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Administrative Council Committee Reports

Bylaws Committee Report

Chair: Chris Trentelman, FL

Liaison: Sarah Garn

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Janine Malone, NC	Sue Hughes, MI
Barbara Cadwell, FL	Robert Higgins, FL
Carrie Cross, NE	Heather Petersen, CO
Gaye McCabe, OR	Peter Rothschild, WA
Diane Nell, CA	Bess Bruton, TX*

*New member(s) of the Bylaws Committee for 2024.

Mission: To provide for the fair and equitable governance of the United States Dressage Federation.

Goals:

1. Recommend bylaw amendments as needed.
2. Present amendments to the USDF Board of Governors (BOG) General Assembly for ratification.

2024 Objectives:

1. Recommend proposed bylaws amendments as needed.
2. Discuss and draft bylaws amendments as required by the USDF Executive Board, committees, and members to be presented to the BOG in the future.

Progress to Date:

- The proposed bylaws amendments that were approved by the 2023 BOG were incorporated into the USDF Bylaws document.
- The revised Bylaws document was posted on the USDF website and distributed to USDF's governance representatives.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

Group Member Organizations Committee Report

Chair: Loretta Lucas, FL

Liaison: Jill Chamblin

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Dr. Lisa Toaldo, NJ	Jeri Fuller-Matheny, KY
Megan Ward, IA*	Bobbi Lehman, AZ
Kathryn Lewis, WA	Michele Ng, CA
Carolyn Tice, CA	Dawn Mackenzie, MA
Jennifer Jarvis, TX	

*New member(s) of the Group Member Organizations Committee for 2024.

Mission: To accelerate the growth and development of Group Member Organizations (GMOs) to broaden and strengthen the dressage community and increase access to education.

Goals:

1. To promote the education of GMO leadership.
2. To offer support and materials.
3. To provide a network of others with experience.
4. To administer the GMO awards.

2024 Objectives:

1. Continue promotion of GMO educational programs and material.
2. Choose topics and moderators for GMO roundtable discussions.
3. Request USDF Executive Board approval for a GMO educational session at the annual convention, providing suggestions for a topic and lecturer.
4. Continue to provide questions quarterly for the USDF GMO trivia challenge.
5. Make GMO Volunteer Incentive Program pins available to members that earn them.
6. Secure judges for the 2024 USDF GMO Awards Program.

Progress to Date:

- Determined topic for the GMO education session at the 2024 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention: “Virtual Lessons: Tips, Tricks, and Pitfalls for Your GMO Members.”
- Changed trivia challenge to a “Did you Know?” section in the quarterly eNews, with answers to appear in the USDF GMO Officials Facebook group
- Selected roundtable topics for 2024:
 1. How to get youth involved
 2. Putting the fun back in fundraising
 3. Social license to operate and your GMO
- Assigned judges for the 2024 GMO awards.
- Provided input for a marketing plan that will target Participating Members who are not Group Members.
- Developing a welcome packet for new GMO presidents, with a copy to be included in the convention bag.
- Collaborating with the USDF Education Department to develop a book club.

Concerns: We continue to be concerned about the lack of awareness of GMO programs and benefits, and the difficulty many members have navigating the USDF website.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. GMO education session for the 2024 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention to be addressed in the convention education presentation.

Historical Recognition Committee Report

Chair: Jennifer Bryant, PA

Liaison: Chelsey Burris

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Lauren Annett, PA	Margaret Freeman, NC*
Bettina Longaker, VA	Anne Moss, PA
Roz Kinstler, FL	Charlotte Trentelman, FL
Roberta Williams, FL	Annalucy Keller, ID
Terry Wilson, CA	Sally Davenport, MA*

*New member(s) of the Historical Recognition Committee for 2024.

Mission: To recognize and celebrate the rich heritage of dressage in America through education and promotion.

Goals:

1. Oversee and coordinate Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Member of Distinction selection.
2. Work with USDF and assist in the development and selection of materials and criteria for the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame building.
3. Gather and archive information on the heritage of USDF.

2024 Objectives:

1. Nominate suitable candidates for the Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Member of Distinction.
2. Provide input regarding content for the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame.
3. Continue the concerted effort to collect historical information regarding the GMOs, acting as voluntary repository.
4. Continue recording interviews or other video content with the Hall of Fame inductees and Lifetime Achievement Award recipients for use in USDF educational resources, on the USDF website, and the National Education Center.

