

ShowChic Shop Talk

Common Test Mistakes You Can Fix at Home

By Caryn Vesperman

"It's important to have a healthy bridge between judging and training," says Sarah (Lockman) Tubman.

She speaks from personal experience—she's a trainer and international competitor who is riding Summit's Farm, First Apple at the CDI level. Lee is a USDF/USEF "S" judge and an FEI 4* judge. He is also an accomplished international rider and coach, and had been long-listed for Canada numerous times. And speaking of the "bridge" between judging and training: Sarah and Lee were married in 2021.



Lee and Sarah Tubman

Sarah and Lee were the guest speakers at the January ShowChic Shop Talk, Wellington, FL.

The Secret to Correct Training is...

Sarah and Lee emphasized proper basics, no matter what level one rides or whether one is riding at home or a show. "The small problems can end up being big problems at the higher levels," Lee says. "That's why proper half-halts are number one in training. That means doing "thousands of transitions."

Sarah agreed with half-halts being the key, explaining that's why riders have to have *good* half-halts. She also advises riders to half-halt through corners because corners are good preparation for the next movement. "Every corner is a strength-building exercise," she says. "They are the human equivalent of push-ups."

The judges' first impression of the rider happens in the first halt in the test because it's the rider's first representation of how they can do a half-halt.

So what *is* a half-halt? It's using one's core to send a signal to the horse. It's momentary—no longer than a step—and isn't about hanging on the reins. Lee points out 80% of the Grand Prix Special has something to do with a transition (half halts) in its 36 movements.

Test-Riding Tips

Lee advises riders to go for a "super clean, consistent test." If you make a mistake, just let it go. "Don't try to make up for the mistake somewhere else," says Lee. "That's too much stress to put on yourself, which will transfer to your horse."

Building on Lee's comment, Sarah says we have to be our horse's personal trainer, and our training shouldn't be different at home than how we ride at a show. As an added bonus, Sarah says, "If riders are prepared with a plan, nerves should be reduced."

Continued on next page

Shop Talk continued

When going to a show, keep in mind with every test you ride, you are still training your horse. “If you walk away with a blue ribbon,” continues Sarah, “ask yourself did what happen in the ring help your horse in the future.”

Tests Reflect the Training

With training, both Lee and Sarah emphasize the connection from back to front, which includes the mouth. When training a horse, keep in mind that self-carriage is soft. Riders who ride with over-flexed polls, tight necks and a tense back with reins that are too long, are not developing proper self-carriage or relaxation.

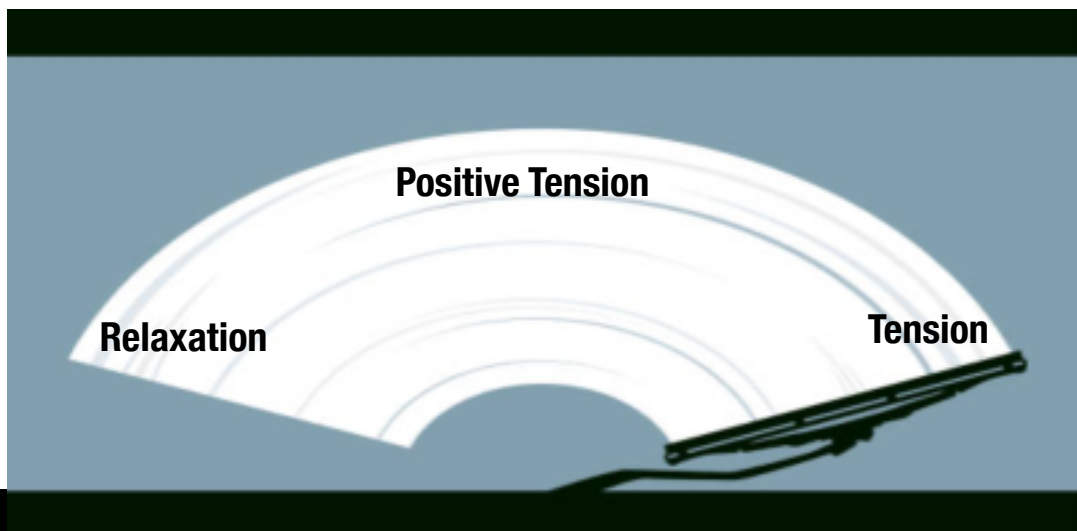
Not only is this incorrect training, but judges will penalize this. Short necks, even on a super mover, will have points taken off. So, if there’s a short neck on an average mover in which a rider was going to get a six or seven, think how the points for a short neck will negatively affect the score.

