



LIDA General Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, April 30, 2018

Time: 7:30 pm - 9:15 pm

Location: Blue Ribbon Farm, 361 Deep Hole Road, Calverton

Board Members Present

Mary Mulcahy (President), Dale Gifford (Vice-President), Linda Erick (Treasurer), Doreen Rose (Secretary)

Meeting Attendees

Maureen Brisotti	Alice Petersen	Marie Banks	Carol Potts	Heather Baker
Wendi Schnittjer	Angelica Dreez	Eileen Matz	Monique Genchi	Robin Rosette
Marta Priebe	Wick Hotchkiss	Eve Kaplan-Walbrecht		

Meeting commenced at 7:33 pm.

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

New VP - The meeting started with the introduction of Dale Gifford as our new LIDA Vice President.

501c3 Update – We have opted to not pursue becoming a 501c3 due to the club's lack of past records on tax payments, etc. If the club grows more in the future, we will consider pursuing it once again.

Membership Drive Update – Our club would like to boost our membership numbers. We are asking each member to try to get two new members to join LIDA this year for some added incentives, mainly a reduction in their own membership fees for 2018.

Regional Meeting Update – Doreen Rose and Mary Mulcahy filled members in on what they learned at the recent regional meeting for Region 8 in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. Doreen discussed the rationale for LIDA to consider moving our recognized competitions up to a level 3 show. The timing of the shows is key if we hope to attract riders from off the island. Holding a show before June while competitor's scores still count for Young Riders and GAIG Qualifiers might bring in more competitors. Mary discussed the current USDF membership dues system and announced that the USDF will be increasing the dues they charge the GMOs for each participating member of our club from \$20 to \$24. The USDF stated they are losing money on each member and are considering dropping certain programs in order to stay up with costs. The membership discussed this issue and how important the GMO membership is to our members. There seems to be an inherent issue with the basic structure of the USDF membership system. We took a poll of the members present to see who would be interested in staying LIDA members if we decided to pull out of the USDF. The majority stated they would remain LIDA members even if we were no longer affiliated with the USDF. As a group we discussed whether or not there a benefit to being a GMO at this point. Mary will be discussing this issue more in the future with our region 8 director Debra Reinhardt.

Membership Update – We currently have 35 members, 25 of which are Participating USDF GMO members.

Treasurer's Report – We currently have \$3,171.92 in the LIDA account.

LIDA Recognized Competition for 2018 - We are planning to hold a one day show at Old Field on Sunday, July 29th. We discussed the new layout of the Old Field rings. Some members asked why at the previous year's show there was a row of jump standards set up where the riders enter the dressage arena. A new sprinkler system was put in at Old Field and the jump standards were placed in that area to block them off.

LIDA Clinics for 2018 season – We asked members to let us know what clinics they would like us to look into hosting on the island this year. Alice Petersen requested a biomechanics clinic. Linda shared with the membership her idea for the pilates clinic using the reformer in the horse trailer. She explained participants would also do floor exercises as a group then everyone would mount their horses to continue the exercise work.

Marie Banks suggested holding a long lining clinic. We will look into inviting Bettina Drummond for a clinic. Dale Gifford suggested trying to reach out to other barns and riders from other disciplines to interest them in dressage. We discussed the recent IHA Fundraiser as an example of how such an event could be organized. One member also suggested reaching out to the Pony Club about an upcoming dressage rally they are having. It might be a good opportunity to attract some more junior riders.

Linda Erick shared with members that she had looked into booking Western Dressage Clinician Cathy Drum for a clinic but she was only available in August. We preferred to have our clinic before the start of show season. Heather Blitz is another possibility we are looking into. We discussed holding another set of Freestyle Clinics but they are expensive and we're not sure if there are enough interested members at this time. We could hold more Fix-A-Test clinics. Several members seem interested in those.

LIDA Schooling Shows – We are thinking of having two LDA schooling shows, one at an eastern location and one at a western location. Several members made suggestions about various farms that our board members will look into.

New Technologies For Equestrians - Mary Mulcahy presented new technologies that are available for the equestrian. She provided a list of apps that riders can download. There are several apps available that aid in the care of the horse, measuring the horse's heart rate using sensors attached at saddle pad or girth. Temperature and humidity levels are also measured under the saddle pad as you ride. The results are then sent to your phone. A few of the apps that Mary discussed were:

- **The Vert** which measures if your horse is at the vertical, behind it or in front of it. Measurements are color coded.
- **The Corex Equine** app in which you wear a belt that provides you with bio-feedback levels, helping the rider know where their position is.
- **The Horse Rider SOS** phone app which will alert people for help if you fall off your horse while trail riding. This could also benefit people who ride by themselves at night.
- **The Weather Blanketing app** which recommends blanketing choices based on the current weather.
- **EquiTempo** allows the rider to figure out the beats of the horse for each gait. This would be very helpful to riders new to musical freestyles.
- **Pixio** is an auto follow camera that can record you while you're riding. Several members mentioned having experienced difficulty in setting up and using these at their barns.
- **EquiSensor** attaches to the horse's girth to alert the rider to asymmetry in the horse's gaits. It's popular with jumpers but is used by dressage riders. It is very effective but expensive.
- **The FLIR** app uses infrared technology to check your horse's back and legs for heat and can check your barns electrical system to see if there are any existing fire risks.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

