

# Central Plains Dressage Society

Meeting Minutes for Annual General Meeting January 5, 2025

**Officers Present:** Barbara Brockhaus, Chris Cashel, Janelle Williams, Stacia Wert-Grey, Beth Wallo , Nora Wert, Robin Hessel, and Steve Griggs. A quorum is met.

Committee Members and Guest: Janelle Williams and Christina Harmon

Called to order at 6:00pm by Chris Cashel via Zoom

Chris presented a summary of the year which included:

Growing the volunteer pool.

Two day western shows to be added in 2025

Three century rides this year with a total of 6 century rides in total for the Club.

Lots of medals awarded

Spa day in the spring included vaccines, artist, osteopathy, and photography.

Communications: We have 400-500 live streams every show. Social media has been a true winner with Two Minute Tuesdays and Throwback Thursdays.

The first year for Electronic scribing for shows.

New member packet is now on the website and available for all members.

Janelle Williams is the Region 9 Volunteer of the Year.

Minutes: Presented by Barbara Brockhaus. Robin moved and Chris 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved

Christina Harmon: presented a summary of the USDF annual meeting from December 2024.

Region 9 championships in Katy, Tx

GMO's are encouraged to apply for the USDF grants.

Rule Changes: Go to the USEF website and go through the GR and DR rules if competing this year. Anything in Red means it is a new change.

GR 838 rule from abuse to ethical treatment of a horse.

Christina will have a two-minute Tuesday about the new rule changes.

The finals will be in Ohio.

Para-dressage is now under the wing of USDF.

**Financial Report:** The club lost around \$4,300 for the year. Supplying food for the shows was an increased expense for the year. Recognized Dressage show numbers are down but are the most expensive to put on. Schooling show has not had a grounds fee in the past. If someone doesn't use a stall there will be a \$10.00 grounds fee.

**Membership** Finished 2024. At 145 members. The initial roster had 31.

**Communication:** FB 1008 followers. Posts reached 478 people. Website 322 people used last month.

**Education.** Plans are to host a New test symposium for 2026. American Hanoverian Inspection. Ideas for 2025 include trail ride and picnic. Instructor certification with Region 9. Informational meeting may be in person or zoom. Working with Region 9 youth coordinator, Marsha Lewis for an educational opportunity for young riders.

Annex A will come out in April and we will do several Two Minute Tuesdays about any rule changes.

**Show report:** 5 recognized shows. 8 schooling shows . Some Western shows will be two day shows.

Election: Pam Dawson was nominated for the board. Quorum present. No nominations from the floor. Pam Dawson elected to the board for a Three year term.

**Old Business:** No old business

**New business:** No new business

Adjourned at 6:55PM

Steve called the board to order at 6:52pm

Robin nominated Nora for President. Stacia second. Nora accepted nomination. Elected unanimously.

Officers for 2025: President: Nora Wert, on board through 2026

Vice-President:/Treasurer Steve Griggs on board through 2026

Secretary: Barbara Brockhaus on board through 2025

Committee:

Volunteer coordinator: Pam Dawson on board through 2027

Membership: Nora Wert

Social Media: Janelle Williams

Education: Beth Wallo on board through 2025

Volunteer coordinator: Pam is willing to do it for some of the shows.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM

Next meeting is February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Central Plains Dressage Society

Meeting Minutes February 2nd, 2025, by Zoom

Members Present: Nora Wert, Stacia Wert-Gray, Beth Wallo, Janelle Williams, Steve, Robin Hessel.

Called to order at 6:05pm by Nora Wert

Minutes: Presented by Beth Wallo/ Barbara Brockhaus.

Motion to approve Annual Meeting Minutes by Steve, second by Stacia.

Approved unanimously.

Motion to approve Board Meeting Minutes approved by Steve, second by Janelle (approved pending clerical correction: separation of Annual and Board Meeting Minutes).

Financial Report Approx. \$2000 to carry forward. We are good on ribbons until the fall. Membership has picked up.

Membership: 81 new members by Feb. 1st.

Education: No new news.

Show Report:

Show schedule is accurate online.

Region 9 Rule change goes into effect April 2nd: USDA Show Rules now allow the inspection of horse activity at anytime. This includes recognized shows/schooling shows/festivals. We must allow and assist in these inspections. Questions were posed about the functionality of these rules when a TD is not in attendance at these events. Currently, the rule changes do not address these concerns.