Progress to Date:

- Initial solicitations for 2024 Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Member of Distinction nominations have gone out on USDF's social media pages, with more reminders scheduled leading up to the May 1 deadline.
- Videos of the acceptance speeches of the 2023 recipients are scheduled to be posted on *YourDressage* and across social media to promote interest before May 1.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

Nominating Committee Report

Chair: Linda Mendenhall, MA

Liaison: Sarah Garn

2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE

2023 Regional Representatives:

Region 1:	Lori Kaminski, MD	Region 6:	Tabitha Hopp, WA*
Region 2:	Molly Fine, IL	Region 7:	Paula Langan, CA
Region 3:	Barbara Cadwell, FL	Region 8:	Kate O'Connor, MA
Region 4:	Lin Nelson-Mayson, MN	Region 9:	Alecia Daniel, TX
Region 5:	Virginia Sorenson, UT*		

*New member(s) of the Nominating Committee for 2024.

Mission: To procure quality candidates to govern the United States Dressage Federation.

Goals:

1. Secure nominations for regional Participating Member (PM) delegates and the USDF Executive Board.
2. Ensure that all Group Members (GMs) are represented on the Board of Governors (BOG) by Group Member Organization (GMO) delegates.
3. Educate the membership about the candidates and oversee the election process.

2024 Objectives:

1. Procure nominations for PM delegates in all nine regions by April 15.
2. Procure nominations for the following USDF Executive Board positions by June 1st, aiming for each position to have one or more qualified candidates: president, treasurer, and regional director in USDF Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8.
3. Obtain GMO delegate and proxy appointments when designated by each GMO.
4. Oversee the election process.
5. Notify each GMO who fails to respond to delegate and proxy-holder requests that they lacked representation at the BOG.

Progress to Date:

- GMOs who failed to respond to delegate and proxy-holder requests were notified they lacked representation at the 2023 BOG meeting and were encouraged to appoint representation for the 2024 BOG meeting.
- Nominations are being procured for PM delegate positions in all nine regions, with the deadline for nominations being April 15 and the deadline for nominations to be accepted being April 30.

The below chart indicates status of PM delegate nominations as of March 7, 2024.

Region	# PM Delegates Allowed to Elect	Total # Nominations	Nominations Accepted	Nominations Declined	Have Not Responded
1	17	8	5	0	3
2	12	15	5	0	10
3	16	12	4	1	7
4	4	1	1	0	0
5	5	4	4	0	0
6	6	1	1	0	0
7	10	2	1	0	1
8	10	2	0	0	2
9	6	0	0	0	0

- Biographies from each PM delegate will appear on the USDF website, in e-mail communications to each region's PMs during the month of June (when voting takes place), and on *YourDressage.org*.
- Nominations are currently being procured for president, treasurer, and regional director in USDF Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8. The deadline for nominations is June 1. Nominations are also accepted from the floor of the BOG meeting.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

Technical Council Committee Reports

Competition Management Committee Report

Chair: Marinea St. Amand, WA

Vice Chair: Kevin Bradbury, MI

Liaison: Taylor Chism

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Kathryn Grisolia, KY	Andrea Davenport, AL
Carlie Evans, FL	Debra Reinhardt, FL
Heather Petersen, CO	Michael Taylor, ID
Regina Antonioli, CA	Anita Jaffe, NY
Marilyn Kulifay, TX	

*There are no new members of the Competition Management Committee for 2024.

Mission: To provide a network of competition managers and secretaries to promote quality and compliant dressage competitions.

Goals:

1. Provide competition management education.
2. Increase the number and quality of recognized competitions.
3. Review and communicate United States Equestrian Federation rule change proposals.
4. Provide the appropriate tools and processes for successful competitions.
5. Strengthen the communication between the Competition Management Committee and other committees, as well as the USDF office staff.

2024 Objectives:

1. Assist new competition managers and secretaries through the mentor program.
2. Provide educational opportunities to competition management.
3. Review and address other issues relevant to competition management.

Progress to Date:

- Held a well-attended educational event at the 2023 annual convention, "Moving Up Through the Levels."
- Reviewed and provided feedback on proposed rule changes by request of the Rules Advisory Working Group.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. Competition management education session for the 2024 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention to be addressed in the convention education presentation.

Instructor/Trainer Development Program Committee Report

Co-Chairs: Lilo Fore, CA and Sarah Geikie, CT

Liaison: Katherine Robertson

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Debbie Bowman, VA	Bailey Cook, NC
Kathryn Fleming-Kuhn, IL	Christopher Hickey, FL
Sarah Martin, FL	William McMullin, FL
Cathy Zappe, AL	Janet (Dolly) Hannon, CO
Kathy Simard, CO	Lendon Gray, NY
Ann Guptill, CT	Vicki Hammers-O'Neil, CT
Fern Feldman, CT	

*There are no new members of the Instructor/Trainer Development Program Committee for 2024.

