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# SMDA Newsletter

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# SMDA News and Updates

## **SMDA Schooling Show – May 21**

SMDA held the first regular schooling show on May 21 at the Hollis Equestrian Park. Our judge for the day was a familiar face, Paula Foote (L), who drove down from Cherryfield to spend the day with us. We were pleased to have a full show, especially nice as spring came so late this year.

We had perfect weather, and saw some excellent rides. The tack sale was fun, and it was good opportunity to clean out the barn and get rid of excess equipment!

In the morning, we had a group of riders from Gould Academy, led by SMDA member DiAnne Ward. It was fun watching these brave teenagers, some of whom had only begun riding a couple of months ago.



Special congratulations to our high point scores: Elizabeth Oellers who won high point Senior for Third Level Test 3 with a 70.385%, and our high point Junior and High Point Intro winner Sarah Barter who received a 71.000%. We also want to give special acknowledgement to Elizabeth Jewell – despite her nerves at their first show, she and her horse won both her Intro A and B classes. And also congrats to Kristine Brassard, whose debut at First Level earned her two blue ribbons and a 70% for her First Level Test 2. Congratulations!!

We had a good group of volunteers, and need to say a special Thank You to our Show Secretary Kristine Brassard, and Show Managers Tania Jones and Kristen Gould. Thanks everyone for making the day such a success.



Remember, to qualify for year-end awards you need to have (for each test): 4 scores from 4 different judges, and at least two of these scores need to be from one of SMDA's regular shows.

# SMDA/USEF Recognized Show

Our recognized show will be on July 16 at the Hollis Equestrian Park. This is our third year running a recognized show, and we're hoping the weather will cooperate and things will run smoothly! Our judge is Ida Anderson Norris, who will be back in Maine visiting from her home in Vermont. Opening day for entries is May 29, so get your paperwork in order!

## On-Line Show Entries



For our recognized show, we are accepting online entries via Equestrian Entries. This is new for SMDA, but will be familiar to those of you who have participated in other recognized shows in the New England region.

1. To use this feature, open <https://www.equestrianentries.com/> in Firefox or Chrome.
2. Click the Join Now button to create a username and password.

3. Use the calendar to search for July 16, 2017 - SMDA GAIG/USDF Region 8 Qualifying Dressage Show.

4. Complete an entry form and pay by credit card.

OR

Complete an entry form, print the entry form, and mail it to the show secretary with a check.

Equestrian Entries automatically verifies your memberships and card numbers, ensuring a complete and correct entry every time!

At present, SMDA is only accepting online entries for the recognized show, but we might expand this feature to all of our shows based on its success.

### Step 1: Choose a show, event, or clinic

You can find all the information for a show, event or clinic by clicking on the name in the calendar.

Managers post and manage their own shows/events/clinics - if you don't see the item you want, contact the manager for the show/event/clinic you're interested in, and ask them to post it.

#### Equestrian Entries Events Calendar

Sort by:

Date	Type	Name	Location		
July, 2017					
Jul 16	Dressage	SMDA GAIG/ USDF Region 8 Qualifying Dressage Show	Hollis Center, ME	- -	Opening: 05/29/17



## In The Community - Back Cove Equine



Dr. Rachel Flaherty is a familiar face at many horse farms in southern Maine. A Maine native, she attended Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine. She worked for several years with Dr. Jefferson at Maine Equine Associates, before setting up her own practice in 2014. Back Cove Equine offers routine and emergency equine veterinary services, including equine dentistry. In October 2016, Kim Tardiff joined the practice as an assistant, helping Dr. Flaherty stay organized both at the office and during farm calls.