Communication: Website activity picks up when we have a show. Facebook is getting a lot of play.

Old Business: Livestream needs to be fixed by Steve; this should be as simple as a cable fix.

New Business: No new business

Adjourned at 6:30pm

# Central Plains Dressage Society

Meeting Minutes for March 2, 2025

**Officers Present:** Barbara Brockhaus, Pam Dawson, Janelle Williams, Stacia Wert-Grey, Nora Wert, Robin Hessel, and Steve Griggs.

Called to order at 6:04 by Nora Wert via Zoom

Minutes: Presented by Beth Wallo. Motion by Nora, seconded by Steve, passed unanimously

**Financial Report:** Around \$3,000 in the bank. The February schooling show was profitable. Tax filings will be done in the next few weeks.

**Membership:** 99 current members.

**Communication:** Website has generated \$470 in memberships, 159 unique visitors. Facebook has almost 6,000 views in the last month, with the "Ask Jody" videos generating much interest.

**Education:** The summer event will include a possible pancake social and trail ride at Valley View.

**Show report:** Entries for the March recognized show close in two weeks. Pam is calling people and trying to get more Juniors involved with helping at the shows, and she is talking to people about things that might be keeping them from volunteering.

**Old Business:** The Microphone and computer is having a switch and or a connector issue. Steve will diagnose and change out any needed equipment.

No new information about USDA officials going to facilities to check for ethical treatment of horses.

**New business:** Christina Harmon will attend the Region 9 Summer meeting as a representative for CPDS.

Motion: Robin moved to give Christina Harmon \$300.00 to offset travel expenses to attend the Region 9 Summer meeting in New Orleans. Second by Nora. Approved unanimously.

Next meeting April 6, 2025

Adjourned 6:35 pm

# Central Plains Dressage Society

Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2025

**Officers Present:** Barbara Brockhaus, Pam Dawson, Janelle Williams, Stacia Wert-Grey, Nora Wert, Robin Hessel, and Steve Griggs.

Called to order at 6:35pm by Nora Wert via Zoom

**Minutes:** Presented by Barbara Brockhaus, Motion by Nora, seconded by Janelle, passed unanimously

**Financial Report:** Steve has filed taxes and received confirmation from the IRS that the report was filed. The club has around \$4,000 in the bank.

**Membership:** The club has 138 current members.

**Communication:** Two-Minute Tuesdays are scheduled through May. Over 1,200 views of the livestream from the last recognized show.

**Education:** The Summer Social, trail ride and pancake breakfast, dates to be determined. Robin, requesting input for the November Freestyle festival. Possible date of November 8, 2025. We need more food for the youth and pizza seems to be the perfect answer.

**Show report:** The April Lite show is filling quickly. It is time to start thinking about judges to invite for 2026. The 2026 show schedule will reflect the 2025 show schedule.

Pam is busy recruiting new volunteers and hoping to expand the list of active volunteers.

**Old Business:** The USDA new rules about publishing the schedule has been tabled until next year by the USDA.

Steve fixed the audio on the camera.

**New business:** We are still working on Deryn's Closet. Nora presented the idea of starting with a horse-themed book lending library.

Next meeting May 4, 2025

Adjourned at 7:19pm

# Central Plains Dressage Society

Meeting Minutes for May 4, 2025

**Officers Present:** Barbara Brockhaus, Stacia Wert-Grey, Nora Wert, Robin Hessel, Steve Griggs, and Beth Wallo

Members present: Christina Harmon, Robin Hessel

Called to order at 6:11 pm by Nora Wert via Zoom

**Minutes:** Presented by Barbara Brockhaus, Motion by Beth, seconded by Nora, passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** Approx. \$5,000 in the bank. Stacia has purchased more ribbons.

**Membership:** The club has 136 current members.

**Communication:** FB: 4,500 views in April. 31% of people are not following the page. The "Ask Jodi" segments are very popular. The website results in a 41% open rate from emails. There was discussion about moving to use social media more and less on the website. The club would keep the domain name.

Questions focused on Western Dressage with Melissa Creswick.

**Education:** Summer social. Freestyle festival, middle November New tests come out in late 2026. Robin is working on something for the new tests.

**Show report:** There is high demand for the Western Lite shows, and moving to the two-day show is well received. May 17<sup>th</sup> schooling show is over half full at this time. The recognized show is just starting to fill.