Mission: To promote the pursuit of excellence in dressage instruction and training.

Goals:

1. To provide education from the grassroots to the professional level.
2. To provide access to online resources and learning modules.
3. To set instructor certification standards of proficiency.
4. To provide instructor certification opportunities.
5. To align the education of dressage participants at every level to the standards and levels of proficiency from Training Level through Grand Prix.

2024 Objectives:

1. Host FEI workshop and exam.
2. Host professional development assessment and exam.
3. Host dressage seminars in all three areas: riding/training, teaching, and lungeing.
4. Host the 2024 FEI level trainers conference.
5. Continue review of manuals.
6. Develop supplemental videos.

Progress to Date:

- An FEI education day was held following the trainers conference with Sven Rothenberger at Altersgait South in Loxahatchee, FL. Approximately 25 USDF certified instructors attended this additional opportunity.
- Over the past several months, the *Lungeing Manual* has been under review. Final edits are being reviewed this month. Once this review is completed, the group will be looking at the *Teaching and Training Manuals*.
- Several have expressed interest in the FEI A level certification. Plans are underway to host the first FEI A level program during the next Florida season. This group will include instructors who are current USDF certified instructors and those who are not currently certified.
- Members of the faculty and staff will be involved in a webinar about the program with Dressage4Kids in March.

- A press release was issued announcing six dressage seminars that have been scheduled for 2024 in the Northeast and Midwest. The current schedule is as follows:
 - April 21-22, 2024: lungeing seminar with Ann Guptil and Vicki Hammers-O'Neil at Fox Ledge Farm (East Haddam, CT)
 - July 14-15, 2024; riding seminar with Bill McMullin and Vicki Hammers-O'Neil at Weatogue Stables, (Salisbury, CT)
 - August 10-11, 2024; teaching seminar with Sarah Geikie and Bill McMullin at Sperry View Farm (Bethany, CT)
 - (June 29-30, 2024; riding seminar with Heidi Chote and Sarah Geikie at Coda Cavallo Dressage (Omaha, NE)
 - *July 6-7, 2024; teaching seminar with Heidi Chote and Sarah Geikie at Coda Cavallo Dressage (Omaha, NE) (to be rescheduled due to a conflict)*
 - October 19-20, 2024; lungeing seminar with Heidi Chote and Sarah Geikie at Coda Cavallo Dressage (Omaha, NE)
- As we move forward with our mentor program, letters have been sent to those (we can identify) who fit the criteria inviting them to join this aspect of the program. Those who express interest in joining the program will receive information and guidance on their role as mentor for the program.
- The first group of applicants in the professional development pathway are moving through the process.
- A review of the website for the program is underway. We are exploring additional online educational opportunities and resources, including a page that houses the online education and resources available for the program.
- An article about the program will be in an upcoming issue of *USDF Connection*.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

Judges Committee Report

Chair: Gary Rockwell, FL
Vice Chair: Michael Osinski, WA
Liaison: Sharon Vander Ziel

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Jeanne McDonald, PA	Marilyn Heath, FL
Amy Swerdlin, FL	Janet Foy, CO
Janet (Dolly) Hannon, CO*	Joan Darnell, WA
Teresa Stewart, WA	Kristi Wysocki, WA
Lois Yukins, MA	

*New member(s) of the Judges Committee for 2024.

Mission: To promote the pursuit of excellence in dressage judging.

Goals:

1. Provide educational opportunities for all levels of judges.
2. Continue to improve the training of individuals currently licensed or aspiring to be licensed judges.
3. Recognize progressive development of judges.

2024 Objectives:

1. Provide educational opportunities for all levels of judges and L graduates through the USDF Continuing Education (CE) Programs.
2. Review and update mission and goals as needed for the new committee structure.
3. Host the judges roundtable via Zoom over the winter.
4. Work with the L Program Committee to carry on with "The Judge's Box" in *USDF Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities within the area of judge education.
5. Continue to review/revise the licensed officials training programs, including quizzes and exams.
6. Provide input on proposed rule changes that pertain to judges and judging tests.
7. Streamline communication between working groups involved in judging, judge training, and test writing, including equitation, freestyle, and sport horse.
8. Monitor complaints about judges submitted by USDF members.

Progress to Date:

- The judges roundtable webinar, held January 10, 11:00-12:30 EST, was well attended with 269 attendees.
 - Chair Gary Rockwell addressed the comments that came in from competitions regarding judges and judging.
 - Mike Osinski gave a presentation on handling issues while panel judging, and judging material classes effeciantly.

