

Half-Halt

The Newsletter for the Southeastern Chapter of the Virginia Dressage Association
Volume Number 38 Issue Number 7 July, 2026



2026 Board of Directors

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Newsletter: Lora Gibson, lorahowgib@gmail.com

Awards: Amanda Petroski-Britton,

Amanda.petroski@verizon.net

2026 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: If you have not already done so, please plan to renew your membership. Membership period is January 1 - December 31. You can renew and pay online: <https://fs27.formsite.com/vablond25aolcom/form2/index.html>.

2026 Rates:

Senior Member \$57

Youth Member (21 and under) \$47

Farm/Family Membership \$110

(Farm/Family includes two members - additional members can be added at \$50 each-maximum four members)

Members at Large:

Dahlia Jenson-dahliajensen0113@gmail.com

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Katherine Gardner-Katherinegardner7@hotmail.com

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ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS:

SVDA Volunteer of the Day Program

In addition to receiving volunteer hours for volunteering at a show, SVDA is implementing a Volunteer of the Day program at schooling shows. All volunteers' names will be placed in a hat (one time for half day volunteers, two times for whole day volunteers) and one name will be randomly drawn. The winner can select their choice from a variety of gifts and gift cards, each with a \$25 value. Available choices are gift cards from Chick-fil-A, Wawa, Starbucks, SmartPak, Sugar Shack at the Mingle, and a gift bag from Cypress Saddlery. At the first 3 shows, we also have vouchers for free Chick-Fil-A sandwiches for some randomly selected volunteers.

SVDA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

Each year, SVDA members are eligible to apply for Scholarship and Foundation funds to further their advancement in dressage.

The SVDA Board of Directors votes on the applications received and can award up to two (2) Scholarships in the amount of \$400. If less than two (2) scholarships are given out in one (1) year, or there are additional funds, the Board may vote to give out additional scholarships that year.

See website for eligibility requirements or contact for details:

Whitney Kelso, Scholarship Chair

horsegalwhit@gmail.com

<https://southeastvirginiadressage.org/wp/scholarship-program/>

News from VADA:

Board Meeting - July 29, 2026 - 8:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

Great American Insurance Group/USDF Reg 1
Championships and VADA Fall Competition,
Lexington VA
1-4 October 2026
*"A Qualifying Competition for the 2026 US
Dressage Finals presented by Adequan"*
<https://www.virginiadressage.org/>

Member Notice - Upcoming USEF changes:

Beginning December 1, 2025, administrative fees (formerly \$8) will increase to \$10. Show passes (formerly \$45) will increase to \$85.

Beginning April 1, 2026, the following fee changes will apply:

- Competing Membership Fee will increase from \$95 to \$115
- Subscriber Membership Fee will increase from \$25 to \$35
- Annual Horse Recording will increase from \$95 to \$115
- Lifetime Horse Recording will increase from \$300 to \$500
- Individual Lifetime Foal Recording will increase from \$35 to \$50

You can save on your competing membership by enrolling in a three-year membership for \$285

ARTICLES, BEST PRACTICES, TIPS & TRICKS, RECIPES FOR NEWSLETTER - please note that contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Members receive two volunteer hours for submitting any of the above items. Easy way to accumulate hours for end year Championships qualification! Email lorahowgib@gmail.com for questions or submissions.

UPCOMING SVDA EVENTS:

SVDA Spring Flower Power Fundraiser is underway! SVDA wants to welcome Spring with our Spring Flower Power Fundraiser for 2026! SVDA receives 50% of the proceeds of your purchases and will go to support clinics and events for our local dressage community! Place your order today! Check on FB and website homepage for the link.



SVDA FALL CLINIC WITH CAROL BISHOP & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING-NOV 7 & 8

Southeast Virginia Dressage Association

Fall Clinic & General Membership Meeting with CAROL BISHOP

November 7-8, 2026

Saturday: Rosalind Equestrian Center
2465 W. Landing Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Sunday: Briar Glen Riding Academy
15165 Bowling Green Road
Windsor, VA 23487

General Membership Meeting
Sunday at 12PM (Lunch Provided)

Carol Bishop
USDF "R" & WDAA "R" Judge

SVDA Members: \$150
Non-SVDA Members: \$175

Intro through FEI Welcome!

www.southeastvirginiadressage.org



MAAPP

MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION

REQUIRED OF ALL PARTICIPANTS

LEARN ABOUT MAAP POLICIES



Safe Sport Training



Travel



One-On-One Interactions



Social Media & Electronic Communications



Read about these & more at usef.org/MAAPP

REPORT MAAPP POLICY VIOLATIONS



usef.org/safe-sport/reporting

859-225-6915 or Text Anonymously 2USEF (28733)



Please note: In accordance with Safe Sport guidelines, all Juniors should be accompanied to SVDA events by their parent or legal guardian. In cases where a parent or legal guardian cannot attend, the parent or legal guardian should complete and sign a waiver, which is available at www.southeastvirginiadressage.org

SVDA 2026 SCHOOLING SHOW SCHEDULE:

