

NWDA

June 2021

Accent

#NWDAthrowback



2004 AARP Vintage Class Riders Age 50 & Over

In the background you might recognize the Iron River Show Grounds. Pictured from L to R: Ken Perry on Captain, Marie Mattson on Perciosa, Margaret Coker on Painter, Dale Lewis on Dually, Claudia Schoendorf on Schnapps, Bonnie Brown on Anya, and Cathy Barnet-Pfarr on Gus. Send us your #NWDAthrowback by email to nwdagmo@gmail.com.

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For the LOVE of the HORSE –

Volunteer!

by Jen Hovde

I would like to take this opportunity to give a shout out to my fellow NWDA board members to say: Good job and thank you for your service! Our organization would not be what it is today without you. We faithfully volunteer our time and energy to make NWDA better for our current and future members. I would like to invite each of you reading this to think about how you can give back to our organization. We are in this together!

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Celebrating 40 Years of North Woods Dressage!



The President's Message



Hello NWDA Members —

Once upon a ride 40 years ago a very focused group of riders with passion and purpose started talking about a common vision. The vision was to bring more dressage to our area. That vision soon became a reality. Riders with a determined commitment to dressage inspired more riders to get involved and so the story began...

As I turn the page and forty years later, I am honored to share that this year North Woods Dressage Association is celebrating 40 years of riding! On a personal note, being involved with North Woods Dressage has changed my life. I am truly grateful for the skills I have learned, for the friendships I have embraced, and for all the special memories you have shared with me. As I reflect back on the basic values and vision developed 40 years ago, I am proud to share that the focus and the commitment of NWDA is alive and strong even during this difficult time.

Over a year ago COVID-19 entered our world. Unplanned, scared, and full of emotion we were all forced to go into survival mode. I will be the first to say this has truly been a difficult year in so many ways. I want to personally say "Thank You for Hanging in There!" I was forced to quickly look at new ways to communicate and connect. The virtual platform was necessary to allow NWDA any movement during these scary times. Never before have I felt like this. I quickly found myself living in a virtual space, viewing each other through screens rather than in person and trying to literally stay connected. The monthly NWDA meetings quickly changed to virtual, canceling shows was a reality and self isolation was my new norm. Yes, overnight Covid-19 had turned my world upside down. My new norm was shifted and now I faced the reality of simply surviving...

As I turn the page again and one year later I believe we are in the final stretch. Although we are not completely clear from Covid-19, NWDA is committed, determined, and we will make a difference. We will follow the USEF guidelines at both the schooling and recognized shows. We will honor and value each other as we ride down the center line halting at X to honor a new beginning. Remembering where we were a year ago is scary but a reality. We are finally on our way to a fresh start.

The excitement as we move towards the 2021 show season is in the air. I know and see you are working hard preparing your horses and yourselves to ride in shows this summer. As the June shows are coming together, I would ask that you consider volunteering. **We Need Volunteers!** Yes, entries are coming in, equipment is being cleaned, ribbons are being counted and the Shows will Go ON! I am calling on our Horsey Village for help. If you can volunteer (or you know of someone) please reach out to me at (218) 348-8519. We continue to recruit a show volunteer coordinator. Please let me know if you are interested.

In closing, I would like to congratulate NWDA on celebrating 40 years of riding! Let's "Kick Off" the 2021 show season by getting vaccinated. Our love, drive, and passion for horses keeps us grounded. May you have a healthy and safe show season. I can't wait to see you soon in person.

Be Safe, Be Strong, and Always Be True to Yourself.

Ride with Pride,
Kathi Kusch Marshall
NWDA President



I was very fortunate to participate in a clinic with Bill Woods this Spring thanks to generous scholarships from NWDA and Dressage4Kids' Training4Teaching program. The clinic took place on May 1-2nd, 2021 at Dragon Heart's Lair Sporthorse Facility in Iron, MN. This was my first time working with Bill, and I really enjoyed the clinic and felt I benefitted from the experience. Bill is a highly skilled instructor with a quick wit, empathetic teaching style, and years of experience. He was an influential force in developing the USDF Instructor/Trainer Program and has over 40 years of experience in competitive dressage as not only a rider but highly sought after instructor and judge. His experience brings the combined experience of that of a dressage judge and the trainer's teacher, given his experience as a USDF Instructor/Trainer mentor. It was a wonderful opportunity to ride with Bill, and we're looking forward to having him back in the future.