- Technical Delegates Committee Chair Jean Kraus gave a presentation, “Dealing with Difficult Competitors,” which has been edited and placed on the USDF additional resources page for judges.
- Excerpts from the webinar are posted on the official judges resource website.
- There are nine CE in Dressage Judging Programs scheduled at the time of this report:

Start Date	Title	Region	GMO	Instructor
1/30/2024	Know The Movements (remote)	2	Indiana Dressage Society	Kathy Rowse
2/3/2024	CE in Judging Freestyle	1	Virginia Dressage Association(VADA)	Joan Darnell
2/4/2024	Judges Roundtable-Practice Judging	1	ESDCTA	Marilyn Payne
2/12/2024	Focus on Collective Marks (2 sessions- remote)	8	Dressage for Kids	Margaret Freeman
2/17/2024	CE in Judging Freestyle	9	Dallas Dressage Club	Joan Darnell
2/19/2024	Focus on Collective Marks (classroom)	1	VADA/NOVA chapter	Lisa Schmidt
3/30/2024	Know the Movements (classroom)	1	Three Rivers	Debbie Savage
4/27/2024	Upgrade your Judging Eye I & II	5	Sante Fe Dressage Association	Dolly Hannon
4/29/2024	Taste of the L Program (2 sessions-remote)	8	Dressage for Kids	Lisa Schmidt

- Dressage4Kids is hosting two remote programs as fundraisers for their programs.
- The “Know The Movements” presentation was shared with the Adult Programs Committee. It was edited and used for a webinar and convention presentation. California Dressage Society (CDS) also used the revised presentation for their annual meeting.
- The presentations developed as remote programs are also being used as classroom presentations and are a valuable resource for the presenters.
- Working groups within the Judges Committee developed the online exams now required for the USEF dressage judge designations for freestyle, equitation, and young horse.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

L Program Committee Report

Chair: Joan Darnell, WA

Vice Chair: Kathy Rowse, VA

Liaison: Sharon Vander Ziel

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Debbie Rodriguez, VA

Jayne Ayers, WI

Marilyn Heath, FL

Janet (Dolly) Hannon, CO*

Dorie Vlatten-Schmitz, AZ

Lois Yukins, MA

Lisa Schmidt, NJ

Judy Downer, FL*

Jodi Lees, SC

Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez, CO

Michael Osinski, WA

*New member(s) of the L Program Committee for 2024.

Mission: To provide a comprehensive educational program for the entire dressage community to learn about the equestrian discipline of dressage from the judge's point of view.

Goals:

1. Provide trainers, instructors, competitors and spectators insight into the evaluative techniques of judging dressage.
2. Prepare and evaluate candidates who wish to pursue entry into the USEF 'r' Judge Training Program.
3. Provide continuing education for licensed judges and L graduates.
4. Select and provide teaching materials to L faculty members.

2024 Objectives

1. Continue to develop and enhance the USDF L Education Program website to supplement what is presented in the classroom setting and to provide continuing education for L graduates and USEF-licensed dressage judges.
2. Work with the Judges Committee to carry on with "The Judge's Box" in *USDF Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities.
3. Continue communication with competition managers to promote the importance of their support of the Part 2 sessions.
4. Host a Zoom meeting for L participants and candidates to answer questions and listen to suggestions to enhance the program.
5. Continue to review the USDF L Education Program process to ensure the quality of candidates applying to the USEF 'r' Judge Training Program.
6. Select appropriate L faculty candidates to start the apprentice program.

Progress to Date:

- Judy Downer was approved to join the L Program faculty and L Program Committee.
- Kari McClain completed her apprentice requirements and was approved to join the L Program faculty. Kari will be added to the L Program Committee in 2025.
- The option of holding a classroom only D1 was approved. The faculty, with the help of staff, have developed the curriculum and resources to hold a very educational classroom session.

The organizer will have the option of choosing to hold the session at a competition (as previously done) or as a classroom only session.

- The Lower Puget Sound Dressage Club will be holding the first classroom only D1 May 4-5, 2024.
- All L Program course material, guidelines, and syllabi have been reviewed and revised as needed.
- At the time of this report, there are thirteen L Program sessions scheduled in 2024.
- GMO's that are hosting L Education Programs:
 - Indiana Dressage Society – Part 1 (Region 2)
 - GLASS-ED – Part 1 (Region 2)
 - Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association – Part 2 (Region 3)
 - Lower Puget Sound Dressage Club – Part 2 (Region 6)
 - Central Texas Dressage Society – Part 1 (Region 9)
- USDF L graduate logo wear was offered again in February. This is very popular with L graduates.
- A Zoom webinar for L participants and candidates is scheduled for April 24th at 6:00 pm. The aim is to provide guidance to those going through the program or are interested in attending. There will be a panel of L faculty to answer questions.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

Technical Delegates Committee Report

Chair: Jean Kraus, MO

Liaison: Bonnie Barr-Briggs

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Michelle King, VA	Angela Goodwin-Volpert, IN
Cheryl Tobey, GA	Dianne Stanley, FL
Susan Lang, KS	Kaye Phaneuf, OR
Doris North, CA	Paul Cormier, MA
Marilyn Kulifay, TX	Carolyn VandenBerg, TX

*There are no new member(s) of the Technical Delegates Committee for 2024.

