

Centre Line

KZN DRESSAGE NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009



Chairman: Sue Horne

Kzn Dressage Website – www.kzndressage.co.za

Upcoming Events

KZN Dressage Championships – 24 to 26 July 2009 at DSC.

DSC Training Show 19 July at DSC

HINTS, TIPS AND COMMENTS

It is really most unfortunate that this section of the newsletter this month needs to address some rather unpleasant behaviour that seems to be filtering into the discipline from some of the riders, their supporters and / or parents.

First and foremost it must be REMEMBERED THAT the scribes, auditors, secretaries and other aids that assist at the dressage shows, be they affiliated or training shows, do so voluntarily.

The committee has received numerous complaints from the volunteers who assist us at the shows and this includes judges, scribes, auditors and secretarial staff amongst others. These complaints arise from criticisms and other verbal attacks on the persons of the volunteers. Whilst we take cognisance of the fact that the shows are in essence a competition we cannot allow such attacks to drive out our volunteers because this would defeat your purpose.

Consequently we must therefore apprise you of the following rules, which are;

1. No-one may approach any auditor for any information whatsoever;
2. Audited marks are required to be vetted and signed off by judges after the audit and are not under any circumstances available for final publication until this has been done;

3. The announcing of results and publishing of the placings cannot be made until the judges has signed off the class;
4. Generally the judges would prefer to discuss directly with any rider their scoring of tests, judges find it extremely disconcerting when rumours of complaints filter back to them; if you have concerns, questions or comments then discuss your marks directly with the judge;

So bad have the staff found the attacks on them to be, that the committee has decided to introduce a “yellow card system” which will sanction excessive aggression by way of a penalty against the member. At this point in time, the committee is deciding precisely what that penalty will be. We invite any suggestions from our members.

REMEMBER the committee members, show-holding body members and volunteers are all human and whilst everyone tries very hard not to make any mistakes at all, we find that on occasion things do slip through; please members, try to remain courteous

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question: There have been a few emails regarding the difference between impulsion and activity. Rather than list all of the questions, I think this answer should address all the issues.

Answer: “To most people, impulsion means the energy in the hindquarter which takes the horse forward. Activity is the effort which the hind legs make in respect of flexion of the joints, which give lift to the stride. Some horses are very active behind but do not go forward as well, and some are driving themselves along but with very little flexion of the joints”. *Taken from [questions on dressage by Leonie M Marshall]*

CONGRATULATIONS

Below is the 2009 long list for of the Horse and Rider combinations under consideration for the KZN Adult Dressage Team.

Ann Pritchard and Kings Image
 Sue Horne and Asterix
 Anton Mostert and Lambada
 C de Vos with Maverick and Rob
 Karla Higgs and Alzu Cascade
 Catherine Berning and Livius
 Fee Ferning and Mistral Z

Vicky Mostert and Ferragamo
 Colleen Morris and Dior
 Heike Harvey and Float On
 J Fox and Ballachu
 Cathy Askitis and Brandbach Algreco
 Pam Crompton and Mossandi Rendevous
 Natasha Brown and Ascot Unify



FEEDBACK and NEWS and LETTERS

Feedback and News from Members

News from Dominique Tardin.

“Hi Sue,

I am sorry I am only emailing you now, but I only got home last night...

Ok, where to start :-)) Well first off, Wenzel went to Johannesburg to the Musical kur festival and won the Adult elementary kur with 76%, I also won the Young rider trophy for the highest percentage...

Then I flew over that same evening to Denmark... The two grooms working there left straight after I arrived and Morten couldn't get a groom, so I volunteered and looked after a barn of twenty horses :-)) It was great and I had tons of fun! I rode my first competition on Arve's Vienna at M level, which is between Medium and Advanced... At M level juniors and adults ride together... I had a HUGE shock! When they say they are good over there, they weren't kidding! The horses are so beautiful and the riders are amazing... I managed to come 2nd in the first class out of 20 horses and then 4th out of 20 in the second class... I certainly didn't even expect to come in the top 10!

Then our trip to Switzerland for the Swiss national championships... We had to leave at 2 am in order to make the Swiss border by 4.30 pm. It was a terrible trip and we were exhausted, but Vienna was amazing and travelled so well... Then when we arrived, we had even more of a shock! not only were the kids on horses worth millions, but they had Christine Stuckleberger and Silvie Ikle warming them up.. not intimidating at all :-)) Well it went better than I thought.. The first day it poured with rain and I went in with a whip and had -10, stupid, so the whole test I was wondering whether I was eliminated or not.. So I came 6th.. then the second day I was much better and really rode for it, but I had to communication errors and ended up 6th again, but had a lot of disagreement amongst the judges and there were large score differences, the international judges put me top five and the local judges put me bottom five, confusing!.. the third day was the kur and also my birthday, I had a 71% from the olympic judge and a 68% from the other one, but the Swiss judges gave me 60%, 61% and 65%, so this brought me waaaayyy down to 7th, I should have finished top three, but thats the way it goes.. We really had an amazing kur and she really danced!! So out of 48 horses I finished 7th in total, which is incredible for my first National competition in Europe! There was such a huge crowd and they really applaud and cheer for you, its amazing... Also the photographers were everywhere!!!

Next year I will be Young riders, but I will have Don there so I will do Prix St George on Don and Grand Prix on Vienna... Can't wait for KZN champs, if you need any help with scribes etc, give me a shout, *Dominique Tardin*

Thank You

ROUND 1 TO THE GOOD GUYS!

I just have to share recent news with all the wonderful people out there that have been so kind and supportive of my battle with “the Demon” Cancer.

Yesterday Prof. Jordaan gave me the good news that the recent scans showed no signs of cancer. This does not mean I am cured, or that there are any guarantees. What it does mean is that I do not have to suffer further treatment until my next check up in September.

Round 2 will be to try to prevent the "Demon" returning or kicking off again. If that round ends up going to the "Demon" I will be fitter and stronger to take the next lot of treatment.

I could not have come this far without the knowledge and, indeed, proof, that many, many people sent their love and prayers to support me and keep me strong. There are not enough words to adequately state what this means to both me and Frank.

A group of very special people manned a duty roster to take me, sometimes daily, for many treatments over the past seven months. I will never forget how you so willingly gave up your time to be with me through some pretty gruesome times, not to mention doing shopping, and being there when I needed company.

Many, many thanks for all you have done for me.

Liz Day

NOTE

Please check out the KZN Website (www.kzndressage.co.za) all results are published on the site along with other interesting information.