In this clinic, Bill worked with a variety of horses in all levels of training – each with their own strong points and unique issues. However, one theme was common in every ride. The rider must always place a great deal of emphasis on her own feel and also take responsibility for the quality of each ride. This clinic was also particularly helpful as the format included a Ride-A-Test component. The first day, each participant rode a test, which Bill judged and provided feedback for. Later on in the afternoon, each pair participated in 30 minute sessions to school the test movements. The second day included traditional lessons. Below I've included some of my favorite exercises as a take-away from the clinic.

For my lesson, Bill focused primarily on the quality of the gaits, consistency in self-carriage, and improvement in pirouette preparation. One exercise I found particularly helpful in preparation for pirouette work involved riding haunches in on a 20m circle with trot/canter transitions. First starting with a collected trot on a 20m circle, then adding the haunches in and staying on the circle for a half a circle or so, then going back to the collected trot, and repeating the exercise until the horse maintained the same forward momentum in the haunches in as she did in the collected trot. We then repeated the exercise in the canter with the idea that hind legs would keep stepping under in a lively manner through the exercise. I felt this exercise really set up the pirouette work nicely as I had better control of the rhythm and improved thoroughness going into the pirouette. I also found this exercise to also be beneficial for the quality of the gaits and impulsion overall as it gave me better adjustability in both the trot and canter and better control of the hind legs.

Bill also used lateral movements to improve the quality of the trot with a variety of exercises. One exercise I really liked for my horse involved traveling to the left on the right rein in the trot, turning onto centerline, changing flexion to the right and riding a half pass to the right. And vice versa to the other side. We also varied riding the half pass from sitting to rising trot depending on the commitment of the hind legs. As we worked on this exercise, I could feel my horse get more and more even in the contact and that it created better lateral flexibility while encouraging the horse to continue to step into contact. With the same ideas in mind, we worked on a half pass

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Equine Epiphanies!

When asked to write about a lightbulb moment in riding, there are many to choose from. In digging around the vault I thought I'd share this simple but profound moment. Around 20 years ago, I was riding in a clinic with Eventer Eric Dierks. I was on my brassy chestnut Thoroughbred, Shamrock Wes (Sam). Sam was about 16 years old. I had him for 2 years and he was not an easy horse. He went to the jumps like a hurricane and often left a similar looking disaster in his wake. Erik had me focus on riding the rhythm of the canter, then taking that rhythm to the jumps. This seems really basic, but we can usually find our way through an issue by going back to basics. This had me riding in better balance and more off my seat, which Sam responded to by being lighter to my aids and more tuned in to what I was asking. This ride was transformative for both of us, Sam went on to be a schoolmaster, and I have always been thankful to Eric for showing us the light.

—Julie Davies Pagels

I had been taking lessons with Keri Erickson on her school horse Turk, as Schnapps, my pinto Saddlebred gelding, went through a lameness period that lasted over a year. My only chance to ride was my once-a-week lesson with Keri, and I enjoyed every minute of it. One day Turk was missing a shoe and I couldn't ride him. I rode Maggie, a 13year old gray Arab. Keri said she is prone to surges and likes to pop out a shoulder or hip. As I was riding and focusing on keeping this wiggly mare contained, Keri noticed that I didn't react to her bulging shoulder and didn't get mad like I would have with Schnapps when he bulges out a shoulder. The main difference here is that I

had no emotional connection to Maggie or Turk and just rode them, without my emotions getting in the way. I just rode. On the way home, I thought maybe this is why trainers get so much more out of a horse, not only are they a better rider, but they have no emotional connection to the horse, they do their job and the horse does his. Love them in the aisle, then just ride.

—Claudia Schoendorf

If you have a magical A HA!
moment to share, please email:
nwdagmo@gmail.com

Bill Woods Clinic, from page 3

across the arena with lively steps and consistent tempo throughout. Halfway through the half pass, turning it to a leg yield while maintaining the same sideways propulsion. This was helpful to improve engagement and commitment from inside leg to outside rein. From there, we worked on some half-pass zig-zags in the trot, with a focus on being able to adjust the shoulders from one direction to the other. By focusing on that adjustability of the shoulders, I felt that my overall trot improved in that she was lighter and more lifted in front of the saddle.

