K-X loop the test says to “Slightly after H begin a single loop to X returning to the track slightly before K.” The directive for this movement is “Regularity and quality of trot’ bend and balance in turns; shape and size of loop; changes of bend; balance.” This is another great example of the test sheet being a blueprint for what the judges are looking for.

First Level tip; for a lengthening, please don’t change post or if you are sitting the trot before a lengthening, don’t start to post until the horse starts to lengthen. It will stop the forward movement. The canter lengthening has been removed from First Level Test 1. In First 2 note that the transitions into and out of the canter lengthening’s are between letters and gradual. And in First 3 the transitions in and out of canter lengthenings are at the letter. This means judges expect more as you progress in through first level and you should be prepared for that.

At Second Level you can no longer post the trot. Riders, “PLEASE invest time in your seat and the suppleness of your seat.” Collection, as noted earlier is the key to second level. As well as the exercises noted earlier, schooling 20 meter circles working to collected trot and back is beneficial and helps to strengthen the horse. Second level is complicated because the “pattern is difficult to execute if not in collection.”

At Third Level all movements including a flying change of lead are coefficients of 2. The correct flying change requires strength in the hind end. Margaret recommended backing off the change and training a lot of counter canter for the horse struggling with their lead changes. Then after several months go back to the change and ask from counter canter to regular canter.

Fourth Level “is a roadmap to PSG and I-1. The judges want to see basics carry the horse on to the FEI. At this level the horse has “gotta have sit!” Fourth Level Test 3 is a harder pattern than PSG. Margaret said to “think of all the canters your horse should be able to do by this level; working, lengthened, medium, extended, collected, pirouette canter, and actual pirouette. “You must be able to access all of these canters to go to the FEI.” In Fourth Level Test 1, movement 16 “Circle left 20 meters, 5-6 strides of very collected canter between the quarterlines” the directive is looking for “well defined transitions; engagement and collection throughout the size of circle and bend.” The key to this movement with a coefficient of 2 is the shoulder fore.

The transition that plagues upper level riders and especially Grand Prix riders is the canter to trot transition where the “horse falls into a hole.” Judges look for this because it is a demonstration of whether or not the horse has thoroughness and is often the lowest score on a Grand Prix test. To fix this a rider must go back to basics.



Margaret provided the commentary for the USDF “On the Levels” video for this presentation, but if you purchases the thumb drive from the USDF Store the tests will be judged and the commentary provided by judges.

Photo by Mosie Welch

There was so much more included in Margaret’s thorough presentation, but one can only take notes so fast and make an article so long. I left the Bainbridge Library armed with an increased understanding of how to use the test sheets to my advantage well before I ever set foot on a show ground. And having audited the L program when NODA offered it, Margaret’s presentation reinforced and expanded on my understanding of the thought process a judge goes through in just seconds to determine a score and comment for each movement. I especially appreciate Margaret’s interpreting how to read the judges comments relative to the test score of each movement because it sheds light on what a judge is conveying.

The new 2023 Dressage Tests took effect on December 1, 2022, and remain in effect through November 11, 2026. Tests can be found and downloaded online at www.usdf.org/competitions/competitors/tests.asp. You can buy an affordable test book or the USDF “On the Levels” with video and judges’ commentary on a thumb drive in the USDF Store at <https://store.usdf.org/>.

Happy Training and Showing in 2023!

Membership News

Fran Cverna, Membership Chair

Membership@nodarider.org

NODA's 2021 Membership Year 12/01/2022– 11/30/2023



Region 2

Welcome New Members!

Sincere **THANK YOU** to all of you who have renewed your NODA membership for 2023!

Grace Clifford, Emily Croson, Amy Deems, Madison Eidens, Kristin Hermann, Selina Kozlowski, Debra Sue Reed, Elizabeth Sambor, Veronica Sambor, Kristen Stofan, Danielle Struna, Linda Ulinski, Ella Workman

As of January 18, NODA has 170 members.

If you are one of 145 who have not renewed your membership for 2023

THIS IS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER



Renew by mailing a membership form or renew online at www.nodarider.org.

**WE
WILL
MISS
YOU!**

*Thank You for Your Donation
with your membership!*

Donna Wolfe



Education Events!