In addition, both Sarah and Lee point out that training involves a balance of relaxation and tension. A completely relaxed horse doesn’t have the “positive” tension to lift itself up, while a tense and tight horse is too stiff to allow the back, limbs and neck to swing in a relaxed way. Lee says it’s like windshield wipers in which one side is relaxation and the other extreme is high tension. The best position is in the middle: balanced tension.

Lee advises having high expectations at home and at shows for the beginning, middle and end of the ride. This also means “maximizing the potential of what you can get

done in the walk,” he says. This is important at shows because it includes doing all three phases correctly the first time instead of schooling something over and over. “When you go to the next show, it could be 90 degrees and you won’t have a horse left if you have to school over and over,” says Lee.

Whether training or showing, the goal from Training to Grand Prix is to develop a confident, submissive and harmonious partnership. Remember, the collective marks at the end of the national tests are basically the summary of the training scale.



2023 Awards: Don't Forget to Sign Up!

Thinking about the upcoming show season and your goals, don't forget to sign up for your awards before your first show.

Go to the WDCTA website and search under “Forms” or use this quick link: <https://www.wdcta.org/index.php/forms/printable-forms>

*The Wisconsin State Horse Council
Equine Foundation proudly presents...*



"Winter Fun Day"

February 11, 2023

Free Admission

Scenic Bobsled Rides

11 am—3 pm

*tickets available for
purchase at the event



- Raffle
- Door Prizes
- Bonfire /
S'mores



Hosted at:

**Springbrook Events
N8400 Cty Rd I
Burnett, WI 53922**

For more info Call 920-382-2711
See Facebook / WSHC Equine Foundation

Indoor Activities

- 8 am - Model Horse Show
- 10 am - Vendors Open
- Sleigh Bell Café—Breakfast / Lunch
- Live Music

Outdoor Activities

- 10 am - 4 pm - Dog Sled Demos
- Skijoring Demos
- Sleigh Driving Exhibition
- 11:30 am - Vote for your favorite sleigh in the Sleigh Parade
- Kid Friendly Activities



Yes, I'm a dressage rider, but...

I enjoy other riding disciplines.

While in Wellington, I enjoy going to the jumper show grounds, and it's why my friends and I also bought jumper tickets for the World Cup this April in Omaha. I admire the athleticism and courage of the riders and horses.



At Wellington International, I watched horses with invisible wings. This was lucky timing in a photo shot.

Caryn Vesperman Editor

All advertisements, articles and photographs (with photo release) should be submitted by the 15th of the preceding month of publication, unless you make prior arrangements for additional time.

Calendar of events will appear in both the eQuester and on the WDCTA website.

Payment for advertisements should be submitted via PayPal through the WDCTA website (wdcta.org) or mailed with a check made out to WDCTA and mailed to the editor.

CONTACT INFO

(608) 695-9914
W1619 King Road
Brooklyn, WI 53521
newsletter@wdcta.org



I love going on trail rides.

While the trails where I'm at are non-existent—picture having horse farms in a residential neighborhood surrounded by a town with gas stations, grocery stores, banks, etc. Still, I at least try to ride around the property. It makes me appreciate the acres I have at our farm and the miles of trails at county and state parks back in Wisconsin.

I (almost) like working out.

For me, the hardest thing about working out is getting on my bike and peddling to the gym! But because I was so disappointed in myself when I was out of breath last fall, after my Prix St. Georges test at regional championships, I knew I had to do something to get stronger and more aerobically fit. I have a ways to go, but at least I'm getting to the gym an average of four times a week, twice with a personal trainer. I like the atmosphere at my gym (as illustrated by the sign above the door), so that makes it easier too. Encouragement from others makes all the difference.



Until next month, go for those goals you set and take advantage of the WDCTA activities to help you get there.

Caryn

SAVE THE DATE

WDCTA Awards Luncheon * Saturday, Mar. 18
More details to come!

Death By Chocolate

Photos and Article by Diane Brault

For the first time in many years (thanks to Covid), WDCTA's Southwest Chapter held its Death By Chocolate Party in mid-January at the Town Hall of Oregon, WI.

Sixteen enthusiastic members attended. The event began with a short chapter meeting. Then members dug into a yummy spread of sandwiches and very creative hors d'oeuvres! The delicious lunch was catered by Mad City Chefs. As Southwest Chapter tradition "required," members provided an abundance of out-of-this-world chocolate treats and desserts.