Thank you NWDA for your generous support! I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in this clinic with Bill. This clinic was not only wonderful preparation for show season with test-riding and feedback from a well-respected judge, but also an invaluable opportunity to better the quality of our riding and partnerships with our horses going forward.

Some big picture takeaways -- It's important to be clear and correct in what you ask so that the horse can confidently answer. Have a systematic approach to your work but be clever in your execution and sympathetic when it comes to mistakes. Always give your horse the best chance at success. Don't be afraid to take risks when it feels appropriate. Always have a sense of humor. Most importantly, enjoy the ride as what we do is really a privilege!

Educational Opportunities

NWDA Jr/Yr Clinic at River Ranch Farm

June 22-23, 2021 (one day dressage/one day jumping)

Clinician – Kjirsten Sneed



Kjirsten is a graduate “B” pony clubber and a USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist with nearly 20 years of experience in the horse industry. She has worked with young horses and horses coming into work later in life, as well as horses coming back from injuries. Her horses have included off-track Thoroughbreds, Morgans, Warmbloods, Quarter Horses, Quarter Horse Appendixes, and Arabians. She starting teaching with Pony Club and went on to teach lessons as part of running the horse program at Camp Manito-wish YMCA. She enjoys teaching horses and riders of all levels, from beginners just getting started to upper level riders. Kjirsten believes that correct dressage basics improve the connection between horse and rider in any discipline. She currently owns a delightful OTTB gelding named Gobain, with whom she competed through Fourth Level Dressage and Training Level Eventing.

Contact Jen Hovde for more information: 218-349-9753 / mackie_k_shadow@hotmail.com

Costs:

Jr/Yr NWDA Member - \$160, Jr/Yr Nonmember - \$210

Adult NWDA Member - \$170, Adult Nonmember - \$220

***The clinic will accept Jr/Yr first, then if space is available, the clinic will be open to adults.**

Interview with Beth Wilson, Equine Massage Therapist & Masterson Method Practitioner

by Claudia Schoendorf

I recently spoke with Beth Wilson about her experiences in equine massage and, specifically, the Masterson Method.

Q. What made you decide to do equine massage and how long have you been doing it?

Beth: I started in 1997 when my horse Kilte got injured and I wanted to find a way to help him. I attended a seminar in Equine Sports Therapy in Round Hill, Virginia and passed the Certification there. I feel that every trainer should be a massage therapist, so that you know what a horse can do.

Q. You recently were certified in the Masterson Method of equine massage, please tell me about it.

Beth: In 2014 I met Jim Masterson at a 2-day clinic in Brainerd, MN and became intrigued. I took an on-line home study and equine anatomy class, then went to Texas for a 5-day seminar. There we did body work on 30 horses working with a mentor and writing case studies for each. The body work study consisted of 3 blocks, block 1 is Technique, block 2 is Anatomy, block 3 is putting it all together. You must pass each block to proceed to the next. I traveled to Fairfield Iowa, and did body work on different horses and passed my Certification there.

I prefer the Masterson method and currently focus on that method of equine massage, but still using my base of sports massage.



Q. If you had a tip for riders, what would it be?

Beth: Learn to do the Bladder Meridian, it teaches you better communication with your horse and increases your bond with your horse. It will show you if your horse is truly sore or a miscommunication. Miscommunication is a training issue.

Beth recommended I go to the Masterson Method site to get an idea of what the Bladder Meridian is. I found that in Chinese medicine, there are twelve primary acupuncture meridians in the body. The Bladder Meridian is one of the major acupuncture meridians that has a unique effect on balancing the other meridians. It runs down each side of the body, about two inches parallel to the top line, then down the side of the hind leg, just off the centerline. They use the Bladder Meridian to begin our work on the horse.

My further research on the Masterson Method site focused on why they use the Bladder Meridian. The Bladder Meridian runs through the three key junctions we are focusing on. It is a major meridian; all of the other meridians connect or are associated with it, and it is easy to reach.

However, the main reason is that with this technique we learn how to read this particular horse, and this particular horse learns how to read this particular human. It gets us both on the same page. The main thing you want to get from the Bladder Meridian is the correlation between what you are doing (your touch) and what the horse is doing (the horse's response). With this technique, you will get a sense of how a particular horse is going to respond to your touch, and the horse will get an immediate sense of what he can expect from this interaction with you. Along the way, the horse will let you know where it is guarding tension and will begin to release that tension. The most valuable aspect of

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LEFT The equine bladder meridian as used in the Masterson Method.

