



Whatcom County Dressage and Eventing Association

www.wcdea.org

July 2025 Newsletter

June 19, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

IN ATTENDANCE: Vice President: MichelleB; Secretary: Jenny Styles ; Past President/Treasurer: Carol Landt; Beth Brannian; ; Robin Probst; Lynn Salas

Board Musings

Thank you to any and all volunteers that help make the shows and clinics happen! Speaking of, there is a fun event coming right up at Sunset Park on July 12th and 13th, watch for emails asking for volunteers. And, we'd love to have a fall schooling show, either dressage and/or Working Eq, but we need someone to take the helm and organize it. There is a hospitality committee that can help with lunch for the judge(s), and goodie bags for volunteers, along with a prize committee that stores and keeps track of the ribbons, so hopefully knowing this will help someone to step up and be the host for a fun fall/Halloween event!

~Michelle

Announcements:

No, formal meeting in July but we are planning a **potluck picnic** ! Carol Landt has graciously offered to host at 6 pm on July 17th at her home located at 4457 Dewey rd , please park in the arena.

A note from your new newsletter Editor:

Hi, I didn't give credit in the last newsletter to Beth Brannian for photos and write up on the working Equitation event they were much appreciated . Please contact me if you have any questions or information you want or to share through the newsletter.

Rphrse@msn.com

Past Events:

June was a busy month with a liberty clinic and working equitation. I hope everyone enjoyed those opportunities to grow in their knowledge and performance goals.

If there are any other events you want to see let us know.

Old business :**Treasurer Report:**

Checking 2,658.71

Savings 2,118.41

Pay Pal 200.00

4,977.12

New business:**July 12th and 13th**

Working Equitation Clinic w/ Kim Roe- \$75 and \$90 for non members

Private dressage lessons/ Kim Roe - 45 minutes

FOSF/ WCDEA Members - \$70

Non Members - \$80

Entry forms on WCDEA website

(You may join at the same time and take the member rate)

Presented by Friends of Sunset Farm & Whatcom County Dressage & Eventing Assoc. at Sunset Farm Park July 12, 202

Small group lessons of 3 riders, grouped by experience level

Section A: Introductory – No experience at Working Equitation (rider or horse)

We'll be working on introduction to obstacles and some basic rules

Section B: Intermediate – Some experience at Working Equitation

We'll be working on smoothing out the obstacles and ways to improve scores.

Section C: Experience(d) – A fair bit of experience at Working Equitation

We'll be working on course work and improving scores.7

Cost per Section: \$75.00 for FOSF or WCDEA Members and Juniors (16 and under)

\$90.00 for non-members (You may join at the same time and take the me

This clinic is limited to 20 , so get your entries in early ! Volunteers needed for a variety of jobs contact ???

Entry forms are on the WCDEA.org website, and spots are limited, so be sure to sign up soon!

<https://www.wcdea.org/>

The website is kept up to date by webmistress Jo Rochester. (If organizers get info to Jo, it's on the website.) Thank you, Jo!

FALL SHOW ?????

Please let us know if you are interested in a fall show around halloween that would include costumes 😊 We would need a volunteer chairperson too.

Misty River has offered to host the show.



IN THE WARM UP ARENA

Left Shoulder to Left Shoulder

The first and most well-known rule in arena traffic is this: when passing another rider head-on, you should pass left shoulder to left shoulder. This means the rider traveling to the right (clockwise) yields to the rider going left (counter-clockwise). Look up, plan ahead, make eye contact if possible, and call out “inside” or “outside” if the rider doesn’t seem to see you coming.

Straight Lines Have the Right of Way

If one rider is on a straight track (like down the long side of the arena) and the other is riding a circle or figure, the rider on the straight track has the right of way. So if you’re riding a circle

and someone is coming down the rail, bring your circle in slightly and let them pass by without cutting them off.

Re-Entering the Track

If you're returning to the rail after an exercise (like a circle or diagonal), be aware of riders already on the track. The rider on the rail always has the right of way. Wait for an appropriate moment and merge back in without cutting off or surprising anyone.

Go Behind, Not In Front

If you're ever unsure who has the right of way—or if you're in a tight spot—default to riding behind the other horse. It's the safest way to avoid accidents and keep the peace in the arena. Cutting off horses in front can create unnecessary tension and danger.

Dealing with Aggressive Riders

In warm-ups or show environments, you might encounter riders who seem to dominate the space or even try to intimidate others. Stay calm, avoid confrontation, and do not put your horse in a risky situation. Ride into open spaces, avoid corners where your horse can get trapped, and remember—you have every right to be there too.

Amelia Newcomb Dressage