

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
APRIL 2015 MEETING: April 13TH, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Houston Dressage Society, Inc. (“HDS” or the “Company”) was held on Monday, April 13TH, 2015. The meeting, conducted via teleconference, was opened at approximately 7:00 PM Central Time. The April meeting was called and held under the authority of the Texas General Non-Profit Corporation Law and the Bylaws of the Company. The HDS Board April meeting was held in the home of Leslie Rohrer.

The following HDS directors, Recognized Show Committee (RSC) members and guests were in attendance or participated via TC:

Karen Cramer (RSC) via TC
Leslie Cummings (RSC) via TC
Flo Edleman via TC
Malinda Edwards de Mata
Angel Gunn (guest)
Susan Heather via TC
Kim Parker via TC
Chris Renne
Leslie Rohrer as facilitator
Charles Saltzer
Patty Sutton
Tracy Zaidenweber, now working as Volunteer Coordinator

An Agenda outlining topics to be reviewed and considered during the April meeting was previously furnished via email to each member of the Board. Opening the meeting, Leslie noting HDS’ guest and currently a helper with the Education Chair, listed above, in attendance at the April HDS Board meeting. Leslie also noted the two (2) members of the RSC, listed above, in attendance via TC.

Moving to the Agenda, Leslie noted a lack of quorum at the beginning of the Board meeting, Leslie added that she expected some late attendance by missing Board members. With the lack of quorum, Leslie deferred a vote on accepting corrections leading to finalized March minutes. With a deferred vote regarding Board minutes, Leslie redirected the meeting to the April agenda.

BOARD REPORTS (*per April meeting agenda*)

As a modification of the agenda, Kim Parker, HDS’ Sponsorship Chair, updated the Board regarding her current priority tasks:

- Equine Express has renewed an initial 2014 HDS Sponsorship for 2015
- Silent Auction during HDS Spring/CDI Show: auction items, including saddles, jackets, lessons from local trainers & a 2ND hand made quilt from Patty Sutton have

been secured. PatriceWood will assist Kim in overseeing the Silent Auction. Current auction item providers have been notified and a procedure is in place to get items to Leslie on Friday of the Show for Auction set up and the accompanying Auction sheet/item.

- Silent Auction wrap up Sunday of the Show: Kim plans to contact all Auction winners on Sunday, collect winning bids & summarize Auction results.

Kim noted her ongoing mandate; securing new and renewing current HDS Sponsorships is proceeding. In closing Kim added that the financial bottom line of the Spring Show & CDI will be improved by increased HDS Sponsorships secured for the Show.

Following Kim's remarks, Leslie inquired if there were any Board questions or comments. With no Board questions, Leslie directed the meeting back to the modified April Agenda.

Continuing with a modified agenda, Flo Edelman, now serving as HDS' combined Historian/IT Chair, advised the Board that during the last month, there were no software updates made to HDS' website. The website is stable & unique visits for 2015 remain consistently constant and higher than 2014. Flo has Schooling Show updates from Jena to add under the Schooling Show tab which is accessible from the HDS homepage.

Following Flo's remarks, Leslie inquired if there were any Board questions or comments. With no Board questions, Leslie directed the meeting back to the modified April Agenda.

Continuing with the modified agenda Patty Sutton, HDS Special Events Chair, advised the Board that while planning for a well-attended Saturday evening dinner and entertainment during the HDS Spring/CDI Show is ongoing, the number of online reservations received to date is very low in numbers to date. Patty noted this is a trend and is planning on attendance between one hundred twenty five (125) and one hundred fifty (150) based on past Spring Show and even more so the increased number of Show entries for the upcoming Spring Show. Use of the GSWEC Arena Club appears to be an added draw with respect to increased attendance based on convenience of the location, price of the meal and the ability to be with peers in an informal, air conditioned setting. To increase awareness of the Dinner, Patty suggested an HDS mail-out plus an HDS Facebook post to increase awareness of the event and to encourage Show participants and friends to sign up for the Dinner. In closing, Patty asked for input regarding a specific start time for the Friday evening Competitors Party & reinforcement of the idea of holding the Party in the open covered area adjoining Warm Up #1. The consensus, start the Party at approximately 5:30 PM and concurrent with the suggested area so convenient to all the barns & competitors.