Lessons from Lead Mares

by *Brigid Pajunen*



In April of 2021 I had the opportunity to spend time at beautiful Solstice Ranch in Ocoee, Tennessee. I studied with Aimee Brimhall McCord, a horsewoman with a rich equestrian background. Since 2006 she has been developing her own educational program, Inspirational Horse. Rooted in her childhood love of horses, Inspirational Horse has grown out of her own study with some of the world's most diverse and accomplished equestrians.

I heard about Aimee many years ago at a Karen Rohlf *Dressage Naturally* clinic. Karen spoke highly of Aimee and indicated that she had special, perhaps discomfoting, abilities. Aimee understands what science is starting to demonstrate. Horses can sense the electromagnetic field of the human heart from 50 feet away. Horses read our intentions more accurately than other humans. Horses seek harmony with other horses (and humans) by communicating their intentions through body language.

I sought Aimee out because for the past five years I have been trying to create a harmonious relationship with my Trakehner mare, Rey. When Rey became my equine partner I was hopeful that, based on her prior training and athleticism, we would progress through the levels of dressage with ease. But horses, being the magnificent teachers they are, keep showing me what I don't know. Rey is no exception.

Aimee explained the basic ethology of horses in herds. In nature, herds are made up of individual horses with different roles that allow the herd to function. Similar to birth order, horses are born into these roles and do not change throughout their lifetime.

Equine herds are made of passive, dominant and lead animals. A passive horse seeks comfort by following along. Dominant horses are inclined to play physical dominance games. Lead horses are

born with an awareness that keeps the herd safe. They are not born followers and are less likely to spend energy in play. The comfort of a lead horse is dependent upon the attentiveness of the herd and the herd's responsiveness to the lead's signals. Aimee explained that the body language used by horses in each of these roles is unique to that role.

So when I first met Aimee in the Summer of 2020 and she identified Rey as a lead mare, it was a bit of a relief. I had learned to be the one standing still during the game of who moves whose feet. And up until I met Rey, that had worked pretty well to establish my leadership with horses. But Aimee explained that this kind of dominance cannot establish 'leadership' with a horse whose nature is to *be* the leader and whose body language is far more subtle.

On the first morning we were in the 100-foot round pen and Aimee was facing my horse and me. She started to talk about the red-winged blackbird nearby. Suddenly I saw it, perched on a post in *front* of me but *behind* Aimee. This was my first lesson in the quality of awareness of a lead mare, and where it gets a little hard to put into words the things that Aimee understands and teaches.

The lecture portion of our sessions took place in the barn in front of a white board hanging across from the young horses' stalls (so they could study the lessons on their own time!). Illustrations on the board depicted the energetic 'bubbles' around horses and humans. Our awareness of these bubbles and their interactions is at the core of our communication with horses. Aimee explained that lead horses especially appreciate conversations about energetic space and can be very sensitive to physical aids. In nature, it would be rare for a

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Lessons from Lead Mares, from page 7

herd member to engage a lead horse in physical dominance games.

From the white board we would move on to three kinds of exercises:

LIBERTY We played with the invisible connection between the horse and the human without the use of halter or rope. Aimee teaches games that test this connection and ultimately strengthen it by setting up situations for the horse to use its mind and instincts to identify the human as their herd.

GROUND WORK (IN HAND) Aimee often uses a cavesson. She has developed her own prototype for use with a rope halter, the feel of which she prefers. The cavesson is less likely to result in the bracing, twisting, and imbalance that can inadvertently occur with the use of a traditional halter, with the lead rope attached under the chin.

Any dressage enthusiast would recognize the ‘in hand’ exercises that Aimee teaches. They included lateral movements to enhance upward and downward transitions, hindquarter engagements through use of transitions on the wall, and exercises that help create an active halt on a circle, to name a few.

But in Aimee’s world the exercises have a different *feel*. The horses arrive at the same place I’ve seen in classical work in hand, but Aimee emphasizes the use of a mental preview (envisioning the result and embodying that preview in the space we are sharing with our horse), rather than being quick to use the tools as mechanical, physical aids.

RIDING Aimee patiently and meticulously observed the state of our dressage. She was able to identify the subtle but critical areas of discomfort my horse displayed under saddle. We played with breathing and posture. I experienced moments of freedom of movement in my horse (Rhythm and Relaxation) that I can truly say I have been seeking for five years. She also allowed me to try different bits from her collection.

