

Dressage WA Newsletter

November 2016

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The year is nearly finished but there are still a few more events to go, not to mention some great seminars to attend. If you do have some spare time, please consider joining the State Dressage Championships Working Party.

In this edition we meet Kristy Zabaznow. Do you have a great idea for the newsletter? Contact us at www.dressagewa.org.

Message from the DWA Chair - Gill Botten

Firstly, I have to congratulate our WA FEI team of Deon Stokes, Stephanie Spencer and Terrina Fairbrother on coming second in the team competition at the National Dressage Championships in Sydney. These riders are all members of our State squad and rode brilliantly, we can be very proud of not only having talented riders but also great team members who did such a good job of representing their State. Deborah Spencer is also to be congratulated on being an excellent Chef D'Equipe. The atmosphere and team spirit amongst the riders was a pleasure to see.

The competition was tough with some high scores on the board. The weather remained kind until Saturday where it was a lottery as to whether competitors competed in rain or sunshine!

Plans for dressage in WA in 2017 are now underway and will see some exciting new competitions and initiatives. A comprehensive Leaderboard will replace the Masters Series and details of this will be released shortly.

It is the month of snakes, sun and flies, so enjoy! I wish all riders a successful end to the season.

I thought it appropriate for the quote of the month to be from Michelle Payne who has achieved so much with horses at such a young age. I think her philosophy applies to riders everywhere!

Quote for the month:

"I have travelled the world to learn how to live with horses. And what I have learned is what my father, who grew up at the end of the earth, already knew. That people and horses respond to love and kindness and to those who, they come to understand, want the best for them."

"Life As I know It" Michelle Payne with John Harms. Melbourne University Press, Australia. 2016.

Gill Botten (Chair DWA)



Dressage Western Australia Committee Members

Chair - Gill Botten
Vice Chair – Tracy Spackman
Treasurer - Dinah Fleming

Finance/Treasury - Dinah Fleming
DWA budget management, DDF
accounts, purchase orders and
payments

Issue of Information – Rebecca
DeVries
Website and Facebook

Correspondence - Gill Botten/Jo
Yacopetti
Minutes, Agendas, incoming and
outgoing correspondence.

Business/Strategic Planning - TBA

Events – Working Parties

Club Liaison – Marjory Stanger

Pony Representative – Steph Munro

Official Liaison - Elaine Greene
Judges, Stewards, liaising with other
disciplines, national issues.

High Performance - Gill Botten

EA/EWA - Gill Botten
liaising with EWA Board and CEO,
ADC etc.

Riders Representative - Tracy
Spackman
Includes downgrading applications,
Rider's forum etc.

Performance Trophies/Awards –Val
Mayger

DWA Newsletter - Suzanne Simons

Para Equestrian – Val Mayger

Young and Junior Rider Rep – Natalie
Sakich/Steph Munro

PROJECT NEON



2016 PROJECT NEON FEI SHOWCASE SERIES

16TH OCTOBER 2016
27TH NOVEMBER 2016



PRESENTED BY DRESSAGE WESTERN AUSTRALIA
WWW.DRESSAGEWA.ORG



Meet dressage rider Kristy Zabaznow

Kristy and her brown mare Heatherton Park Ma Cherie are new on the FEI scene and their sights firmly set on Grand Prix.



Tell us about Heatherton Park Ma Cherie

I purchased Heatherton Park Ma Cherie aka Crystal at the end of February this year after the loss of my previous advanced horse. She is a 10 year old mare bred by Jaybee Farm by Carbine (Imp) out of an Aachimedes mare. A good friend Melissa Barry-Emery actually is to thank for this partnership and as she was the one who helped in finding this wonderful little girl. I had been searching for 6 months for a replacement but everything I looked at was way above my budget or not quality enough to bother with. She continued to encourage me to come and have a look and from the moment I rode Crystal you could definitely feel she had lots to offer, the stars aligned and she was soon on a float south to our farm in Busselton.

She is a little compact mare only standing a small 16. 1hh but has a big heart and always willing to try and please in all that you ask of her. Crystal is a real little worker. Any more than a few days off in the paddock and she starts making it known she would like attention! She has an incredible temperament and such a willing nature to try anything you throw at her no matter the conditions. In the time I have had her Crystal has proven herself above and beyond what I expected, achieving scores for her Gold State performance medals in Medium and Advanced, been invited into the State Development Dressage Squad and has begun Prix St George. There really isn't anything to dislike about this mare!