Once everyone was satiated, the chairs were circled and the Crazy Gift Exchange began! As usual, our members brought wonderful gifts for the mystery exchange, including leg wraps, wine, books, cell phone carrier, a collectible model horse and many other fine gifts. Several coveted gifts were stolen from their original "giftee!" It was quite a lively scene!

Everyone enjoyed the festivities and the great company!



(Top) Delectable spread of food from Mad City Chefs. (Bottom three photos) Members filling their plates. No calories at this event!



Photos continued on next page

Death By Chocolate continued

(Clockwise from top left) Wrapped gifts beckon members to select them; something for the horse and rider—Back on Track and chocolates; brass mugs (perfect for those winter drinks); stealing gifts in the exchange game is a huge part of the fun; a Madison Firefighters calendar—a sure to “brighten” every month.



Member Listings

INSTRUCTORS

Megan McIsaac
Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum
4246 Schneider Drive
Oregon, WI 53575
lindinhofllc@gmail.com
(608) 445-8531
www.lindinhof.com

FEI trainer, USDF-certified instructor through 4th Level, 2014 national champion with Kingsley, USDF Gold, Silver, Bronze medalist, all USDF bars. Competed four horses at GP. Competed successfully at Dressage at Devon and West Coast Festival. Year-end USDF/USEF and WDCTA awards. 16+ years teaching experience. Students competed through GP, earned riding awards and medals. Travel for lessons and clinics.

Kate Van Sicklen
110 Merrill Crest Drive
Madison, WI 53705
katherinevansicklen@gmail.com
(608) 669-0148

40+ years of teaching experience. British Horse Society instructor certification. USF "L" graduate with distinction. USDF Associate Certified Instructor. USF Silver Medal. Shown through Prix St. George. Will teach through 4th Level. Specialize in teaching horses and riders correct basics. Will travel.

STABLES

Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum
Megan McIsaac
4246 Schneider Drive
Oregon, WI 53575
lindinhofllc@gmail.com
(608) 445-8531

80x200' heated indoor w/ mirrors. New stalls and client tack room w/ individual lockers. Individual and group turnout. Wash stall. Solarium. Theraplate. Numerous trails. Individual training programs. Lessons and leasing options on FEI school horses, month training for horses and riders. FEI trainer on site.

BUSINESS

Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum
4246 Schneider Drive
Oregon, WI 53575
lindinhofllc@gmail.com
(608) 445-8531
www.lindinhof.com

Importing top quality dressage horses from Europe. Contact us to find your next dressage star.

Caryn Vesperman - USEF/USDF "r" Judge
W1619 King Road
Brooklyn, WI 53521
touchstonefarm@gmail.com
(608) 455-2208

USDF Gold, Silver and Bronze medalist. Shown through Grand Prix. Available for USEF/USDF-recognized dressage and eventing shows and schooling shows.

BREEDERS

Your listing here!

*

Submit
Your
Listing Today!
Support Your
Business and WDCTA.

**WISCONSIN DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION
2023 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

MEMBERSHIP TERM: December 1 – November 30



___ RENEWAL ___ NEW - Referred by _____

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____ MI _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

FARM OR BUSINESS NAME _____

New members: Please tell us how you learned about WDCTA:

- ___ Clinic or Event
___ Midwest Horse Fair
___ USDF ___ USEF
___ USEA
___ Pony Club
___ Facebook
___ Current WDCTA member (name) _____
___ Web Search
___ Other _____

*** Would you like to receive other horse-related mailings that are not affiliated with WDCTA? **YES NO**

DISCIPLINES:

- ___ Dressage
___ Eventing
___ Breeder
___ OTHER

RIDER STATUS:

- ___ Professional
___ Adult Amateur
___ Young Rider (*age 18-21)
___ Junior Rider (*age 17 or less)

* Age as of January 1

CHAPTER AFFILIATION:

- ___ **Southwest** (SW Wisconsin, Madison and surrounding area)
___ **Upper Peninsula** (Upper Michigan and northern WI)
___ **Central** (Portage, Green Bay, Stevens Point, and central area)
___ **Kettle Moraine** (Milwaukee, Sheboygan, FDL and southeast WI)
___ General Member (No chapter designation)

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION AND FEES

- ☐ **\$164 BUSINESS Membership** -- Includes one USDF Group membership; emailed newsletter; one voting privilege; recognition & business card ad in eQuester, listing & logo on WDCTA website. Also, INCLUDES Stable, Instructor, Breeder & Business listings (choose one or all four) in both eQuester & website.