Following Patty's' remarks, Leslie inquired if there were any Board questions or comments. With no Board questions, Leslie directed the meeting back to the modified April Agenda.

Again following a modified agenda, Susan Heather, HDS Awards Chair, advised the Board that Susan will handle the awards for the CDI portion of the Spring Show. That oversight will include the daily Awards Ceremony aspect of the CDI. Susan added that the

CDI ribbons, secured by Betty Waldo, are in and will be in the awards office prior to the beginning of the CDI. CDI awards include coolers provide by HOC. The special awards, mostly silver platters will be set up and displayed at the beginning of the Show until the display is reduced as the awards are made. At this point Susan moved to and noted a final selection of new glassware as HDS 1ST place awards going forward. The new award will be a stemless wine glass with HDS' logo etched in as has been the case with glass awards in the past. Finally Susan noted that she will check HDS' inventory prior to the HDS Spring Show.

Following Susan's remarks, Leslie inquired if there were any Board questions or comments. With no Board questions, Leslie directed the meeting back to the modified April Agenda.

Continuing with a modified agenda, Chris Renne, HDS' new Education Chair, updated the Board regarding the recent Region 9 Adult Amateur Clinic featuring Kathy Connelly and Betsy Steiner. Chris and Angel Gunn attended the two (2) day Clinic as auditors on behalf of HDS. The Clinic was held at Windy Knoll in Magnolia, Texas. The Clinic featured eight (8) riders selected from a field of thirty two (32) applicants from Region 9. The Clinic was attended by approximately ninety (90) auditors. This well received Clinic was the initial 2015 USDF Adult Clinic which will now be offered in the other eight (8) USDF Regions.

Moving to HDS' planned Conrad Schumacher FEI Training Series, Chris' comments introduced which at this point appears to be a name for the Schumacher Series going forward. For now, the Series will be termed Trainer of Our Coaches, unless a better name is selected as the planned Series comes together. Currently finalized details including a weekend rider fee of \$275.00/ride with the initial weekend for the Series tentatively scheduled during September, 2015. Adhering to the principle of not burdening any barn with a three (3) day event, which deters all other normal training and riding by resident boarders, the Schumacher Series will employ an AM set of rides, specifically four (4) riders, at a local barn followed by some over lunch travel to a nearby barn for a PM set of another four (4) riders. The first day session, expected to be a Friday, will be closed to auditing. As stated above, the initial Series will be in mid September.

Following Chris' remarks, Leslie inquired if there were any Board questions or comments. With no Board questions, Leslie directed the meeting back to the modified April Agenda.

Returning to a modified agenda, Tracy Zaidenweber, HDS' Volunteer Coordinator, zeroed in on the Boards understanding of what HDS will be committed to regarding an Incentive Volunteer Plan for HDS Show volunteers. Tracy geared her discussion based on a HDS volunteer providing HDS with twenty five (25) hours of volunteering at HDS events during a given HDS Fiscal Year. Tracy noted that on average an HDS weekend Show requires twelve (12) volunteers per shift thus totaling a maximum of sixteen (16) hours of volunteering/volunteer during a typical two (2) day HDS Show. Tracy added HDS Educational events must also be included as venues where volunteer hours can be earned. To summarize, Tracy noted HDS' venue of events require >1600 hours of volunteering and going forward will likely require ~2000 hours of volunteering in a future Fiscal Year. To bring what HDS will be committed to via a Volunteer Incentive Plan into focus, an HDS

volunteer providing twenty five (25) hours of volunteering will earn \$100.00 of HDS Bucks, which for example is the equivalent of a tack stall during a HDS weekend Show. The earned HDS Bucks can be transferred to trainers, friends, barns, or used to cover some or all costs of attending HDS events. The ensuing discussion made it clear, HDS would welcome the cost of having as many volunteers as possible earning \$100.00, or more, of HDS Bucks by providing HDS with twenty five (25) hours of volunteering during a Fiscal Year. Following Tracy's clarifying comments the already tentatively approved HDS Volunteers Incentive Program passed as presented and will be implemented for the HDS Spring/CDI Show.