April 15: Insight from the Judge- Learn to Scribe Clinic with Barb Soukup at Bainbridge Library

April 16-17: Dressage Professionals Initiative at Endeavor Farm/ART dressage

April 16: An Evening with Jen Baumert at Endeavor Farm/ART dressage

May 27: Ride-a-Test Clinic at Chagrin Valley Farms

June 8-11: Dressage Adventure and More for Adults at Brecksville Stables

Details: <https://www.nodarider.org>



NODA IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE:

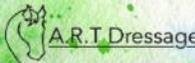
2023 DRESSAGE PROFESSIONALS INITIATIVE

An opportunity for actively teaching USDF professionals to become more effective instructors

With Jen Baumert

SESSION 1: APRIL 16-17, 2023
Endeavor Farm/ART Dressage
2910 Old Mill Road Hudson, OH

Registration opens March 1, 2023
MUST be a NODA Professional Member



Member Benefit! FREE Advertising for Our Members

Please feel free to send an email to mosie-editor@nodarider.org with the information for your listing.
USEF/USDF Professionals may include a jpeg photo saved at 300 dpi or higher
Deadline April 10



NODA Member Services Directory Registration

Email submission to Mosie Welch at directory@nodarider.org OR Mail to: Mosie Welch 8195 Guilford Road, Seville OH 44273

Closing Date for Submissions: April 10

Directory will run in the NODA News, Issue 5, and on the website from May 1, through April 30

Sample Entry Example: Barb Soukup; Teacher, Trainer, Coach, Clinics, Judging, 30+ years in Dressage USEF, USDF;
NAWD Professional Member, USDF L Graduate with Distinction, Traditional
and Western Dressage through Intermediate. At BaR S Ranch or throughout Northeast Ohio
440-339-3980 barbsoukup@aol.com

USEF/USDF Professionals: USEF Judge, L Graduate, Technical Delegate, Instructor/Trainer, etc.

Photo with listing: USEF equestrian professionals please provide a jpeg photo to run with your listing. Email a jpg saved in 300 dpi or higher as an email attachment.

Member Name: _____ Name of Business: _____
Are You a Professional as designated by the United States Dressage Federation: Yes ___ No ___
Service(s) Offered: Horse Training ___ Rider Instruction ___ Boarding ___ Horse Sales ___ other _____
Certification(s): _____
Discipline (s): traditional dressage ___ western dressage ___ Eventing ___ Jumping ___ Levels _____ other _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____ Website: _____
Location/area: _____ Do you travel? _____

Non-USEF/USDF Equestrian Professionals and non-equestrian services: Such as Vet, farrier, boarding, therapy, equestrian equipment sales, non-equestrian services of any kind.

Member Name: _____ Name of Business: _____
Service(s) Offered: _____ Certification: _____
Twelve-word description of services: _____
Location: _____ Do You Travel yes ___ No ___
Phone: _____ Email: _____ Website: _____

For more information or help with your entry, contact Mosie Welch at directory@nodarider.org

Northern Ohio Dressage Association

www.nodarider.com



USDF is Hiring!

We currently have openings for an Administrative Coordinator, an Events Coordinator, and a Receptionist.

Get more information about joining our team here:

<https://www.usdf.org/about/about-usdf/careers.asp>



NODA Bucks 101

What are NODA Bucks? Why do I NEED them? What can I use them for? How many do I get?

What are NODA Bucks? Currently, NODA Bucks are a piece of paper that are initialed and dated by the coordinator of the program or event and handed to you or mailed to you. You can use these as currency for NODA events, membership, and year end awards. NODA Bucks are earned whenever you volunteer at a NODA event or provide a service to NODA such as write an run tests at a show, article or take photos at an event.

Why do I NEED NODA Bucks? If you want to apply for year-end awards you NEED four (4) NODA Bucks for every horse and rider combination.

What else are NODA Bucks good for? NODA Bucks are good for everything NODA! You can use NODA Bucs to help pay for your membership, schooling shows, clinics, the year –end Awards Celebration and Brunch, and education seminars. You can use your NODA Bucks to treat your Mom or your coach to the Year-end Celebration and Brunch! NODA Bucks stretch your earned dollars.

Who can earn NODA Bucks? You can earn NODA Bucks for yourself or your family and friends can help you by earning them.

