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eCentaur

President's Message

Hello fellow RMDS members!

Because our club is fortunate to have some very talented, experienced, knowledgeable, and hard-working members, RMDS continues to offer high quality educational programs. Last month, RMDS hosted the second session of the L Judging program. Thanks so very much to Kathy Coors at Roxbury Farm for being so welcoming and gracious in hosting the demonstrations and to Sara Storch-Kay for arranging for riders to demo at both Sessions A and B. Thanks to our demo riders, listed below, for coming out in rough weather and for being willing to be observed and judged by our large group of L students.

- Alysia Shah
- Jen Bolton
- Oriana Allen
- Lora Heller
- Michelle Woolly
- Kathy Coors
- Lisa Nasrullah
- Anclair Spaulding
- Allison Hartman

Thanks to our instructor Dorie Vlatten Schmitz, who is one of the first S judges to have graduated from the L Program to become an S judge. Thanks also to Judy Downer, who served as the apprentice instructor. Once again, the Holiday Inn provided a central location and great accommodations.

RMDS is very grateful to Gwen Ka'awaloa and MaryJo Hoepner, who put together the L program, working tirelessly so we could offer this amazing learning opportunity. They had the vision, organized the program, and are

making it happen. This is no small feat, with more than 60 participants and auditors in attendance. The course takes three entire weekends that are planned out over the year. Gwen and Mary Jo have gone above and beyond.

Much thanks also to Heather Petersen who held an extremely informative Horse Show Management training program. This course was presented to those who are interested in holding shows and for riders who want to better understand how shows are managed.

The Omnibus will be hitting your mailbox soon. This gorgeous print magazine would not be possible without Natalie Fee Mendik's and Nicole Bizzarro's tireless work and dedication to making the magazine a top-notch publication. They are both talented professionals in the publishing world and we are very lucky to have them as our members. Thanks to Natalie and Nicole!

Please know we would love for our members to attend our Board Meetings. Our meetings are on zoom, so it's easy to attend. It's the best way I know to find out what your organization is doing for you! Our next meeting is 9th. Email secretary@rmds.org for a Zoom invite.

Like many boards and most GMOs around the country, RMDS uses Robert's rules of order to ensure that meetings are fair, efficiently run, and democratic. Attendees are allowed to voice their opinions, and everyone has a chance to speak, if they desire, and the everyone can hear the varying points of view. Roberts rules allows the Board to follow the agenda and keep the group moving towards its goals. The Rules help us comes to a consensus through voting, which serves as the final authority of the group. Want to know a bit more? Here is a quickie overview: <https://www.boardeffect.com/blog/roberts-rules-of-order-cheat-sheet/>

Let's ride! Sally O'Dwyer
slodwyer@gmail.com

USDF Region 5 Director's Message

I hope everyone has been enjoying their winter. We have had an abnormal amount of snow in the northern part of the region and some colder temps in the

southern part. Show season is well underway or just around the corner for many of you!

If you have an educational activity that your barn, group or organization is doing, please let me know so I can add it to the Region 5 educational activity calendar that is sent out with the monthly Regional updates by USDF. We would love to keep everyone as informed as possible. We can also post events on the Region 5 website. Please feel free to send me an email reminder for anything you'd like to see posted.

If you intend to qualify for Region 5 teams to the North American Youth Championships, then please make sure you take note of the application structure for 2023. The application and fee should be turned in to the USDF office by March 14, 2023 in order to avoid stiffer fees. If you apply by March 14th, the fee is only \$50 per application. Applications submitted between March 15th and April 25th are \$100 and the final application deadline is May 9th, but it will cost you \$300 to apply between April 26th and May 9th. At this point in time, absolutely no applications will be accepted after May 9th. If you plan to compete for NAYC, please also be sure to contact Joan Clay, our Region Coordinator for the FEI Juniors and Young Riders and let her know your intent. Her email address is jnclay@comcast.net and her phone number is 970.420.0887. The 2023 NAYC will be held at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival, Flintfields Horse Park, Traverse City, Michigan – August 7-13, 2023.

If you are interested in being a delegate to the Board of Governors meeting, please contact our Nominating Council representative and have your name added to the ballot for Participating Delegate. Please contact Dorothy Kapaun at dorothykapaun@yahoo.com and let her know your interest and she can provide you with more details on the potential responsibilities. PM Delegate nominations are due in to the USDF office no later than April 15th.

Also, there have been some changes this year to the USEF rules regarding bits, so please double check the USEF Annex A and the USEF Rulebook if you have any questions on what you are utilizing for competitions!

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director

Jr/YR Assistant Camp Organizer needed!

The RMDS Youth Summer Intensive is looking for an Assistant Camp Director. If you are a parent of a youth RMDS member who is planning to participate, or an RMDS member who wants more involvement with our RMDS youth, please apply! There is a small stipend for helping out.

For more information on this, please contact Lauren Still at (303) 668-1386.

There are other volunteer opportunities to assist as well.

See <https://signup.com/go/ObmERNu> for more details.



Big Thanks to L-Program Volunteers

By Judi DeVore, Volunteer Committee Co-Chair

Many times we have the luxury of attending engaging clinics where we learn amazing information. Have you ever really thought about the efforts required to bring about that event so seamlessly?

I was an auditor at last weekend's session B of the L Judges program held at the Parker Holiday Inn and Roxbury Farm. This is the second in a series of three weekend-long workshops arranged by RMDS volunteer organizers. I reflected on the amount of time and effort that went into this program and the volunteers that it takes to provide a quality education program for our RMDS members.

The logistics began months ago with the organizers contacting judges to come and instruct the group, arranging for audio-visual equipment, reserving the venue for the event, ordering lunches for the participants, and scheduling riders to demonstrate the various movements participants were learning to judge. These are just a few of the many details which take many hours of planning and preparation to have a successful event such as this.

Many thanks are in order to Gwen Ka'awaloa, Mary Jo Hoepner, and Joan Clay who have been the leads for this project; Shannon Warner and Sara Storch-Kay who arranged the demonstration riders for participants to observe; and the facilities and their owners, Kathy Coors of Roxbury Farm, and Natalie Ellis and Nicole Roach-Reinsvold of Tomora Training Center who are hosting. Heather Petersen and Sharon Sanderziel from USDF provided technical assistance and advice.

It takes a village of volunteers to make our organization strong and this event was a shining example of RMDS volunteerism at its best. Be sure to thank them next time you see them!



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