- ☐ **\$64 FAMILY Membership** - Includes one USDF group membership; emailed newsletter; two voting privileges. USDF requires that an additional USDF membership be purchased for each additional family member. Add \$10 for each additional family member.

- ☐ **\$10** Add'l family member name _____ Birth date if age 21 or less _____

- ☐ **\$10** Add'l family member name _____ Birth date if age 21 or less _____

- ☐ **\$52 INDIVIDUAL Membership** (Age 18 & over) . Includes one USDF group membership; emailed newsletter; one voting privilege.

- ☐ **\$39 JUNIOR Membership -- Birth date** _____ (must be age 17 or less as of January 1st. Do not use in conjunction with a Family Membership. Includes one USDF group membership; emailed newsletter; one voting privilege.

- ☐ **\$42 NEW MEMBERS ONLY** (not a member in the previous year), **JUNE MEMBERSHIP** -- joining after June 1st. Includes USDF group membership.

As a member of WDCTA, I may choose to volunteer for Association responsibilities or activities. I expressly agree that my services are being provided as a volunteer and that I am not an employee of the Wisconsin Dressage & Combined Training Association. I am neither entitled to nor expect any present or future salary, wages, or other benefits for these volunteer services. I agree to abide by the WDCTA Standard of Conduct: to act honestly, fairly, ethically and with integrity and treat all WDCTA members with respect and courtesy.

Applicant Signature _____ **Date** _____

WDCTA STABLE, INSTRUCTOR, BREEDER, BUSINESS LISTINGS -- Listings on website & eQuester. **Must fill out listing form available on WDCTA website and include payment.** (These listings are free when purchasing a Business Membership.)

- ☐ \$10 Stable listing ☐ \$10 Instructor listing ☐ \$10 Breeder listing ☐ \$10 Business listing ☐ \$35 for all four listings

Make check payable to WDCTA & mail to Diane Brault, 5184 County Road HH, Barneveld, WI 53507
membership@wdcta.org or 608-924-1808

AUDITOR INFO & REGISTRATION

OLYMPIAN LAURA GRAVES DRESSAGE SYMPOSIUM

May 20-21, 2023 - Madison, WI

FORMAT AND SHOPPING

Over two days, 11 riders, working with young horses and on skills from Training Level to Grand Prix, will train with Laura for 45 minutes to an hour in each session. Laura also will ensure auditors learn from the work she does with each horse and rider.

The vendor area promises to be a great shopping adventure with a variety of tack, clothing and barn necessities. The vendors will be located next to the riding arena and will be open during the entire event.

All of the activities will be under one roof—climate-controlled for your comfort!



Sponsored by the Southwest Chapter of



DAILY SCHEDULE

- 7:30 a.m. Registration and Trade Fair Opens
- 9 a.m. Welcome/Introduction
- 9:15 a.m. Training
- 10 a.m. First Level
- 10:45 a.m. Second Level
- 11:30 p.m. Third Level
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch/Shopping
- 1:15 p.m. Fourth Level
- 2:00 p.m. Prix St. Georges
- 2:45 Intermediare 1
- 3:30 p.m. Intermediare. II, Grand Prix
- 4:15 p.m. Wrap-up
- 6:00 p.m. Trade Fair Closes

Schedule subject to minor changes

LAURA GRAVES

2019

- Finished second at the FEI World Cup Dressage Final.

2018

- Defended her World Cup Finals individual silver medal at the competition in Paris.
- Earned team silver medal and individual silver medal, Grand Prix Special, at the World Equestrian Games.
- Ranked #1 in the world in a record-breaking freestyle performance.

2017

- Earned the silver individual medal at World Cup Finals in Omaha.

2016

- Competed at her first Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, winning a bronze team medal and placing fourth individually.

2015

- Placed fourth at the FEI World Cup Finals, Las Vegas.
- Won a team gold medal and individual silver medal at the Pan American Games in Toronto.

Currently Laura is competing Sensation HM. She had a very successful outing at the 2022 Festival of Champions including earning the Intermediare I Championship title.