Mission: To provide education and an organized voice for technical delegates (TDs).

Goals:

1. Provide educational programs for TDs and aspiring TDs.
2. Review United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) rules and rule change proposals.
3. Establish regular contact with all TDs through regional coordinators.
4. Establish a dialog between the Competition Management Committee and the Technical Delegates Committee in order to encourage show managers to use TDs as a resource.

2024 Objectives:

1. Continue our efforts to grow the ranks of licensed dressage TDs with help from the Veronica Holt Fund.
2. Continue to build our TD public relations and communications efforts to educate competitors, judges, and competition management about the role of the TD.
3. Continue to find the best approaches to keeping TDs as informed as possible.
4. Continue in our efforts to build communication between TDs and competition management.
5. Continue to develop new, and update existing, educational learning modules.

Progress to Date:

- Updated the "TD Resource Guide". This is available on the TD resource page of the website and is also available to members.
- Updated the TD candidate packet and "TD Mentor Guide". This included an update to the mentor list (in both packets), as several TDs retired their license this year.
- A TD town hall meeting was held on February 27, 2024. The focus of the town hall was to address any questions regarding new rules and how they are being implemented in the field. There were 74 TDs that attended.
- Conducted a survey of judges and competition management to gauge their interactions with TDs.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

Activities Council Committee Reports

Adult Programs Committee Report

Chair: Holly Hilliard, FL

Vice Chair: Gwen Ka'awaloa, CO

Liaison: Evelyn Lancione

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Jill Ekis, PA

Ken Levy, IN

Tashina Hadley Heiser, FL*

Carrie Cross, NE*

Kelly Vallandingham, MN

Frances Haupt, OR

Sarah Denham, TX

*New member(s) of the Adult Programs Committee for 2024.

Mission: To encourage, increase and enrich adult participation in dressage by providing educational opportunities and recognition of achievement.

Goals:

1. Provide concepts for new adult education programs.
2. Increase the number of and participation in USDF supported adult programs.
3. Improve communication and networking within and between regions, GMOs and the Adult Programs Committee to increase support of and participation in adult education.
4. Programs Committee to increase support of and participation in adult education.

2024 Objectives:

1. Increase awareness of the GMO Education Initiative (GEI) and grant opportunities.
2. Increase awareness of USDF education opportunities.
3. Develop topics for virtual education series and produce a minimum of four programs.
4. Continue to work with GMOs to identify education chairs.
5. Continue efforts to improve communication with USDF members.

Progress to Date:

- For 2023, the following certificates and diplomas were awarded:

Recognition Level	Number Awarded
Certificate	199
Diploma	125
Bronze Diploma	100
Silver Diploma	57
Gold Diploma	38
Platinum Diploma	19
Diamond Diploma	16

- In 2023, nine GEI events were approved and hosted.
- To date, there has been one GEI grant distributed in 2024, with one scheduled for March and several applications being processed.

GMO	Date	Event
California Dressage Society	1/21/2024	CDS Annual Meeting & Health Faire - Unmounted event, Purpose of the Movements presented by Sarah Geikie
Gulf Coast Chapter – Deep South Dressage & CTA	3/2 – 3/3/2024	Clinic with Matt McLaughlin - 2 day riding clinic with 45-minute private lessons, horses & riders of all levels

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. GEI guidelines.

Awards Committee Report

Chair: Amy Swerdlin, FL

Liaison: Cristen Brown

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Jessie Ginsburg, VA	Deborah Garris, IL
Jan Brons, FL	Mickayla Frederick, IA
Marie Maloney, KS	Cecilia Cox, NM
Jo Renn, WA	Doris North, CA
Diane Holston, MA	Elizabeth Clifton, MS

*There are no new members of the Awards Committee for 2024.

Mission: To encourage participation in dressage by recognizing excellence and rewarding progressive achievement.

Goals:

1. Organize and provide awards for horse of the year, freestyle, junior/young rider, adult amateur, vintage cup, all-breeds, performance certificates, individual rider awards, DSHB horse of the year, and materiale horse of the year.
2. Review existing awards requirements and programs.