Possibly adding a Western show on the last weekend to qualify for the World Show, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Run the show as a Dawn and Dusk show to avoid the heat of the day.

There was a nice celebration for Carol Johnson for her Century Ride at the Western Lite show.

**Old Business:** Nora presented the annual report to Region 9. Christina Harmon will attend as the representative of CPDS. Use of rolling rack for the Deryn's closet as well as a bookshelf for horse related books was discussed. The goal is to have it available by the August trail ride.

**New business:** Discussion of future board members: seeking out someone in the Western dressage area to broaden the board was suggested.

Next meeting June 1, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Adjourned at 6:59pm

# Central Plains Dressage Society

Meeting Minutes for August 3, 2025

**Officers Present:** Barbara Brockhaus, Stacia Wert-Grey, Nora Wert, Steve Griggs, and Beth Wallo

Members present: Janelle Williams, Robin Hessel

Called to order at 6:05 pm by Nora Wert via Zoom

**Minutes:** Presented by Barbara Brockhaus, Motion by Stacia, seconded by Robin, passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** Airfare for next few shows is already paid. The June schooling and lite shows were profitable and the recognized show lost a bit of money.

**Membership:** The club has 138 current members. Discussion about implementing shirts and hats for the club. Utilizing a zero inventory merchandise strategy.

**Communication:** 4,227 views on Facebook the post about Sage and Payton had a lot of engagement. 50% more new followers on FB in the last month. Janelle is looking into if there is a possibility to monetize the social media accounts.

**Education:** The Hanovarian inspection will hopefully include an educational component from the official. 2026 a new test symposium may be a zoom meeting. Looking into also doing a meeting for new Western Dressage tests at the end of 2026.

**Show report:** Nora reported that Region 9 clubs as a whole are having difficulties filling classical dressage shows. A schooling show on September 27<sup>th</sup> will take the place of the State Fair show. Stacia is working on the judges and TD's for the recognized shows for next year. CPDS will have a show schedule in the USDF Omnibus.

**Volunteers:**

**Old Business:**

**New business:** Seeking nominations for the CPDS board for 2027.

The club will have a micro-chip clinic available at one or more shows this fall. Robin will coordinate with the veterinarian. Janelle will create a form for owners to sign up to get the micro chip.

Freestyle Festival: Dog races, costume parade and pet tricks. Two freestyles per barn to encourage participation from more barns. May add a stick horse and costume parade. Robin will look into a photographer. There will be a pizza table for the children and a separate table for the adults.

Next meeting September 7, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Adjourned at 7:34pm



## MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Call to Order – 6:06 pm

Approval of Minutes – August 9, 2025

Approved with no changes or amendments

Treasurer's Report

Bank balance at roughly \$3,000

Committee Reports

Show

Several date changes for recognized shows and lite shows in 2026. This reflects the wishes of the membership to offer 2-day local shows instead of lite shows for the western dressage riders. This aids in qualifying for the WDAA World Show and earns more points for those registered with breed organizations. The rest of the schedule is built around this request with the dates remaining as close as possible to the original dates depending on OSU football schedule, concert in Stillwater, and availability of judges for English dressage. Stacia is working to finalize the schedule and fill in with dates for schooling shows. All dates and judges will be posted to Horse Show Consulting.

Volunteer

Pam has recruited several new volunteers from the university and is still working with FFA. All shows have had sufficient volunteers to run smoothly.

Communications

Club had 236+ views last month on Facebook. Trend for viewership is still upward. Internet connection during last 2 shows has been sporadic. Steve troubleshooted the problem and concluded it was from a loose connection where the hardwire is plugged in. He replaced the plug in. The scribes are to check the internet wireless network to make sure we are using the high-speed network.

Membership

No new additions to the roster. Currently at 138 members.

## Education

Robin working on plans for a new-test symposium to correspond with the publication of the new English dressage tests in 2026.

## Old Business

Defibrillator – John Rousch organizing the replacement of batteries and new pads. Cost estimate has decreased.

Radios – new radio set is a big improvement in ease of use and clarity.

Horse Show Consulting/CPDS consolidation – all information has transferred but we have not discontinued the CPDS web page yet.

## New Business

Board members for 2026 – 2 positions will be vacant. Have informal agreement with 2 replacements but could accept other nominations.