During my time at Solstice Ranch I had the privilege of observing Aimee’s interactions with her own horses. The young Nokota Mustangs are blank slates. She talks about herself as a mad scientist, able to experiment with a

different way of starting them. The Nokotas appear to be enormously happy with the experiment and have beautifully developed top lines even as young and as yet unriden horses.

And then, on a morning without a lesson, I spent time giving my horse a spa and exploring the mouth and neck releases I was taught. Leilani, Aimee’s lovely and talented intern, came by the grooming aisle and we talked about life while Rey yawned and yawned and yawned—the sign of a good spa, I think.

I still have dressage goals with my horse. I would like to ride a first or second level test at one of our NWDA schooling shows this Summer. I am committed to the physical well-being of my horse, who was not put on Earth



to carry a rider. Correct dressage training will help me fulfill that commitment.

But after spending time with Aimee Brimhall McCord, I see that access to my horse’s relaxed physical body and all of her athletic splendor has to be secondary. In the end, what I learned is that there are invisible rungs beneath what appears to be the bottom of the training scale. Those rungs are Understanding and Communication. And they are key ingredients for me to achieve the Rhythm and Relaxation that are the foundation to dressage.

Find out more about us at
northwoodsdressage.net

An Interview with Beth Wilson, from page 6
this technique is the trust that develops between you and the horse as a result of this interaction. The goal is to bypass the horse's survival-defense response and connect directly with the part of the horse's nervous system that holds and releases tension.

On the Masterson site, one of the first things that students learn is how to apply the Masterson Method:

Step 1: SEARCH Stand at the horse's head on the left side. Place the flats of your fingertips, or the cup the palm of your hand above the eye, or on the poll just behind the left ear. Barely touching the surface of the skin, slowly (it should take about a minute to run your hand from the poll to the withers) run your hand down the bladder meridian.

Step 2: RESPONSE As you move your hand/fingers down the meridian watch closely for subtle signs, such as a blink, then a yawn, lick or chew.

Step 3: STAY As your hand or fingers pass over a spot that causes the horse to respond, rest your hand/fingers over that spot, keeping your hand soft and the pressure light. Stay on that spot, watching the horse's responses. This may take one second, or one minute. Be patient. Breathe and relax!

Step 4: RELEASE When the horse shows a larger response of RELEASE, such as licking and chewing, yawning, shaking the head, snorting or sneezing repeatedly, then continue down the meridian repeating these steps.

Q. Why do you prefer this method?

Beth: It's a form of equine body work in the nervous system, and works *with* the horse, instead of doing things *to* the horse. It's so subtle and it shows where the horse releases the tension. Watch their eyes, watch for the blink, then chew. When you release the tension, the muscles can function better afterward and range of motion increases.



For the Love of the Horse, Volunteer!, from page 1

NWDA is important to me. I have served on the board for at least ten years – this is a guesstimate since I've lost track of the exact number. You might wonder why I volunteer? I volunteer because when I was a teenager, I

LEFT Jen Hovde (right) volunteers at an NWDA show.

showed at NWDA shows in Proctor, Barnum, and Iron River. Later I decided to help out because making our schooling shows great gave my students an opportunity to show in a safe and fun environment. I wanted them to have the same experiences I did when I was young.

Donating your time for the good of our organization could be just the thing you need in your life. I continue to say *our* organization because NWDA is not just mine or yours, but it is *ours*. It is up to all of us to keep *our* it strong.

NWDA is a community of people who love horses. *Why do you belong to NWDA?* Because we are an amazing group of people doing amazing things for one another and the horses we love.

Do you have time or a talent we could use? There are plenty of things both big and small that NWDA could use help with. What can you give back to *our* organization? Any NWDA member can volunteer on a committee, and we often need help at our shows and at our year end banquet. If you can help, please find our contact info on the NWDA website or email us at nwdagmo@gmail.com.

Reflections on Prix St. George

By Kathy Faccio

Well, I finally made it! I moved up the levels and have arrived and successfully showed last weekend at the Prix St. George Level! I only need one more PSG score for my USDF Silver Medal. Guess what? It only took me 40 years, lol! In all fairness, during my early years, dressage was in its infancy in the US and there were not very many qualified teachers who had ridden past 2nd level. So, I relied on occasional clinics and I read lots and lots of books. I assumed if I read enough and was athletic enough, that I could 'get there' by myself. LOL!!!