What has been the key to her training?

It has been quite a challenge bringing a new horse out into FEI level as the highest I had previously competed was Advanced, so I am very much learning as I progress now through trial and error. As I have always trained my own horses up through the grades ensuring solid foundations in their training, coming across some "gaps" at this level was interesting.

Crystal came quite crooked which has created weakness in her flying changes, so I have had to put a lot of focus not only on developing straightness but also thoroughness from behind as she can be a little lazy to the leg. This will be a work in progress for some time but she is getting stronger and stronger as each week passes so I'm sure it will come with time. As she has spent the majority of her time in the dressage arena, I have introduced her to the world of bush riding. We live on 73 acres with wetlands, bush trails and creeks, so she has had a crash course in being a country horse to which has been brilliant for her. I think it's important to get them schooling in different settings as it's good for their minds and am a big believer in cross training such as bush work and jumping.

What are your riding goals?

My goal is definitely to compete one day at Grand Prix level nationally, although I think secretly I wouldn't say no if I could ever have a crack at international competition, however, I think that's a little out of my reach. I currently have my sights set on trying to qualify for Sydney CDI or Nationals for 2017 and try and get some good training in on the east coast while I am over there. I have recently started breeding my own future dressage prospects and long term would love to be able to say I have bred from start to finish and train my own horse all the way to Grand Prix level. I seem to have collected Hanoverian bloodline mares with Crystal and then 3 others in the background so they have been an asset to setting up this goal to hopefully come to fruition in the near future. My Elite Mare Remi White Magic (Wolkenstein II x Anamour x Walt Disney), who should start competing again next year, had a lovely Embryo Transfer filly in December by Lauries As who is going to be my first foal I am aiming to develop to Grand Prix myself. Hey, a girl can dream.

How did you start out in riding and dressage?

My grandfather has always been involved in the racehorse industry and I have to blame his interest in horses as the start of my passion. Neither of my parents rode and it has always been a long running family joke to my father, who back then was against mum having shares in the race horses, now has a farm filled with them! I suppose at least race horses would have had some chance of earning money!

I learnt to ride at a local riding school in Busselton with Jenny Roberts when I was 8yo on a team of little welsh mountain ponies. I progressed onto owning my own ponies and went through the pony club system competing in mounted games, jumping, eventing, dressage and show horse. In my teens I ventured into the show horse world under the watchful eye of Cheryl Pateman where I was successful at many Horse of the Years, Royal Shows, National and Grand National Championships on my (and Cheryl red) Anglo Arabian Bouvard Forte, by the legendary Leisurelands Nalkari. My career highlight on him was winning the Barastoc Horse of the Year Show Hunter Galloway Championships in Victoria 2007. Throughout this time I had started dabbling in dressage and it was after this Barastoc win I decided to





focus my attention on the dressage world where we managed to make it through to Advanced before his retirement and I have been hooked ever since.

Who has been your greatest influence?

I have a few great influences in where I am today with my dressage. My long running coaches in Cheryl Pateman and Judy Kopanica have helped me establish a strong foundation for training and campaigning my horses in a classical and correct manner. There is no such thing as skipping a step in your training and always continue to go back and confirm your foundation work remains solid.

Growing up through the show horse world I came across Hayley Beresford on numerous occasions and remain in contact today. I have even been lucky enough to spend time training with her in Germany a few years ago. Her true Aussie spirit has stuck with me in that if you want to achieve something enough, go and grab it with both hands to make it happen, and have a bit of fun along the way! I think many of our top Australian riders display this same spirit like Brett Parbery, Tor Van Den Berge and the Oatleys just to name a few. The drive and passion they all have for our sport is truly infectious and have all impacted upon my own drive and passion to succeed.

How could dressage in WA be improved?

I think Dressage in WA is in a wonderful position for support of fellow riders. Many years ago when I was on the Young Riders squad with a previous horse, it wasn't uncommon to go to a competition and people wouldn't talk to you if you did well or were a threat. Nowadays, the atmosphere is wonderful, the camaraderie between competitors is so supportive. We need to nourish this and encourage this to continue.

I would like to see the Dressage community of WA take the lead of our showjumpers in starting to run more social events like balls or cocktail evenings where we can look at alternatives to fundraising to run some of top events, but also aid in raising funds for our riders travelling interstate.