Microchip – Microchip readers are less expensive than estimated. Club to purchase a reader for those who are unsure whether their horses are already microchipped. The deadline for microchipping is December 1, 2025. Robin has coordinated with a local veterinarian to be available on October 18 and October 25 from 1:30 to 2:30 for those who need to have their horses microchipped.

FreeStyle Festival and Year End Awards – Review of flyer distributed by Nora for activities and timeline for November 8 festival. Several changes suggested. Janelle to make recommended changes and distribute revised flyer to board members, Robin and Stacia. Upon approval she will publish to Facebook.

Adjournment- 7:20 pm

Next meeting scheduled for October 12, 2025 at 6:pm

# Central Plains Dressage Society

Meeting Minutes for October 12, 2025

**Officers Present:** Barbara Brockhaus, Stacia Wert-Grey, Nora Wert, and Pam Dawson

Members present: Janelle Williams, Robin Hessel, Christina Harmon

Called to order at 6:04 pm by Nora Wert via Zoom

**Minutes:** Presented by Nora, passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** Ribbons and bags for year-end awards are complete. Balance is about \$2,500.00

**Membership:** No new members. The list is starting for next year's membership.

**Communication:** 64% of Facebook views are from followers. Posts about the High points from the schooling shows get lots of views. There is a tentative 2026 calendar on Stacia's website for the club.

**Education:** Robin is working on a clinic of some type for the new tests in December 2026. (ie. Webinar or zoom meeting)

**Show report:** The September schooling show was full and was a great show. We need hotel rooms for the October recognized show weekend for the TD and the judge. Schooling shows for October are full both Saturday and Sunday.

**Volunteers:**

**Old Business:** Stacia is emailing all participants about the opportunity to have your horse microchipped at the next two show weekends. Benchmark Animal Hospital will be available from noon until 2:00pm. The cost is \$70.00 per horse paid to the veterinarian.

**Freestyle Festival:** A Thanksgiving theme for the event. Robin has had some interest in the rides. Janelle will make several social media posts to advertise for the day and ask everyone to make Barn Baskets for the silent auction. Pam will present awards to the Volunteer of the Year, the volunteer with the most hours, and an appreciation gift for all volunteers.

**New business:** There are two vacancies on the CPDS board and elections will happen at the January annual meeting. Members are welcome to submit their names for the elections.

Next meeting, November 2, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Adjourned 6:43pm

## **Central Plains Dressage Society**

Meeting Minutes November 2nd, 2025, **by Zoom**

**Members Present:** Nora Wert, Stacia Wert-Gray, Beth Wallo, Janelle Williams, Steve, Robin Hessel, Christina Harmon.

Called to order at 6:07pm by Nora Wert

**Minutes:** Presented by Beth Wallo/Nora Wert.

Motion to approve Annual Meeting Minutes by Stacia, second by Beth. Approved unanimously.

Motion to approve Board Meeting Minutes approved by Nora, second by Stacia.

**Financial Report** Approx. \$1700 to carry forward. Will spend \$600 for year-end-awards and Fredrick talk.

**Membership:** Nothing new to report.

**Education:** Robin is considering a New Tests Program that will probably occur via Zoom.

### **Show Report:**

- Recognized Dressage shows are struggling to fill; schooling shows and Western Dressage shows are doing very well.
- Will consider one fewer dressage show or opt for local judges to defray costs.
- To increase interest and awareness of our shows, we considered adding Janelle to Region 9 Facebook page, possibly even adding “Two-Minute Tuesdays.”
- No changes to show schedule

**Communication:** Facebook is getting a lot of play: 10, 429 views. Up 29% due to schooling shows, Show High points (over 2,000 views), and comments on Kristin (over 2,000 views).

### **Old Business:**

- Freestyle Year-End-Awards has changed formats – the freestyle symposium will include Dressage demonstrations of non-traditional breeds. Logistics for event were discussed.
- Microchip weekends were very popular. We should schedule more.

### **New Business:**

- We need more instructor lessons for the Freestyle Festival auction items; we may have fewer instructor volunteers this year because the festival is a month earlier than usual. We will reevaluate when we hold the Year-End-Awards event next year.
- It was suggested that we send out email blasts to group members, not just Facebook posts, about events.
- We need to consider nominations for 2026 Board Members.

Adjourned at