**Virtual Dressage Niagara “Zoom” Annual General Meeting – Sunday November 15, 2020**

Meeting called to order 4:10pm

Virtually Present: Cheryl Semotok, Louise Kennedy, Kerry Maddocks, Victoria Johnston-Dorricott Andrew Woodley, Janet Henderson, Joanne Copeland, Amber Ripa, Sophie & Terri Della Manna, Jackie Zions, Plus 2 others?

**2020 Dressage Niagara Annual General Meeting**

**Sunday, November 15th @ 4:00 pm – Virtual**

Agenda

1. Call to meeting
2. Accepting 2019 AGM minutes
3. Guest speaker
4. 2020 recap
   1. Changes and cancelations due to COVID-19 – going virtual
   2. Sponsorship/Grants
   3. Financial report
   4. Communications/Webmaster
   5. Membership
5. 2021 plans
   1. Virtual events? How to keep members engaged.
   2. Shows during COVID-19
   3. Nomination of new executive/volunteers
6. Conclusion of meeting

President – Cheryl Semotok

Meeting called to order, Cheryl summarized the 2019 AGM meeting minutes, and read them into the record.

Tamara Williamson of Kurboom, our guest speaker, made a 15 minute presentation introducing her Masterclass and the challenges, creativity, and benefits of riding a Dressage Freestyle to Music. DN will host with the help of the St. Catharines Equestrian Club Grant money a virtual masterclass in possibly 3 sessions, to assist members with the intricacies of selecting music, creating a pattern, and executing a Dressage Freestyle. Stay tuned for DN plans to host this Clinic, and future Freestyle riding & showing opportunities.

2020 RECAP:

With the 2020 craziness that was Covid 19 our carefully executed plans for 2020 show season were curtailed. We managed to host June & July virtual test riding clinics with thanks to Judges Janet H. and Lynne Poole Laurie. But our usual opener Introduction events & shopping etc. were cancelled.

Sponsors for 2020 - Cheryl Semotok

The advertising budgets for various longtime contributors were drastically cut, but we still managed to collect $500.00 in sponsorship money or prizes, and thanks to our St. Catharines Equestrian Club Grant applications we were successful in receiving donations there also, the applications were for upgrading our sound system, and hosting a clinic, both grants were approved, and will be deferred to the Freestyle Masterclass.

Website & Communications – Kerry Maddocks

Kerry has been managing & updating the DN Website, FB & Instagram Pages in keeping all our member engaged virtually & with social media. Submission of educational materials and shared community events & notes are always welcome, and we thank our regular contributors.

Treasurer’s Report – Louise Kennedy

The current bank balance is $5880.00 with very little expenditures this year. Attached overview of the Year’s balances.

Added – our Virtual Test Riding Clinics took in approximately $300.00 in revenue, and the judges donated their time to mark the tests.

Show Managers Report – Cheryl

There were no shows permitted under the Covid 19 2020 protocols, OE cancelled our dates, even when we were prepared to host a modified version under all the new Rules – we would have had only 6 horses entered to show, and we cancelled. With the Host Fees, Judge & Steward Fees, and volunteers needed it wasn’t feasible.

Membership – open Executive position

There are 27 current members, and it was voted that all 2020 paid memberships will continue to be valid for all of 2021.

**2021 FUTURE DN PLANS**:

With the current Covid situations not looking like they will be resolved for a 2021 show season, we voted to continue to offer and expand on the offers of Virtual Test Riding Clinics for 2021 in lieu of trying to challenge the Covid Protocols, and offer in-person shows. Shows are fun, community events, which we love hosting, but not if it means endangering the host facility, or any of our members just for a sporting event.

2021 Volunteers for the Executive:

We thank Amber Ripa & Victoria Johnston Dorricott for re-joining the DN community and volunteering to be on the Executive Board for 2021. Victoria will keep track of Members & Volunteers (if needed) and Amber will help with Secretary, and Sponsorship – or a melded version of positions.

If there are any other volunteers for the executive (Tara Feinstein?) please contact us at [Info@dressageniagara.com](mailto:Info@dressageniagara.com) we’d love to have you on board.

The meeting concluded by 5:15PM with plans for a Zoom meeting for the first of the new executive for 2021 on Monday Nov. 30th at 8:30PM

The meeting concluded with Prizes for the DN Virtual Photo Contest with the most likes going to Victoria JD and Heather Varlow.

Door Prizes with thanks to our sponsors were won by Kerry, Andrew & Jackie, and can be safely arranged for a “curbside pick up” by texting or calling Cheryl.

Stay Home Stay Safe & Happy Riding. Thank you for your continued support.