Date	Facility	Location	Close	Judge
8/9/2026	Harmonia Equestrian	Suffolk, VA	7/31/2026	Lorraine Evans Klepacz, L Graduate
8/30/2026	Seahorse Run	Suffolk, VA	8/21/2026	AnnMari Ingersoll, L Grad w/ Distinction
9/20/2026	RiverBirch	Courtland	9/11/2026	Jane Kelly, L Grad w/ Distinction
Championship TBD	Airfield 4-H Center	Wakefield, VA	10/23/2026	TBD

ENTER ONLINE: <https://fs27.formsite.com/vablond25aolcom/q6gtzyjfb/index.html>

ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN FOR AUGUST 9 SHOW AT HARMONIA EQUESTRIAN-ENTRIES TO CLOSE FRIDAY, JULY 31! ENTER TODAY!

SANCTIONED SHOWS:

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 Crescent Bay Pony Club <i>SVDA Sanctioned Show</i> LOCATION: Northwest River Part 1733 Indian Creek Road Chesapeake, VA 2322 JUDGE: AnnMari Ingersoll, L Grad w/Distiction ENTRY SECRETARY: Rebecca Greifenberger 326 Brisa Drive Chesapeake, VA 23322 rtoth21@hotmail.com	NOVEMBER 15, 2026 Crescent Bay Pony Club <i>SVDA Sanctioned Show</i> LOCATION: Northwest River Part 1733 Indian Creek Road Chesapeake, VA 2322 JUDGE: Robyn Nunnally, L Grad w/Distiction ENTRY SECRETARY: Rebecca Greifenberger 326 Brisa Drive Chesapeake, VA 23322 rtoth21@hotmail.com
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Entry Form:

<https://southeastviriniadressage.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Crescent-Bay-EntryForm.pdf>

IMPORTANT SHOW REMINDER: Don't forget that for all schooling shows and clinics sponsored by SVDA - a CURRENT negative coggins must be received or you will not be allowed to participate. SVDA must submit a report listing all horses, owners and coggins accession numbers to the Va Dept of Agriculture for every sponsored event. We cannot make exceptions. So please get your coggins drawn early to allow processing time so that we don't have to refuse your participation on the day of a show or clinic. Please upload at time of show entry or upload at:
<https://fs27.formsite.com/vablond25aolcom/form1/index.html>

2026 LICENSED SHOW SCHEDULE (partial):

Aug 8	Early Morning Blues, Pinehurst, NC
Aug 22-23	Whispering Miracles Dressage, Virginia Beach, VA
Sept 5-6	Cool Down Dressage, Pinehurst, NC
Sept 5-6	VADAF Dressage at Rose Mount Farm, Spotsylvania, VA
Sept 11-13	NCDCTA Harvest Moon Dressage/CBLM Championship, Raeford, NC
Sept 26-27	Pinehurst Fall Dressage, Pinehurst, NC
Oct 1-4	GAIG/Reg 1 Championships and VADA Show Fall, Lexington, VA

Partial list - See USDF website for full schedule of shows - follow Region 1 -
<https://www.usdf.org/calendar/competitions.asp>

Important notice:

USEF DRESSAGE CHAPTER: DR 121 ANNEX A

Effective immediately - Updated May 6, 2026; Annex A is a supplement to the USEF Dressage Rules. All bits/equipment labeled as 'Pending Review' are not permitted in USEF/USDF competition until determined otherwise in this Annex. Please refer to FEI Dressage Rules and FEI Tack App directly for permitted saddlery/equipment in FEI CDIs events. Additional clarifications and rulings from the USEF Dressage Sport Department are noted and dated.

Please see link for pdf: [annex---bits-saddlery-equipment.pdf](#)

<https://share.google/kVSTKlodeg6dWX0ja>



SVDA MERCH - ORDER DETAILS! PERFECT ITEMS FOR 2026 SHOW SEASON!

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH SVDA ***(discount applies to annual agreement)***

<i>SIZE</i>	<i>RATES</i>	
	<i>MONTH</i>	<i>YEAR</i>
Full page	\$15	\$150
Half page	\$10	\$100
Quarter page	\$7.50	\$75
Business card	\$ 5	\$50
Classified	\$ 5	\$50



Visit our online shop for SVDA logo items:
<https://southeastvda.itemorder.com>. You can place orders directly to the shop, pay, and items will ship right to you.

VADA BOARD MEETING MINUTES 6-24-2026 VIA ZOOM

Participating: Sheli King (VN); Bettina Longaker (C'ville); Alison Douglas (Central); Jessie Ginsburg (NOVA); Robyn Nunnally (SVDA); Hannah Bowers (F'burg); Christina Arrington (Central); Laura Nelson (SWVADA); Rachel Rice (NOVA); Anne Draine (NEVADA); Muffin Smith (SWVADA); Nancy Doody (C'ville), Katie Kelly (SWVADA), Angie Stanaway (NEVADA), and member Dianne Boyd

Minutes: The minutes of the May meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jessie reported that our combined balances are 229K. This includes entry money from DAL so it's artificially inflated.