Following Tracy's remarks, Leslie inquired if there were any Board questions or comments. With no additional Board questions other than the above noted discussion, Leslie directed the meeting back to the modified April Agenda.

Continuing with a modified agenda, Malinda Edwards de Mata, HDS' newly elected Publication Chair, advised the Board she has a planned meeting with Flo later this week to assist with content as applied to HDS' website and HDS' Facebook page. Going forward, Flo will continue to interface with Malinda by providing IT support as needed for HDS' website and HDS' Facebook page. Malinda will close similar named but not related Facebook pages or at least have such Facebook pages remove any claimed affiliation with HDS or representation of HDS endorsement.

Following Malinda's remarks, Leslie inquired if there were any Board questions or comments. With no Board questions, Leslie directed the meeting back to the modified April Agenda.

As the final presenter from the modified April Agenda, Leslie Rohrer, on behalf of the Recognized Show Committee, opened her remarks by providing a summary of the upcoming HDS Spring/CDI Show. Leslie noted that at this point, the overall Show has one hundred seventy five (175) entries, which equals the overall participants in the 2014 Spring/CDI Show, with the CDI registering twenty five (25) entries which is a significant increase over the participation in the 2014 CDI. Leslie went on to thank the RSC for their efforts putting on this major event. Leslie noted the pre-Show process has improved YOY & expectations are the Show feedback will reflect the input efforts of the RSC.

Leslie went on to add the Volunteer T-shirts have been ordered and will be in-house on time and then added that all other Show preparation are proceeding in a timely manner have been addressed earlier during the April Board meeting.

Leslie transitioned to a discussion of future Dressage Sport Horse Classes at HDS Shows. Requests have been received by HDS requesting that HDS offer such Classes based on the need for such Classes expressed by local Sport Horse breeders that are HDS members and Sponsors. The need is for Classes for very young horses, specifically In-hand Classes and for young horses, in Sport Horse Classes. Holding these specific Classes during HDS' Laborious Show will result in additional expenses related to at least one additional judge and the associated air travel, housing and ground transportation into & from GSWEC. The

request by the local breeders made to HDS to offer the Classes included an offsetting cost proposal that would involves entry fees covering the composite cost of an additional judge(s) for the two (2) day Show. On behalf of the RSC, Leslie stated this proposal was fair and appears workable as such Leslie recommended HDS proceed to devise a cost/fee structure that provides the requested Short Horse Classes at HDS Labor Day Show.

Following the RSC remarks, Leslie inquired if there were any Board questions or comments. With no Board questions, Leslie directed the meeting back to the modified April Agenda. With the need for some Board members to present and depart, the modified Agenda and the lack of quorum resulted in a number of Board reports not be presented, below is a summary of the missing reports. Note that this meeting was held just prior to the April 15th filing of US Income Tax and going into this meeting a number of board meeting advised that there personal business needed to take priority at this time.

Jennie Robicheaux, HDS' Treasurer, was unable to attend this HDS Board meeting and as such the Treasurer portion of the Agenda was deferred to this point in the meeting.

Karen Peacock, HDS' Membership Chair, was unable to attend this HDS Board meeting and as such the Membership portion of the Agenda was deferred to this point in the meeting.

Joanne Patterson, HDS' Junior/YR Chair, was unable to attend this HDS Board meeting and as such the Junior/YR portion of the Agenda was deferred to this point in the meeting.

Jena Tavormina, HDS' Schooling Show Chair, was unable to attend this HDS Board meeting and as such the Schooling portion of the Agenda was deferred to this point in the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (*per April meeting agenda*)

The Young Horse program requiring Classes during the HDS Labor day Show was addressed above.

NEW BUSINESS (*per April meeting Agenda*)

Without a quorum at this point in the meeting and no New Business on the April Agenda, Leslie proceeded to close the Business portion of the April Board meeting.

Without additional questions or Business items offered and the listed Agenda addressed, the April 2015 HDS Board meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Approved: _____
Chairman

Secretary