SYMPOSIUM LOCATION

The Alliant Energy Center (alliantenergycenter.com) is the home of the Midwest Horse Fair, one of the top three horse fairs in the United States. It's conveniently located off the Madison beltline. The New Holland Pavilion is an excellent venue for equestrian events because the climate-controlled space contains an indoor arena, stabling, vendor booth areas and concessions, all under one roof. Some camping slots are available for a fee—contact Alliant Energy Center directly.

Alliant Energy Center
New Holland Pavilion I
1919 Alliant Center Way
Madison, WI 53713
(608) 267-3976
alliantenergycenter.com

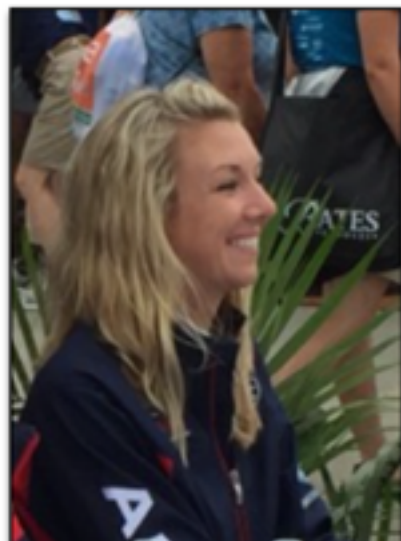
FEES

See registration section for costs.

- Limited seating. First come/first serve.
- Due to limited seating, priority admission goes to those auditing both days.

KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST NEWS

Check the WDCTA website (wdcta.org) and WDCTA's two Facebook pages to keep up with the latest news about vendors and the symposium.



LAURA GRAVES DRESSAGE SYMPOSIUM AUDITOR REGISTRATION FORM

FEES:

WDCTA Members

- ~ Through Feb. 28* — \$55/day or \$95/both days
- ~ Mar. 1 - May 12* — \$75/day or \$135/both days
- ~ At The Door — \$75/day or \$135/both days

Non-WDCTA Members

- ~ Through Feb. 28* — \$65/day or \$115/both days
- ~ Mar. 1 - May 12* — \$85/day or \$155/both days
- ~ At The Door — \$85/day or \$155/both days

Youth (Under 16 years)

- ~ \$35/day or \$65/both days

**Postmarked or online payments no later than May 12. After that date, please pay at the door to ensure we don't miss your payment.*

If not sold out, tickets will be available at the door. See WDCTA website for updates.

Lunch is not included in price. Food available on site.

Free parking at the Alliant Energy Center. Some camping spots available for rent; contact the Alliant Energy Center for more information on camping and reservations.

One Auditor Registration Per Form. Sorry, No Refunds.

Auditor Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Attending:

_____ Both Days

_____ One Day — Which Day: _____ Saturday _____ Sunday

Total Auditor Fees Enclosed: _____

☐ I'd like to volunteer to help.

CONTACT AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Online registration can be done via eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/laura-graves-dressage-symposium-tickets-89509929609>.

Questions about online registration? Contact Mary Barr at onlinereg@wdcta.org.

Or mail this registration form, waiver and check made out to WDCTA Southwest Chapter to:

Donna Thomas, 5996 Co. Rd. A, Brooklyn, WI 53521

Questions about mail-in/paper registration? Contact Donna at paperreg@wdcta.org.

Photos of Laura Graves from World Equestrian Games, Tryon, NC. Photo with Verdades - Rebecca Lewison. Head shot - CarynVesperman

**Register via
mail
OR
online at:**

[https://
www.eventbrite.com/e/
laura-graves-dressage-
symposium-
tickets-89509929609](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/laura-graves-dressage-symposium-tickets-89509929609)

**WISCONSIN DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION
WAIVER, RELEASE, AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

In consideration for my participation in the WDCTA Laura Graves Symposium, May 20-21, 2023, (hereafter, "the Activity"), I (the "Participant") hereby acknowledge and voluntarily agree to the following (hereafter, "Agreement"). "Participation" includes, but is not limited to, riding, handling, instructing, or spectating.