2024 Objectives:

1. Finalize design and draft proposal for an additional award per level in the Horse Performance Certificate Program.
2. Draft proposals for a national level and FEI level Born in the USA Year-End Award perpetual trophy.
3. Generate online tutorials of relevant USDF Awards Program subject matter.
4. Explore opportunities to promote USDF Awards Programs.
5. Evaluate additional award options for senior riders.
6. Examine possible award options for year-end award champion riders.
7. Review and evaluate any possible changes to the current awards program's requirements and prizes.
8. Confirm award requirements provided in the *USDF Member Guide* are clear and up to date.

Progress to Date:

- Selected two shapes, circle and an ornate rectangle, for the potential stall plaque for the USDF Horse Performance Certificates.
- Finalized information needed to draft a proposal for a potential USEF and FEI levels "Bred in the USA" year-end award perpetual trophy.
- "How to Navigate your USDF Dashboard to Verify Award Eligibility", narrated by Amy Swerdlin, was selected as the first topic for the 2024 online tutorial series.
- Began discussion regarding potential USDF store products to provide additional recognition opportunities for USDF award recipients.
- Started analyzing possible enhancements to the current Rider Performance Awards.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

FEI Youth Committee Report

Chair: Roberta Williams, FL

Liaison: Sarah Delahanty

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Deborah DelGiorno, DE	Roz Kinstler, FL
Elizabeth Molloy, GA	Nancy Gorton, MO
Joan Clay, CO	Nicki Grandia, WA
Ann Boehning, CA	Roberta Carleton, CT
Marsha Lewis, TX	

Advisors – Laura Roberts (USEF) and Sarah Hollander (USEF)

*There are no new members of the FEI Youth Committee for 2024.

Mission: To develop educational opportunities and international competition experiences for riders, ages 12-21, who ride at the FEI sanctioned Pony, Children, Junior, and Young Rider levels.

Goals:

1. Select and provide teams for the North American Youth Championships (NAYC).
2. Promote team spirit and competition among riders.
3. Provide clinics and educational opportunities.

2024 Objectives:

1. Monitor the progression of FEI youth and their participation in the NAYC and the Festival of Champions.
2. Help facilitate the anticipated addition of the Childrens division at NAYC in the future.
3. Continue to identify clinic sites in response to demand.
4. Oversee NAYC Program.
5. Provide feedback on the NAYC qualifying calendar.
6. Provide input into the NAYC selection procedures.
7. Review and revise the *NAYC Handbook and Guidelines* for regional coordinators.
8. Create guidelines for chefs d'equipe.

Progress to Date:

- NAYC:
 - The 2024 NAYC is scheduled to be held July 30-August 4 at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival at Flintfields Horse Park in Traverse City, MI.
 - The regions have identified their chefs d'equipe for 2024. As of the date of this report they are:
 - Region 1: Debbie DelGiorno and Nicole DelGiorno
 - Region 2: Shari Wolke and Laurie Moore
 - Region 3: Liz Molloy (second chef d'equipe pending)
 - Region 4: Nancy Gorton and Laurie Virkstis
 - Region 5: Joan Clay and Heather Petersen

- Region 6: Noah Rattner and/or Nicki Grandia
- Region 7: Benjamin Pfabe
- Region 8: Bobbi Carleton and Helen van der Voort
- Region 9: Marsha Lewis and/or Benjamin Winger
- The committee will be recognizing the efforts of the chefs d'Equipe by gifting them a backpack that includes both the USDF and NAYC logos.
- We will continue to use the three-tiered application structure that was introduced in 2019 with three application time frames and three respective application fee rates. The following is a comparison with 2021-2024 for the same general time frame.

	2021 (as of 3/5/21)		2022 (as of 3/9/22)		2023 (as of 2/27/23)		2024 (as of 3/4/24)	
	Juniors	Young Riders	Juniors	Young Riders	Juniors	Young Riders	Juniors	Young Riders
Region 1	3	1	6	2	4	1	2	3
Region 2	4	2	3	3	6	3	3	3
Region 3	4	3	3	4	3	3	5	0
Region 4	2	5	1	2	2	1	2	1
Region 5	2	1	3	5	3	2	2	2
Region 6	2	0	0	0	4	2	4	0
Region 7	2	5	3	3	4	3	1	2
Region 8	4	4	4	1	1	1	0	1
Region 9	7	4	1	1	2	1	2	3
	30	25	24	21	29	17	21	15

- 2024 FEI Youth Clinics:
Planning and scheduling are underway for USDF to host nine FEI Youth Clinics in the 2024-2025 fiscal year.
 - Region 1: Pending
 - Region 2: October 19-20 at Duncan Run Farm in Galena, OH with Lilo Fore
 - Region 3: Pending
 - Region 4: July 6-7 at Providence Farms in Palmyra, NE with Sabine Schut-Kery
 - Region 5: October 19-20 at Nighthawk Equestrian Center in Longmont, CO with George Williams
 - Region 6: November 2-3 at Devonwood Equestrian Centre in Sherwood, OR with Sabine Schut-Kery
 - Region 7: Pending
 - Region 8: June 29-30 at Weatogue Stables in Salisbury, CT with Lilo Fore
 - Region 9: Pending

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. NAYC chefs d'equipe proposal.