Rachel has her own horse, an OTTB named "Stoli." Although she has little time to

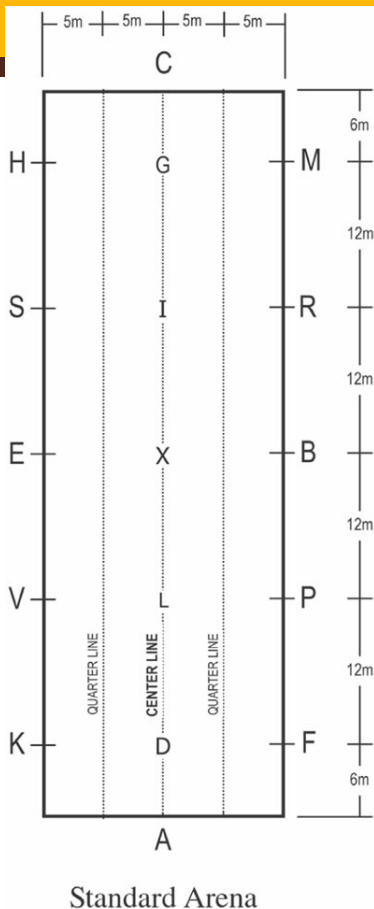
ride now, she's working to find time in the saddle.

Rachel Flaherty gives back to the community, working with both the Maine State Society for Protection of Animals (MSSPA) at their rescue barn in Windham, and also with the Futures for Standardbreds organization. Her work with these most needy horses is a critical part of their recovery, and helps get them on the road to a new and better life. One of her greatest joys is seeing "throw away" horses, whether sold at auction or rescued from neglected situations, that are emaciated, in poor health and that have just "shut down". . . . go on to thrive, gain weight, and develop personality in their new homes.

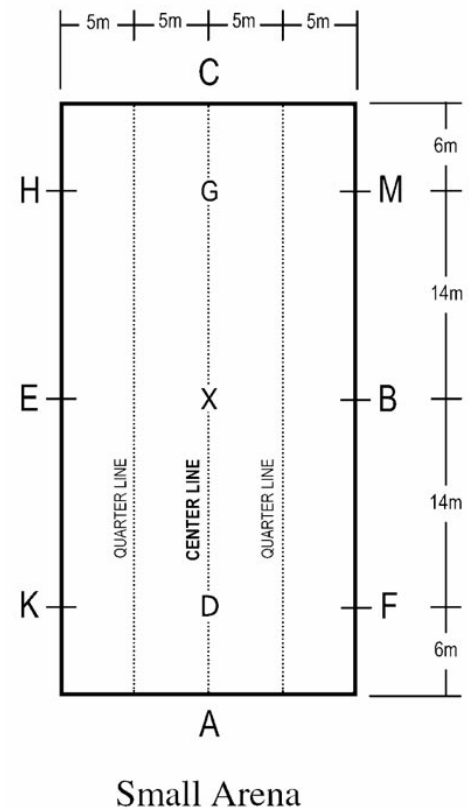
From all of us in the equestrian community, Thank You!



## Volunteer Notes: What is Ring Set Up?



You've probably noticed before every show we post a plea on Facebook, asking for people to come help with Ring Set-up. What's that all about? We lease the Hollis Equestrian Park facility for our shows, and need to go over and set things up the day before our shows. This includes dragging and setting up the ring, placing the letter markers, getting the show supplies out of the trailer, and general clean-up. If we have a good crew, everything can be done in about an hour and a half. Depending on whether the HEP is rented out the day before the show, ring set-up is usually scheduled for 4:30 or 5:30 PM on Saturday before the show. We have detailed instructions, including diagrams of the small size and standard dressage arena dimensions, and there's always an experienced person there to oversee and make sure things are done right. Please don't assume that someone else will do it! Make the time, take a drive over, and lend a hand. Check SMDA's Facebook page a few days before the show and ring set-up time will be posted.



## Equipment Check - Saddle Pad Logos

Can I have a logo on my saddle pad? Welcome to the complex rules of dressage. The answer is . . . maybe. There are strict rules governing logos on saddle pads. When they are allowed, logos may be no larger than 200 square centimeters (31 square inches or approximately 5.5" x 5.5") and may appear on both sides of the pad. When are logos allowed?