1. Acknowledgment of Inherent Risks of Equine Activities. I acknowledge and understand that there are numerous inherent risks of participating in equine activities, including, *but not limited to*: (a) the propensity of an equine or other animal, irrespective of its training, to behave in ways that may result in injury, harm, or death to persons on or around them (for example, jump, run, kick, buck, bolt, spin, rear, strike, or bite); (b) the unpredictability of an equine's reaction to such things as sounds, sudden movements and unfamiliar objects, persons or other animals; (c) certain hazards such as conditions at or below the surface or ground, whether seen or unseen; (d) collisions with other animals or objects; (e) the potential for another person participating in an equine activity to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to injury to me, or to others, such as failing to maintain control over the equine or not acting within his or her ability; (f) the breakage or failure of tack or other equipment; (g) the potential that an equine or other animal may cause injury or harm to the rider or to other persons or animals in the vicinity; and (h) sickness and disease (including communicable diseases). *I understand these risks and further acknowledge that I am not relying on the Wisconsin Dressage and Combined Training Association (hereafter, "WDCTA") to list in this document all possible inherent risks of participating in equine activities or the Activity.*

2. Acknowledgement that Participation in the Activity is Voluntary and Requires Personal Judgment. I acknowledge and understand that riding instruction by its nature requires that the instructor issue directions in the form of "commands." I understand that while I should consider such commands, I must and will use my own judgment during my participation in the Activity. I understand that while participating in the Activity that: the commands and all activities engaged in as part of the instruction are entirely voluntary; that the instructor is not entitled to nor requests absolute obedience; that I may elect not to comply with any command or suggested act; and that I am expected to at all times be alert and thinking while participating in the Activity. I represent that both my equine and I have the requisite level of physical fitness and mental alertness to enable us to participate in the Activity, and are in good health and free from injury, illness or other defects which may impair our ability to engage in the Activity.

3. Waiver and Release of Liability. I understand and voluntarily accept the inherent risks of engaging in equine activities, including risks from my voluntary compliance or noncompliance with instructor commands associated with the Activity. I voluntarily agree to hold harmless, release, waive, and covenant not to sue Laura Graves, WDCTA, its officers, members, non-members that pay an auditing fee, Alliant Energy Center, as well as all other participants in the Activity ("Released Parties") from any and all injuries, sickness and disease, death, liability, or damage to person or property arising from my participation in the Activity, unless caused by Released Parties' reckless, intentional or willful misconduct. Thus, I understand that this waiver and release is effective even if the injury, sickness and disease, death, liability, or damage to person or property is caused or contributed to by the *negligent* action or inaction of Released Parties.

4. Equine Activity Liability Law. I acknowledge that I have read the State of Wisconsin's notice regarding equine activities:

Notice: A person who is engaged for compensation in the rental of equines or equine equipment or tack or in the instruction of a person in the riding or driving of an equine or in being a passenger upon an equine is not liable for the injury or death of a person involved in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, as defined in section 895.481 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

5. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin. Any controversy, dispute, or claim arising out of or related to this Agreement, shall be resolved exclusively through proceedings filed in the federal or state court in Madison, WI. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision or sentence of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision or sentence of this Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect.

I have read this waiver, release, and hold harmless agreement, fully understand its terms, understand that I am assuming risks inherent to my participation, and agree to be fully bound by its terms. I understand that I am free to consult with any counsel about the terms of this agreement.

Signature of Participant _____ Date _____
(or parent or legal guardian of behalf of Participant, if Participant is under 18 years of age)

Name of Participant (please print) _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____ Phone _____

RIDER APPLICATION

OLYMPIAN LAURA GRAVES DRESSAGE SYMPOSIUM

May 20-21, 2023 - Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI

All located under one roof in the climate-controlled New Holland Pavilion I

DAILY SCHEDULE

Over two days, 11 riders, from the lower levels to Grand Prix, will work with Laura in a symposium setting.

7:30 a.m. Registration and Trade Fair

9 a.m. Welcome and Introduction

9:15 a.m. Training

10:00 a.m. First Level

10:45 a.m. Second Level

11:30 a.m. Third Level

12:15 p.m. Lunch and Shopping

1:15 p.m. Fourth Level

2:00 p.m. Prix St. Georges

2:45 Intermediare I

3:30 p.m. Intermediare II/Grand Prix

4:15 p.m. Wrap-up

6:00 p.m. Saturday - Trade Fair Closes

Schedule subject to minor changes.

*Sponsored by the
Southwest Chapter of the*



Opening Date for Rider Application

Jan. 1, 2023

Deadline for Rider Application

Mar. 1, 2023

This is your chance to ride with Laura Graves, one of this country's top international riders, who started out, just like most riders, with a pony and a dream. Add to that, is Laura's persistence and determination through some tough times with her partner, Verdades, because he was not easy as a young horse. Together, they became Olympians and international stars. In early 2020, Laura announced the retirement of Verdades. Currently she is competing SenSation HW at Prix St. Georges and has some up-and-coming young horses. She had a very successful outing at the 2022 Festival of Champions with many wins including Intermediare I Champion.