Regional Championships Committee Report

Chair: Angela Goodwin-Volpert, IN

Vice Chair: Janine Malone, NC

Liaison: Lacy Jinks

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Ellen Brindle-Clark, NJ*

Anneliese Vogt-Harber, GA

Jean Kraus, MO

Kelly Irving-Burris, WA*

Camille Kopcik, NY

Anne Kuhns, KY

Roberta Williams, FL

Jessica Greer, CO*

Kevin Reinig, CA

Carolyn VandenBerg, TX

*New member(s) of the Regional Championships Committee for 2024.

Mission: To promote and recognize the pursuit of excellence by providing a showcase competition that meets established quality standards for riders within each USDF region.

Goals:

1. Establish and update guidelines for qualifying as needed.
2. Educate championship management.
3. Provide recognition and rewards.
4. Promote the championships.
5. Increase the number of participants.

2024 Objectives:

1. Review regional championship surveys to determine compliance with rules and requirements, and to identify areas for future improvements.
2. Review and amend the host site application.
3. Review rules and requirements for regional championships.

Progress to Date:

- The 2024 Regional Championship Site Selection Working Group (RCSSWG) members were recommended. The RCSSWG will meet in March to review the 2025 championship bids. The members of the 2024 RCSSWG are Teresa Stewart, Bill McMullin, Lisa Gorretta, Sarah Geikie, Jean Kraus, and Natalie Lamping.
- A review of the 2025 host site application was discussed and clarifications regarding scoring and security were recommended.
- A review of the 2023 regional championships evaluations were discussed and a small group was appointed to review current guidelines for dressage seat equitation classes.
- A review of regional championship qualifying scores and regional championship participation data was discussed in relation to current minimum qualifying scores. The committee elected to not recommend any changes at this time due to a potential negative impact on smaller regions.

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

Sport Horse Committee Report

Chair: Kristi Wysocki, WA

Vice Chair: Regina Milliken, LA

Co-Liaisons: Bonnie Barr-Briggs and Taylor Chism

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Natalie DeBerardinis, MD*

Janine Malone, NC

Melanie Sloyer, PA

Susan Mandas, OH

Anne Sparks, NM

Jennifer Vanover, NY*

Caitlin Gallegher, PA*

Christine Smith, VA

Megan Dischler, WI

Deborah Davenport, KS

Kevin Reinig, CA

*New member(s) of the Sport Horse Committee for 2024.

Mission: To foster and advance the breeding and development of the highest quality dressage sport horses and to promote a strong foundation for the dressage sport horse development pipeline in the United States.

Goals:

1. To educate breeders, owners, buyers, handlers, trainers, and judges about the ideals of both dressage sport horse prospects and breeding stock.
2. Encourage and acknowledge the efforts of USDF member breeders in producing the highest quality dressage sport horse.
3. Provide dressage sport horse competition management, owners, and breeders with competition guidelines and opportunities.
4. Promote USDF horse recordings and tracking of competition results.
5. Nurture and develop future generations for the dressage sport horse breeding industry.
6. Review and update all proposed USDF sport horse score sheets and instruction documents.

2024 Objectives:

1. Host a USDF Sport Horse Seminar in conjunction with a USEF/USDF Dressage Sport Horse Breeding (DSHB) Training Program and Clinic.
2. Host a USDF Youth Sport Horse Breeder Seminar at Devon Dressage Show.
3. Host a USDF Handler Clinic.
4. Continue dressage judges' education for Materiale classes.

Progress to Date:

- The USDF Handlers Clinic is scheduled for April 6-7 at Pacific Equestrian Center in Wilton, CA, with Kevin Reinig and Christine Smith. Melissa Creswick will judge the mock competition.
- The USDF Sport Horse Seminar is scheduled for July 27-28 at Haras de Vess Stables in Wichita, KS, with Kristi Wysocki, Hilda Gurney, and Gwen Ka'awaloa.
- The USDF/USEF DHSB Judge Training Program and Exam will be held in conjunction with the USDF Sport Horse Seminar. We anticipate one 'R' candidate and four 'r' candidates to attend.