DJTF WA

CD/AB Seminar

with Mary Seefried
FEI 5* Judge

19-20 November SEC

Sat November 19 C/D Seminar: Cost: Free to at level judges. \$30 judges. \$40 non judges.
Bring 4.3 and 5.3 test sheets for shadow judging.

Sun November 20 A/B Seminar: Cost: Free to at level judges. \$30 judges. \$40 non judges.
Bring Grand Prix, Inter B and Inter I test sheets for shadow judging.

Please bring your own cold lunch and note that no heating facilities will be provided.

Registration: 8.30 and Start time: 9am

Contact Didy Massey didymassey@iinet.net.au to book your place.



Margaret River Wine Region Dressage Spectacular 2016

By Judy Lush

Photos by Kristy Watkins of Piaffe Photographs



It is remarkable how this event, now in its 16th year, never disappoints. It is extremely well organised, backed by a host of very supportive, mostly local sponsors and run by an enthusiastic and friendly group of volunteers from the Margaret River & Districts Horseman's Association & Pony Club. This club established a strategic plan for dressage development many years ago the aim of which was to provide an event which met the needs of all those involved.

The plan covered everything from providing the best possible venue, offering educational opportunities for judges and providing real benefits for sponsors. It also encompassed the simple but important things like good quality food and refreshments, plus attractive prizes for competitors as well as providing prompt results.



Recognising early on that the support of the whole community was needed for an event of this size, the club has worked collaboratively and successfully with other sporting bodies to carve a niche in the regions extremely busy sporting calendar. As a result, and despite a shortage of available sporting venues, the local Shire continues to strongly support the event. Held within the attractive, green and very central Shire Gloucester Park Sporting Precinct, the venue is a huge drawcard to competitors and spectators.



If one thing can be singled out as particularly special from this year's competition it must be the spectacular quality of the horses competing. Even the most un-horsey spectator must have been struck by their elegance, athleticism and beauty. The freestyle arena was placed directly in front of the main viewing area and spectators greatly enjoyed the interesting and informative commentary from Val Mayger. Horse after horse lifted the standards of technical difficulty and imaginative musical interpretation. Maybe it was the sunshine, maybe it was the springy grass, but this really was a treat to watch.



As a result the experienced and knowledgeable judges, led by Liz Duncan who made the long journey from South Australia, were very happy to award some excellent scores. How encouraging for riders to see their marks increasing after the long hours of dedicated training and hard work. In the end everything ran to time and finished bang on schedule on Sunday afternoon. There were certainly plenty of smiles at the end of a weekend jam packed with top quality action, and extra carrots all round for those much loved horses.

Top to bottom - Judy Weber and Bello Gallico, Tayla Heath and Maraahn El Shamar, Melanie Nixon and Matavia Fisher King, Tashlin Jeffries and Fenne S.R.



L- R; Amy Ross and Ma Belle Ami; Stephanie Munro and Trapalanda Brigadeer

Class	Sponsor & Championship	Winner
Competitive	Evolution Equestrian - Preliminary Champion	Alexandra Roberts - KDH First Lady
Competitive	Evolution Equestrian - Preliminary Champion Pony	Kelly Genge - Windy Hill Bianca
Competitive	Central Avenue Apartments - Novice Champion	Isobel Reeve - Kenwyn Uno-Who
Competitive	Leeuwin Equine Veterinary Clinic - Elementary Champion	Anna Johnson - Jaybee Royalty
Competitive	Leeuwin Equine Veterinary Clinic - Medium Champion	Tahlia Piper - Blackall Park 007
Competitive	Skd Security & Key Distribution - Advanced Champion	Judy Weber - Bello Gallico
Competitive	Arbonne - Fei Medium Tour Champion Pony	Stephanie Munro - Trapalanda Brigadeer
Competitive	Zoe Harrison - Agent For Hannoverian Riding Wear - FEI Champion	Melanie Nixon - Matavia Fisher King
Competitive	Kohnke's Own - FEI Medium Tour Champion	Suzanne Simons - Foxwood Whirlwind
Competitive	Priceline Pharmacy Margaret River - District Champion	Cheryl Pateman - RP Muscadelle
Participant	Milne Feeds - Preliminary Champion	Camille Mumme - Kendhall Park Elkochino
Participant	Milne Feeds - Novice Champion	Sarah Jones - Joshua Brook Volare
Non Competitive	Priceline Pharmacy Margaret River - District Champion	Lauryn Hall - Alchemist Of Priority
PCAWA	Barry House MLA - Preliminary Champion	Oshiah Johnson - Leedale Alice In Wonderland
PCAWA	Home Hardware Margaret River - Novice Champion	Jessica Piekarek - Indiarna Miss Blosson
Class	Sponsor & Top Score Awards	Winner
PCAWA	Pateman Stables - Top Score PCAWA Rider	Jorjia Sylvester - Joshua Brook Indiana
Freestyle	Geoff Broad Encouragement Prize - Top Score District Freestyle	Lauryn Hall - Alchemist Of Priority
PCAWA Open	Kovia Equestrian - Top Score PCAWA Open Rider	Suzin Wells - Kendhall Park Odyssey
District	Priceline Pharmacy Margaret River - Top Score District Rider	Ruth Dowsett - Donnelly River Sonic
Club	Dorothy Gallop - Top Score Junior Club Rider	Keeley Dittmar - Hot To Rock
Club	Hilary Nind -Top Score Club Rider	Cheryl Pateman - RP Muscadelle
Club	Sheryle Rowe - Top Score Adult Club Rider	Sue Jackman - Joshua Brook Shiraz
Amateur Owner	SKD Security & Key Distribution - Amateur Owner	Kerry Day - Furst Fabriano
Off The Track	Off The Track - Competitive	Ella Miller - Mr Roly Royce
Off The Track	Off The Track - Participant	Kaeleigh Brown - Parkiarrup Edward