Laura's experience and the opportunities she has had with top trainers over her career, will help give you tools for training your horse and, if an instructor, give you ideas for helping your students.

For updates about the symposium, visit:
www.wdcta.org or our two Facebook pages.



RIDER SELECTION PROCESS

The following horse/rider combinations are needed:

- 2 Training Level
- 2 First Level (amateur riders preferred)
- 2 Second Level
- 1 Third Level (green to this level is fine)
- 1 Fourth Level
- 1 Prix St. George (green to this level is fine)
- 1 Intermediare I
- 1 Intermediare II/Grand Prix

Only online applications will be accepted. For the application, go to https://www.wdcta.org/index.php?option=com_rsform&view=rsform&formId=10.

The four reserve horse/rider combinations to back up the above selections are: Training/First Level, Second, Third/Fourth Level, and FEI. These combinations will be selected from the pool of riders not selected for the actual symposium riding slots. **Laura Graves will be selecting the riders.**

Riders need to submit a complete application to include all of the following:

- USDF/FEI Performance Record from the past two years or a letter of recommendation from trainer if the rider/horse combination do not have scores. (A letter of recommendation can be submitted even if one has the scores.)
- A summary explaining why the rider would like to be chosen
- A five-minute YouTube video showing the movements at the level applying for
- Current Coggins Test and record of current year vaccinations
- Rider release form
- Payment (which will not be processed until a rider has been selected and notified)

NOTE:

- Riders must ride the horse listed on the application.
- Riders may apply with more than one horse.
- ASTM/SEI helmets are mandatory.

Applications and videos are not reviewed until after the deadline submission of **March 1, 2023**. We will notify all applicants upon receipt of their entry AND as soon as the selection process is complete, no later than April 15. We will not publish or release the names of applicants who are not selected.

If you are **not** selected to ride, we hope you'll join us by auditing. You may want to sign up to audit now to make sure you have a spot in case you are not selected as a rider. If you are selected as a rider, we will refund your auditor application fee. In addition, if you are selected as a reserve horse/rider and you accept, we will refund the difference between the two costs.

FEES AND CANCELLATIONS

- ~ The 2-day clinic fee for Training through Second Level is: **\$400 for WDCTA members and \$450 for non-WDCTA members.**
- ~ The 2-day clinic fee for Third Level through Grand Prix is: **\$600 for WDCTA members and \$650 for non-WDCTA members.**
- ~ The fee for the four reserve riders is **\$100** for both WDCTA and non-WDCTA members. This includes admission for rider, a stall for the horse and a tack stall. (*No groom registration fee included. Lunch is also not included.*) If selected as a reserve rider, WDCTA will subtract \$100 from the submitted rider fee and refund the difference.

The accepted rider fee (NOT reserve rider) includes a ride on both days, a horse stall, a tack stall and one auditor/groom pass for someone other than the rider, but does not include lunches. Stall mats are available for \$65/stall from Showtime. (Stall mat information will be sent to the selected riders.)

Payment will be processed within 7 days of selection. Should checks/payment not be good, we will assume the rider has cancelled and the first alternate will be selected to take his/her place. (There is a \$50 charge to cover any insufficient fund fees.) Riders who need to cancel after their participation has been confirmed, should notify Caryn Vesperman, the rider coordinator, immediately. Riders canceling will receive a refund, minus a \$25 processing fee, if a replacement rider can be found. If no replacement is available from the applications, the rider will not receive a refund unless a medical or veterinary emergency can be verified.

RIDER COORDINATOR

Caryn Vesperman: riders@wdcta.org - (608) 695-9914

Sponsorship and Vendor Opportunities



This symposium and trade fair will be all under one roof at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, WI. The event is expected to attract more than 300 enthusiastic attendees and generate national publicity.

Registration/Trade Fair:

- Opens at 7:30 a.m.
- Closes at 6 p.m.
- Located in the New Holland Pavilion I— same building as riding clinic

About WDCTA

The Wisconsin Dressage and Combined Training Association (WDCTA) is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization run by volunteers. We are a charter member of our national organization, the United States Dressage Federation. Events like this help fund scholarships and future educational opportunities. Visit our website at wdcta.org or look for us on Facebook.