- The Youth/Young Adult DSHB Seminar is scheduled to be held at Dressage at Devon on September 23-24, 2024. Final details are still being confirmed.
- The USEF/USDF DSHB Judge Clinic will be held virtually on October 22-23, 2024, with Kristi Wysocki and Sue Mandas and guest speakers Hilary Clayton, Janet Foy, and Ludwig Christmann.
- Approved 2024 ProElite/USDF Breeders Championship Series Finals for the following dates and locations:
 - East Coast Series – Dressage at Devon, September 24-29, 2024, in Devon, PA
 - North Central Series – Dressage at Windenoak II, July 21, 2024, in Seymour, WI
 - North East Series – NEDA Breed Show III, September 14-15, 2024, in Saugerties, NY
 - North West Series – 29th Annual Spokane Sport Horse Spectacular II, August 11, 2024, in Spokane, WA
 - Rocky Mountain Series – Rocky Mountain Sport Horse Championships, September 18, 2024, in Parker, CO
 - South East Series – Made in the Shade III, August 25, 2024, in Pendleton, SC
 - Southern Series – Haras Dressage Sport Horse Qualifier III & Final, September 1, 2024, in Magnolia, TX

Concerns: None

Items to come before the Executive Board: None

National Youth Programs Committee Report

Chair: Roz Kinstler, FL

Liaison: Sarah Delahanty

2024 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 23-24 Lexington, KY

2024 Committee Members:

Jennifer Koch, PA	Kathy Rowse, VA
Laurie Moore, MI	Elizabeth Molloy, GA
Janie Pride, GA	Sophia Shults, FL*
Roberta Williams, FL	Julie Barringer-Richers, CO
Rebecca Harris, CA*	Lendon Gray, NY

*New member(s) for the Youth Programs Committee for 2024.

Mission: To promote dressage to young equestrians while providing for the future of the sport.

Goals:

1. Provide educational opportunities.
2. Provide recognition programs.
3. Encourage and increase youth membership and participation.
4. Promote youth sportmanship.

2024 Objectives:

1. Explore opportunities to connect with youth.
2. Explore opportunities to connect with youth instructors.
3. Continue to promote USDF Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals.
4. Continue outreach to GMOs to include youth in their programs.
5. Promote and encourage participation in the Youth Dressage Rider Recognition Pin Program, Shining Star Sportsmanship Award, and the Dressage Spirit Award.
6. Continue to publish youth eNewsletter in order to keep youth members informed of programs offered.
7. Explore opportunities that engage the younger generation in the governance structure of USDF and the sport.
8. Explore partnering opportunities with other youth organizations.
9. Plan 2025 Young Rider Graduate Program.
10. Continue to promote the Youth Outreach Clinic Program.

Progress to Date:

- Planning is underway for the 2025 Young Rider Graduate Program. Two virtual events will be scheduled in the spring and fall to help promote the program.
- The USDF/IDA Quiz Challenge is underway in March and will wrap up April 24, 2024, at Tryon International Equestrian Center.
- The Youth Outreach Clinics are underway. The following outlines the first group of clinics:
 - Region 7 was held November 11-12, 2023, at Arroyo Del Mar with Benjamin Pfabe, Jesse Collins, and Grace Walker. This clinic accepted eight riders with two alternates.
 - Region 3 was held March 9-10, 2024, at Noble Steed, LLC with Rachel Chowanec-Karney.

- Region 4 was held March 9-10, 2024, at Still Water Equestrian with Anne Cizadlo.
- Planning continues for Regions 2, 5, 6, and 9.
- The committee is developing a new idea for a youth assembly for the annual convention.
- The following are youth member who received recognition in the identified areas:
 - **2023 Dressage Spirit Award Recipients:**
 - Addy Batcheller, Little Rock, AR
 - Peyton Burch, Fort Madison, IA
 - Adalynn Nelson, Marion, IA
 - Jackson Williams, Marion, IA
 - Carolyn Woodring, Cedar Rapids, IA
 - Ryleigh Koch, Fogelsville, PA
 - Katie Staib, Allentown, PA
 - Eliot Axt, Atlanta, GA
 - **2023 Youth Convention Scholarship Winners:**
 - Marley McCourt, Atco, NJ
 - Mackenzie Brown, Post Falls, ID
 - Ryleigh Koch, Fogelsville, PA
 - **2023 Youth Volunteer of the Year:**
 - Alice Burley, Atlanta, GA
 - **2023 USDF Nomination for USEF Sportsman's Award:**
 - Ryder Mosqueda, Hemet, CA

Concerns: Youth attendance and engagement at convention.

Items to come before the Executive Board:

1. Young Rider Graduate Program fee proposal.