Clockwise – Suzanne Simons and Foxwood Whirlwind, Alexandra Roberts and KDH First Lady, Paige Dallywater and Yalambis Olympick, Nicola Higgs and Rembrandt A, Liz Watkins and Cherrymount Rhetorik, Liz Tollarzo and Everton Park Jet Blauw D, Colleen Anne Jackson and Pav Nespresso, Katherine Hardy and Royal Tapestry



Steward's Corner

By Janet Reid

Flexible Steel Core Bits – Not Permitted

Flexible synthetic mullen bits are **"not permitted"** in Dressage competitions (effective September 2016). This ruling includes (but is not limited to) flexible steel core bits manufactured by Nathe, Sprenger Duo, Trust, etc. Some examples of **"not permitted"** bits are given below.



Note to Eventing Riders – currently the above ruling does not affect Eventing Competitions.



The Happy Mouth shaped mullen bit is **"not permitted"** in either Dressage or Eventing Competitions.

Below are some of the bits that are **"Not Permitted" for use in Dressage Competitions**





Below are some of the bits that are “Permitted” for use in Dressage Competitions



EA Dressage Rule 2.11.1.2 - Nosebands and curb chains may never be so tightly fixed as to harm the horse. Officials should not loosen the noseband, but request the rider to do so. If the rider refuses and the Official thinks the noseband is still too tight, the Ground Jury should be approached to make a ruling.





2017 State Dressage Championships Working Party

Dressage WA invites expression of interest to join a working party to help run the State Dressage Championships in May next year. Most of the work is done via email with some meetings. If you have any specific skills and /or a willingness to help make our next Championships a great event, please email either botfam@iinet.net.au or ptspackman@bigpond.com before 30th November 2016.

Masters Series to change

Dressage WA wishes to announce that the Dressage Masters Series will not run in 2017. There will be a leaderboard including all competitions replacing this event and details will be released shortly.

Mary Seefried Seminars

Dressage Judges Taskforce is proud to be hosting FEI 5* Dressage Judge Mary Seefried. Mary returns to WA to give two seminars over the weekend of 19th and 20th November at the SEC. She has travelled extensively, judging at International events around the world and brings her vast experience and most recent knowledge of the sport of dressage from which our EWA members can benefit.

Everyone is invited: riders, coaches and judges are all welcome to come along and participate. There will be question time as well as the opportunity to watch some inspiring demonstration horses.

Mary will cover various aspects of training and judging from the introduction of flying changes at Medium level to the more advanced movements at FEI GP level.

She will also discuss some of the initiatives being introduced to dressage both globally and within Australia. Mary will also cover the topic of judging the Event horse and rider and how to improve performance.

We hope that everyone interested in dressage riding and training will join us and enjoy this opportunity to listen to and interact with one of the most experienced international judges during her visit to Perth.

Morning and afternoon tea will be provided. Please bring a cold lunch.

Looking forward to seeing you there

Elaine Greene (Chair DJTF)