For information about the sponsorship or vendor opportunities, contact:

Mary Hanneman
vendors@wdcta.org
Phone: (608) 712-0975

Donations under \$100 will be gratefully acknowledged in the event program.

Sponsorship & Vendor Options

Platinum \$2,500

- Double Vendor booth space (10 x 20' space)
- No registration charge for up to 2 vendor staffers
- 2 large banners (exceeds 3' in height/width) hung in riding arena
- Full-page advertisement in event program (inside front or back cover) — first come, first choice
- Full-page advertisement in 12 issues of the *eQuester*, WDCTA's monthly newsletter
- Banner ad on WDCTA website for 1 year
- Sponsorship recognition in program listing
- Pre- and post-event publicity in WDCTA newsletter, website and Facebook pages

Gold \$1,500

- Single Vendor booth space (10 x 10' space)
- No registration charge for up to 2 vendor staffers
- 1 large banner (exceeds 3' in height/width) hung in riding arena
- Half-page advertisement in event program
- Half-page advertisement in 12 issues of the *eQuester*, WDCTA's monthly newsletter
- Banner ad on WDCTA website for 1 year
- Sponsorship recognition in program listing
- Pre- and post-event publicity in WDCTA newsletter, website and Facebook pages

Silver \$1,000

- Single Vendor booth space (10 x 10' space)
- No registration charge for up to 2 vendor staffers
- 1 large banner (exceeds 3' in height/width) hung in riding arena
- Quarter-page advertisement in event program (inside front or back cover)— first come, first choice
- Quarter-page advertisement in 12 issues of the *eQuester*, WDCTA's monthly newsletter
- Banner ad on WDCTA website for 1 year
- Sponsorship recognition in program listing
- Pre- and post-event publicity in WDCTA newsletter, website and Facebook pages

Bronze \$500

- 1 small banner (less than 3' in height/width) hung in riding arena
- No registration charge for one attendee, both days
- Business card advertisement in 12 issues of the *eQuester*, WDCTA's monthly newsletter
- Sponsorship recognition in program listing
- Pre- and post-event publicity in WDCTA newsletter, website and Facebook pages

Vendor Booth Only

- Single booth space (10 x 10'): \$250
- Double booth space (10 x 20'): \$500
- No registration charge for up to 2 vendor staffers

Business Card Only \$100

- Business card ad in event program

LAURA GRAVES SPONSORSHIP/VENDOR FORM

ALLIANT ENERGY CENTER – NEW HOLLAND PAVILION I

Yes! We want to participate:

_____ Platinum — \$2,500 _____ *Yes, I would like the booth included with my sponsorship.*
_____ Gold — \$1,500 _____ *Yes, I would like the booth included with my sponsorship.*
_____ Silver — \$1,000 _____ *Yes, I would like the booth included with my sponsorship.*
_____ Bronze — \$500
_____ Single Vendor Booth — \$250
_____ Double Vendor Booth — \$500
_____ Additional Booth Space: \$500 initial booth space, plus
\$100 for every 10 feet of additional space. Total number
of 10' spaces (*including* \$500 initial space): _____
_____ Business Card — \$100
_____ Donation (Amount): \$ _____

**Free 3 MG Wi-Fi
is available at the
Alliant Energy Center**

\$ _____ **Total Enclosed**

Additional Info:

Please check all that apply:

- ☐ I need an electric hook-up for my booth.
☐ I need table(s) with my booth. (Two 8' tables come with double booth; one table with single.)
☐ I need chairs with my booth. (Four chairs come with double booth; two chairs with single.)
☐ Please provide me with updates on the symposium. My email is listed below.

Please complete the following:

Company _____ Phone _____
Contact Name _____ Website _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

Deadline for sponsorship or booth reservations: April 1, 2023

Note: The sooner we receive your commitment, the sooner we can begin advertising you as a sponsor.

Please send the following to newsletter@wdcta.org by April 1:

- **Platinum, Gold and Silver sponsorships:** Your full-, half- or quarter-page ads and logo (PDF or JPEG)
- **Bronze sponsorships:** Your logo
- **Business card sponsorship:** Your business card

Banners should be mailed to **Mary Hanneman** by **May 1** at the address below.

For questions, contact Mary Hanneman at vendors@wdcta.org, or to reserve a sponsorship or booth, return this form with a check made out to WDCTA-Southwest Chapter:

Mary Hanneman, N8160 Smith Road, Brooklyn, WI 53521

Phone: (608) 712-0975

Thank You for Your Support