How many NODA Bucks do I get? If you write a column for the newsletter you get four NODA Bucks, if you write a full article you get 8 to 12 NODA Bucks. If you volunteer for a shift at a schooling show or the recognized show you get 8 NODA Bucks.

What if I don't get my NODA Bucks? Oh DEAR! Do contact the program manager or your liaison (find information on page three) to get your NODA Bucks. YOUR time is valuable and we appreciate every hour you give because NODA needs volunteers.

Thank you for volunteering for NODA!



SAVE THE DATES

2023 USEF RECOGNIZED DRESSAGE SHOWS

MARCH 18-19, 2023
USEF/USDF Lake Erie College Winter Dressage Show
Judge: Cindy Canace "S" NJ

APRIL 21-23, 2023
USEF/USDF Lake Erie College Dressage Prix de Villes
Judge: Natalie Lamping "S" FL

JUNE 10-11, 2023
USEF/USDF Lake Erie College Dressage Derby Judge:
Lisa Schmidt "S" NJ | Judge: Doreen Horsey "S" AB

PLUS

SEPTEMBER 23, 2023
Lake Erie College Dressage Schooling Show to benefit the IDA dressage team
Judge: TBA

 **LAKE ERIE**
COLLEGE

 facebook.com/LECequestudies

391 WEST WASHINGTON STREET | PAINESVILLE, OH 44077 | LEC.EDU



**Northern Ohio Dressage Association
2023 Membership Form**

NODA membership runs
12/1/2022 through 11/30/2023

**NODA is a United States Dressage Federation
Group Member Organization (GMO)**



A portion of your NODA membership dues goes towards your group membership in USDF. A USDF Group Membership (GM) makes you eligible for USDF Rider Awards. Group Members may participate in recognized shows without the payment of USDF non-member fees, are eligible to earn university credits, receive member discount rates for USDF events, and receive the *USDF Connection* magazine. (Supporting Family members do not receive a subscription to the *USDF Connection* – one magazine per “family.”) See www.nodarider.org or www.usdf.org for eligibility to qualify for USDF regional and national championships. Note that Participating Membership in USDF is needed to compete in USDF Regional Championships.

Important INFORMATION:

- The printed [Schooling Show Prize List](#) and [Year-End Awards Program](#) details are mailed to members who join **before March 1, 2023**.
- NODA By-Laws, club information, shows, awards, newsletters, and events are available at www.nodarider.org.
- NODA membership includes a subscription to the printed newsletter *NODA News*.
- Online sign up fees are \$2.00 more because of processing fees
- **Two ways to join:**

Mail this form along with a check or

Sign up ONLINE from the MEMBERSHIP page at www.nodarider.org



Date _____ Renewal New

Approval to release your contact information to Big Dee's Tack and Vet Supplies?

(Big Dee's reimburses club 5% on members' purchases.) Yes, I approve _____ No, I do not approve _____

Name _____ USDF # _____

Adult Amateur Professional Youth, birth date required: _____

Youth is a NODA membership category that includes both Juniors (JR) and Young Riders (YR). Sign up for YOUTH membership unless you turn 22 or older in 2023. If you turn 22 or older in 2023, you must sign up for Adult Amateur or Professional membership.

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Additional Family Member Name _____ USDF # _____

(Must live at same address; includes ALL benefits except for USDF magazine and NODA newsletters)

Adult Amateur Professional Youth, birth date required: _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Additional Family Member Name _____ USDF # _____

(Must live at same address; includes ALL benefits except for USDF magazine and NODA newsletters)

Adult Amateur Professional Youth, birth date required: _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

To add more family members, use other side of form, or contact membership@nodarider.org

Newsletter subscription without membership Fill out this section only for a Newsletter subscription without membership. This is not a membership and excludes USDF GMO Membership, discounts, eligibility for NODA awards or Schooling Show Championship.