So, after moving to Michigan for my career, I thought, "Eureka! Now I will be in the dressage hotbed of the Midwest!" But, alas, I was in the dressage desert, again no one to help me. So, I rode and rode for many years in my indoor arena with lots of mirrors, but that still wasn't enough for me to get past 2nd level. Having 4 well-bred, energetic Trakehners, I needed H-E-L-P!!!

Luckily at retirement, my husband Bruce readily agreed to move back to the Duluth area, and HURRAH, there was Leah Nelson – Sweet Water Dressage at Spring Hill!!! In just under 3 years, she coached me from 3rd level all the way to Prix St. George. Along



this journey, with Leah's expert guidance, Aidan and I also placed in the Region 4 Championships at 3rd level at Maffit Lake, Iowa!

You may ask, what is the most important thing I have learned from my journey?

It's simple...It's all about the BASICS! Hmm...I thought I learned that stuff at training level. Guess what? My understanding of the basics at training level grows deeper at each successive level! At third level, I thought "Ahhh haaa, now I understand the basics." But today, at Prix St. George, I have a new understanding and appreciation of 'The Basics'. My understanding of 'The Basics' just keeps growing and growing. I can't wait until I get to Grand Prix, so that I can develop a deeper understanding of those elusive BASICS!

2021 NWDA SHOW DATES

Fun in the Sun Schooling Show June 12th & 13th Dressage & Hunter/Jumper

Cooler by the Lake I & II Recognized Show June 26th & 27th Dressage

Last Chance Summer Dance I & II Recognized Show August 7th & 8th Dressage

NWDA Classic Schooling Show. August 21st & 22nd Dressage & Hunter/Jumper

NOTICE:

All NWDA Recognized and Schooling shows for the 2021 show season will follow the USEF guidelines regarding COVID 19. For more information, go to USEF.com Coronavirus Disease Resources and Updates.

USEF COVID-19 Action Plan Update: To Provide Increased Flexibility in a Rapidly Changing Environment

Going forward, competitions must operate in accordance with state and local requirements. In the absence of state or local requirements, USEF recommends compliance with CDC guidelines.

by US Equestrian Communications Department | May 18, 2021, 1:59 PM EST
Dear US Equestrian members,

Thank you for your patience as competition organizers across the country are transitioning to new COVID-19 protocols resulting from recent updates to CDC guidelines and federal, state, and local regulations. Close on the heels of the CDC amendments last Thursday, several states and local jurisdictions have announced upcoming changes which will be enacted over the next few weeks. USEF also issued a [communication](#) on Friday, May 14, to quickly adjust face-covering/mask requirements for fully vaccinated individuals, pending a full update to the COVID-19 Action Plan.

Effective today, we have released a new edition of the **USEF COVID-19 Action Plan for Licensed Competitions**, which has been updated to provide increased flexibility in a rapidly changing environment. Going forward, competitions must operate in accordance with state and local requirements. In the absence of state or local requirements, USEF recommends compliance with CDC guidelines. In an effort to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19, competition organizers can impose more restrictive requirements if they so choose.

With these changes come the heightened need for personal responsibility and continuation of the exemplary effort by our community to reduce the effects of the pandemic and keep our sport operating.

Three critical things to remember as we go forward:

- Competition organizers remain responsible for posting all COVID-19 requirements under which their competition will operate.
- All persons attending USEF competitions are responsible for reviewing and complying with the COVID-19 requirements in effect at each competition. This is vital, as requirements may vary between competitions.
- Individuals may choose to wear a face covering/mask even when not required. Anyone choosing to do so will not be penalized.

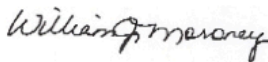
The last 15 months have challenged us all, but we have persevered. Equestrian sport was one of the first to resume operations last spring, and due to our community's commitment and resolve, we were able to keep competitions going. Thank you to all of you who have dedicated yourselves to ensuring equestrian sport continues to thrive.

Be safe, enjoy your horses, and please be patient as competition organizers make adjustments based on the new edition of the USEF COVID-19 Action Plan.

Best regards,



Thomas F. X. O'Mara
President



William J. Moroney
Chief Executive Officer