- Professionals may use pads showing their personal sponsor's logo
- Logos for the horse's registered breed area allowed.
- Logos from a riding club, business, or farm are allowed (with the logo organization's permission).

What's not allowed:

- Logos indicating any type of award (for example, Regional Champion or Year-End Award)
- Personal monograms (initials)
- Business advertising which does not meet the rules of personal sponsorship



Reference USEF Rule DR121 Saddlery and Equipment:

DR121 Saddlery and Equipment 1. ... While present in the competition area and during prize-giving ceremonies, and when sponsorship is permitted in accordance with GR1306, the name and/or logo of the individual's sponsor(s) may appear on a surface area not exceeding 200 cm<sup>2</sup> on each side of the saddle cloth. Breed logos (for horses registered with that breed), national flags (for citizens of that country), riding club/business/farm names or logos (used with permission of riding club/farm/business owner) and USEF or USDF names or logos (used with permission of USEF or USDF, respectively) are also permitted and must have the same specifications as sponsor logos. No other advertisement or publicity is permitted on saddle cloths or horses

### Member Profile - Meet Marissa Stewart!

Marissa started riding at the age of 4, and got her first horse at age 7 – a Welch cob pony I named Star Fire. She laughs at the memory of that pony and his \*occasional\* difficult attitude!

She originally started riding Western, but made the transition to eventing and eventually dressage, noting "The more I learned about dressage the more addicted to it I became. It's the ultimate quest for precision, balance and unison." She still loves to gallop around the field or hack out on the trails in Acadia, but has to admit "Scoring 70 or above on test is pretty awesome too!"

Today, Marissa is proud to be working with her Friesian gelding, Ze, noting "He's my one in a million, a dream horse who brought me back to my deep love for equines." Marissa works with Laura Noyes, and is currently competing at First Level and schooling Second.

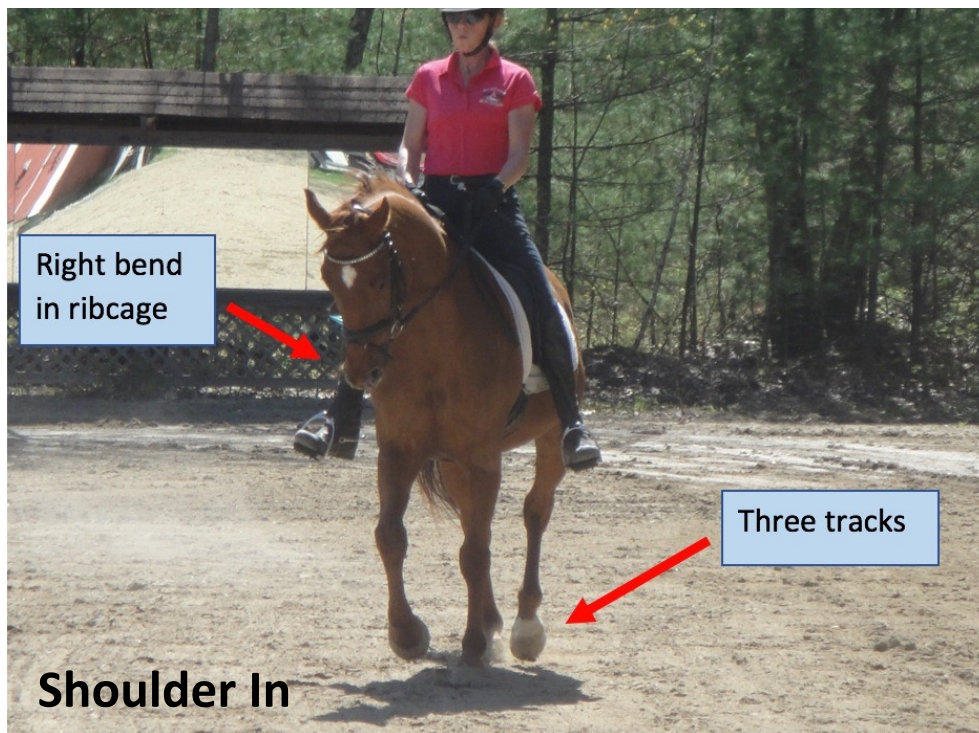
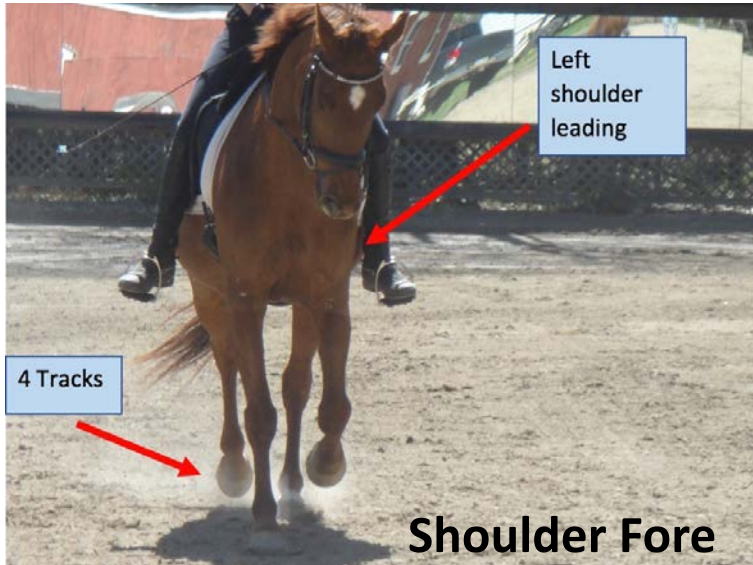
Marissa lives on her family's farm in Gray with her husband and 2-year old daughter (who is a huge fan of horses!). Marissa works at InterMed as a Doctor of Physical Therapy, doing mostly sports medicine rehab, ortho outpatient and pediatric work. She notes that she loves working with equestrians looking to get back from an injury!