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City, State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Membership Dues (Check or cash)

Adult Amateur or Professional	\$49.00	\$ _____
Youth	\$35.00	\$ _____
Golden-Ager (at least 75 years old) <small>Must be 75 years old or older as of December 1, 2022</small>	\$24.00	\$ _____
Additional Family Member <small>Full membership, must live at same address</small>	\$20.00	\$ _____
Additional Family Member <small>Full membership, must live at same address</small>	\$20.00	\$ _____
Newsletter subscription only (not membership)	\$24.00	\$ _____
Additional Donation		\$ _____
Subtract NODA Bucks enclosed.....		-\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$ _____

**Please make checks payable to NODA.
Mail to:**

**Fran Cverna
NODA Membership
12212 Snow Rd
Burton, OH 44021**

QUESTIONS?

**Membership questions: Contact Fran Cverna
440-834-1774 or Membership@nodarider.org**

NODA is a 501(C)3 Educational Organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Classifieds

Classified Ads Info

NODA Member BENEFIT

One free ad at a time for 2 issues
60 words or less FREE
60- 80 words \$10.00
Photo \$10.00/Two Issues

Non-member Ads/2 issues

60 words or less \$10.00
60—80 words Add \$5.00
PHOTO w/ad \$20.00

Submit Ad & Payment
by 15th of the Month

SUBMIT Classifieds ONLINE

CLASSIFIED ADS

OR

Check payable to NODA:

Jennifer Cooper
6395 Paine Road
Painesville, OH 44077

Email ads to:

Classifieds Editor
Jennifer Cooper

216-469-3920

Classifieds@nodarider.org

Tack/Equip for Sale

Saddle for Sale pictured below: 17" Borne dressage saddle, horse size bridle with 4" bit and bling brow band, 30" shoulder relief girth, black contoured saddle pad, girth cover and saddle cover, reins too. Excellence condition. \$2500 for all. Contact Kim at 330-569-4894. (4/23)



Boarding/Barn Help

Seeking board for two Dressage horses. Are you Looking to share chores and offset some of your horse care costs? I'm willing to assist with daily duties so you can have a life! Prefer smaller facility with indoor and/or outdoor arenas with grass turnout. Extensive co-op experience. References available. Southern Medina County preferred 330-606-7321 (4/23)

Horse for Lease

3rd Level Schoolmaster for On-site Lease - Granger, OH. Elmegaardens Affair, 17.0h, 19-year old. Knabstrupper Mare. Comfortable gaits, level-headed. Adult amateur unicorn, super safe and fun horse! Goes out alone on trail and walks on the buckle. Located next to Hinckley Metroparks trails. Has also done mounted archery! New 100'x200' indoor arena with dust-free footing.

Contact: michaelwillhamev-enting@gmail.com for info (5/23)

Professional Services

**Members!
Use Your Member
Benefit
Put your two month
Free Ad
Here!**



Photo and Article Submission Guidelines for NODA News

PHOTO Submission Guidelines

All Photo Requirements: high resolution, 300 dpi or higher in JPEG/JPG

Photos must be submitted as attachment to e-mails

NODA reserves the right to determine which photos will be published

NO photo will be used of any mounted rider without a helmet

Please include your name and the photographers name, horse's name, breed, hands, age & a description of the activity

Cover Photos for NODA News

Size: Portrait friendly format with uncluttered background—send without cropping.

Article Guidelines

Articles should highlight subjects of interest to NODA membership such as horsemanship, equestrian experiences, dressage, Western dressage, cross training, education, clinic reviews, horse management, rider training, horse or rider fitness, member spotlight or interview.

NODA reserves the right to edit for grammar, flow, and space constraints without changing the intended meaning.

NODA specific articles will have priority in the NODA News.

Photographs enhance your article – see Photo Submission Guidelines

NODA News Editors will determine when an article runs based on space

NODA reserves the right to refuse an article

Photos and articles are eligible for NODA bucks

Mosie-editor@nodarider.org

Tack/Equip for Sale

Saddles for Sale - Kept in heated/air conditioned tack room. Good condition. No fittings included. Photos available upon request.

PRESTIGE X HELEN K Dressage Saddle, black calfskin leather, monoflap, 17-inch seat, knee blocks, deep seat, 34/medium wide adjustable tree. \$2,800
Frank Baines, Elegance Dressage Saddle, 18-inch seat, medium wide tree.

Mosie-editor@nodarider.org (5/23)



Northern Ohio Dressage Association

The Northern Ohio Dressage Association is a United States Dressage Federation (USDF) Group Member Organization.