Membership Report: We currently have 476 members. Membership chairs, please make sure you send in your updates to Nancy Doody so that we have for eblasts and send your payments to Beth Rippel. Beth doesn't update to USDF and VADA until she has the payments.

VADA Safe Sport Policy: The instructions for chapter event submissions can be found on the VADA portal. Christina and Tina are the Safe Sport Chapter Coordinators and can answer any questions chapters may have.

DAL Update: Entries close June 30th and we are light. USDF has changed their main breed show sponsor to Nutrena. We have new breed performance awards this year. We are awarding high score ribbons to the following breeds: Danish Warmblood, Dutch Warmblood (including KWPN), German Riding Pony, Hanoverian, Iberian Warmblood (Andalusian, Lusitano, PRE), Oldenburg (GOV,ISR), Thoroughbred and Westphalian. The breed specific ribbon will be awarded to the horse with the highest score based on scores received on Friday and Saturday (some classes excluded- see prize list for details). We still need volunteers so please spread the word.

Submission Deadline for GMO Award Nominations: Please refer to the attachment for details.

New Business: none

Chapter Updates: PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE SENDING INFO TO NANCY DOODY FOR THE WEBSITE. It's free advertising for any shows and clinics you're holding.

Central: Two one day licensed shows Friday-Saturday July 24-25 at Deep Run Hunt Club in Manakin Sabot, Lonesome Dove volunteer days August 28-29, Patrick Tigchelaar Clinic Sept 19-20 location tbd, Debbie Rodriguez clinic October 17-18 at Saddlebrook Farm

Charlottesville: Schooling shows July 26th at Toad Hollow Farm in Charlottesville judge Michelle Anderson, September 13th at Grayson Farms judge Nicky Vogel

NEVADA: Schooling shows at Edgehill Farm- July 19 judge Kat Sepka, August 9 judge Nancy Lowey, September 20 judge Elise Enoch, September 30 judge Annmari Ingersoll (tentative State Fair), October 18 judge Lorraine Evans, November 1 judge April Rivers. Registration for all of these is on www.competeeasy.com. Nikki Vogel Clinic June 18th at Edgehill Farm

Fredericksburg: Licensed show Dressage At Rose Mount will be held September 5-6

NOVA: Aug 2 Schooling Show, Aug 21 Lilo Fore Judge Education Classroom Session, Aug 22-24 Summer Wind Down Shows I and II, Nov 7-8 Schooling Show and Schooling Show Championship

SVDA: Schooling Show Schedule- August 9 at Harmonia Equestrian judge Lorraine Evans, August 30 at Seahorse Run Farm judge AnnMari Ingersoll, September 20 at Riverbirch Farm judge Jane Kelly, October 31 Championship Show at Airfield 4-H judge tbd

SWVADA: Schooling show at Green Hill Park on September 27



KEEP YOUR *Horse Cool* THIS SUMMER!

Hot Weather Tips Every Horse Owner Should Know

Summer heat can be hard on horses. Follow these simple tips to keep your equine partner *healthy, comfortable, and performing* at their best!



HYDRATE, HYDRATE, HYDRATE

Always provide plenty of fresh, clean water. Horses may drink **10–20+ gallons** each day during hot weather.



REPLACE ELECTROLYTES

Sweating causes horses to lose essential minerals. Offer electrolytes when appropriate and keep free-choice salt available.



FIND THE SHADE

Turn out during cooler parts of the day and be sure your horse has access to natural or man-made shade.



KEEP AIR MOVING

Good barn ventilation and safely installed fans help improve airflow and reduce heat buildup.



COOL DOWN PROPERLY

After riding, hose your horse with cool water, especially on the neck, chest, shoulders, and legs. Scrape away warm water and repeat until your horse has cooled.



RIDE SMART

Schedule rides early in the morning or later in the evening to avoid the hottest part of the day.



KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS

Watch for:

- Excessive sweating—or no sweating at all
- Rapid breathing
- Elevated heart rate
- Lethargy or weakness
- Reluctance to move

If you notice these signs, stop exercising immediately and begin cooling your horse.



FIGHT THE FLIES

Reduce insect stress with fly masks, repellents, clean stalls, and proper manure management.



GROOM DAILY

Removing dirt and dried sweat helps your horse regulate body temperature more effectively.



WHEN IN DOUBT...TAKE THE DAY OFF!

On extremely hot and humid days, a rest day is often the safest choice. Your horse will thank you!



☞ SUMMER SAFETY CHECKLIST ☞

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ Fresh water available at all times | ☒ Cool down after exercise |
| ☒ Free-choice salt or electrolytes | ☒ Watch for heat stress |
| ☒ Shade and ventilation | ☒ Keep flies under control |
| ☒ Ride during cooler hours | ☒ Don't overwork in extreme heat |



—♥ *A Cool Horse is a Happy Horse!* ♥—

☀ HYDRATE ☀ SHADE ☀ COOL DOWN ☀ REST ☀

Taking a few extra precautions during the summer helps keep your horse *safe, comfortable,* and ready for every ride.