## Focus On: Shoulder In

Shoulder In is a key movement in dressage. It's first seen at Second Level, and is an exercise for the horse that is just beginning to work on collection. Shoulder In is a great suppling exercise and helps increase the horse's self-carriage. It's also tricky to do a proper shoulder in. These photos illustrate:



## 2017 Schooling Shows - Affiliate Shows

SMDA is sponsoring 3 schooling shows this year. In addition to the recent May 21 show, we also have schooling shows on August 20 and September 17. There is also a nice assortment of SMDA-affiliated shows this year including:

- Vienna Farm Show June 3
- SPHO Show Jun 11
- Life's a Ride Shows May 28, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 22
- Scarlet Day Farm Shows July 9, August 13, September 10

A full listing of all shows is on page 17 of the Equine Edition show directory, and is also as posted on the Calendar section of our website. Please participate in affiliate shows – to keep this nice selection of show offerings, we need your support!



The SMDA newsletter committee welcomes your input! Please share newsworthy events, including new horses, achievements, and life passages. We'd love to hear from you!

Please contact:

Tania Jones [tjones86@me.com](mailto:tjones86@me.com)

[www.mainedressage.com](http://www.mainedressage.com)

Stay current with SMDA on Facebook

[facebook.com/StateOfMaineDressageAssociation](https://facebook.com/StateOfMaineDressageAssociation)

### President's Corner

Welcome 2017 members – old and new! SMDA's membership hovers around 125 people, but the makeup of our membership changes from year to year as some people move on and new people come in. This year we have a fresh crop of new members, with over 15 first-time members joining our ranks. Do you remember ever going to a horse show, not knowing anyone and feeling uncomfortable and that everything was unfamiliar? I remember that feeling well! But what a difference it makes if people are friendly and approachable. Show days are busy, and we riders can get intense and focused. But let's all take a moment and say hello to someone new, or offer help to someone who may have a question or need assistance. Let's make a good impression on our newcomers and show them how friendly and helpful we are at SMDA!

Susan