All members of NODA are USDF group members.

For USDF participating membership, apply directly to the USDF at www.usdf.org

NODA Board Meetings, Second Wednesday of the Month - Your Ideas are Welcome

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 6:45 PM - Virtual Meeting

NODA welcomes member comments, concerns, ideas, and questions regarding NODA activities, shows, and policies.

Please contact your member liaison ([page 3](#)) to get a link to the board meeting

find *NODA* on social media



[@NodaDressage](#)



[@NODA_Dressage](#)



www.nodarider.org



[@NODA_Dressage](#)

Calendar of Events

Full calendar at **EVENTS** tab at www.nodarider.org

Send submissions to mosie-editor@nodarider.org

March 26 Chagrin Valley Farm Dressage Schooling Show
<https://chagrinvalleyfarms.com/shows/>

April 15 Scribe Clinic, 9:30-11:30am with Barb Soukup, Bainbridge Library. FREE
www.nodarider.org

April 16 - 17 Dressage Professional Initiative 2023
Instructor, Jen Baumert.
www.nodarider.org

April 21 - 23, 2023 Dressage Prix de Villes, Lake Erie College
NEW THREE-DAY FORMAT
www.nodarider.org/event

April 23 Chagrin Valley Farm Dressage Schooling Show
<https://chagrinvalleyfarms.com/shows/>

May 13 & 14 NODA Dressage 2023 and Dressage 2023 Encore. NODA Recognized Shows, Chagrin Valley Farms
www.nodarider.org

May 20&21 Ohio Dressage Society Recognized Show, Brave Horse
www.ohiodressagesociety.com

June 8-11, 2023, Dressage and More Camp. Brecksville Stables. www.nodarider.org

May 28 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms
www.nodarider.org

June 25 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Rocky River Stables
www.nodarider.org

July 30 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms **DATE CHANGE**
www.nodarider.org

August 20 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Rocky River Stables
www.nodarider.org

Sept 17 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms
www.nodarider.org

October 7 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms
www.nodarider.org

October 8 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show Championships
Riders must be members and qualify
Chagrin Valley Farms
www.nodarider.org

Northern Ohio Dressage Association

Presents

Dressage 2023

Dressage 2023 Encore

USDF/USEF Recognized Shows Weekend

May 13 and 14

Chagrin Valley Farms

Save the Dates

Judges

Carter Bass (S) Scott Peterson (S)

Technical Delegate

Joe Coleman

Show Manager: Suzanne Groselle - RS-Chair@nodarider.org

Northern Ohio Dressage Association
is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Education Organization

NODA News
8195 Guilford Road
Seville, Ohio 44273

NONPROFIT
Bulk Rate
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 6
Novelty, OH 44072

NODA Newsletter and Website Advertising Rates

Apply and make your payment ONLINE at www.nodarider.org/Advertisers&Sponsors

Payment Deadline: 10th of the month to reserve space in *NODA News* for the next issue.

Ads will be run print and digitally for the same amount of time.

E-mail print ready ads in JPEG or .TIF format
Select high quality or commercial printing, 300 dpi or higher when saving the file.

Send to Jennifer at Advertisers@nodarider.org

Advertising Rates - reduced rates for 3, 6, and 12 issues

	Width x Height	1 Issues	3 issues	6 Issues	12 Issues
Full Page	7.5" X 10"	\$100	\$250	\$500	\$900
Half Page	7.5" X 5"	\$55	\$137	\$275	\$495
Quarter Page	3.75" X 5"	\$26	\$65	\$130	\$235
Business Card	3.75" X 2"	\$20	\$50	\$100	\$180

Online with credit card/paypal at www.nodarider.org/Advertisers&Sponsors

By mail: complete form & enclose payment in full with check payable to NODA. Send to:
Jennifer Cooper, Advertising Editor 6395 Paine Road, Painesville, Ohio 44077

If applying and paying by check complete this form and mail with your payment

Date: _____ Number of issues ad will run, choose one: **1 issue** _____ **3 issues** _____ **6 Issues** _____ **12 Issues** _____

Ad Size: _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____ USD First Issue/year ad will run: _____

Name: _____ Company: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____



ONLINE application and Payment is encouraged www.nodarider.org