

W S H

E-Canter

July 2026



2026 is over
halfway
done! What
has WSH
been up to?



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President's Message

Welcome to summer and all the fun equine activities we enjoy as members of Washington State Horsemen. Many members are spending time logging hours in Trails and Pleasure. The Horse Show Division is halfway through its season, and the Games Division is quickly approaching the end of its season while preparing for the State Championship Show. No matter which division you participate in—or even if you take part in more than one—one thing remains the same for all of us: the time we spend with our horses. An important part of making all this possible is communication.

As we transition from summer to fall and prepare for zone meetings, zone workdays, and banquets, we have a variety of communication platforms to help keep everyone involved, including Constant Contact, email, social media, and even a golden oldie—the telephone. Let's strive for open communication among Zone members, regardless of discipline or personal differences. At the end of the day, we must all come together in our Zones for Washington State Horsemen to grow. Our organization has taken pride for 85 years in being inclusive; let's keep that tradition alive.

Banquet time is fast approaching, and I encourage you to step up and volunteer a little time to help make this year's convention one to remember. In the past, swag bags were handed out at registration, and items are needed again this year. Visit a few of your favorite local shops and ask if they might be willing to donate something for the swag bags. You can also lend a hand by helping the committee with decorating or setting up for the banquet. Registration information, hotel reservation information and convention schedule are available in the Canter and on the WSH website.

George Chick

2026 WSH BOARD

PRESIDENT - GEORGE CHICK
VICE PRESIDENT - STEVE BRYSON
TREASURER - JESSICA MCLAUGHLIN
SECRETARY - JOY BJERKE

2026 DIVISION DIRECTORS

HORSE SHOW - ERIN WIELDRAAYER
GAMES - MELISSA KELSEY
TRAILS & PLEASURE - KIMBERLY LANSING

Horse Show Division

The Horse Show Division is loping right along!

We have more sign ups than last year in both B System and A System! We have horse shows on BOTH sides of the state AND Dressage shows! Our show committees are working tirelessly to ensure our exhibitors have the best experience possible!

As we move towards the second half of our season here are a few reminders:

- Rule Change Proposals are due on AUGUST 10 and must be sent to WSHSD@gmail.com
 - Process for Rule Changes can be found on page 6 of the 2026 WSH Horse Show Division Rulebook
- Applications for Horse Show Director are due August 30
- Nominations for Junior and Senior Inspiration Awards are due by October 5
- Hall of Fame nominations are due by October 5
 - All Nominations are to be turned into the Horse Show Division Director at WSHSD@gmail.com
- Perpetual Trophies need to be returned by October 1 or the October Full Board Meeting
 - Trophies must be engraved prior to returning

As always, please reach out if you have questions! I am happy to help and want to see our Division continue to succeed! - ERIN WIELDRAAYER

Remaining 2026 Horse Show Dates!

JUNE 26: WASHINGTON STATE CLASSIC DRESSAGE SHOW - MOSES LAKE
JUNE 27 - 28: WASHINGTON STATE CLASSIC SHOW - MOSES LAKE
JULY 25 - 26: FOUR SEASONS HORSEMEN 3 IN 1 - SPOKANE
AUGUST 15 - 16: CWDS SUMMER CLASSIC DRESSAGE SHOW - YAKIMA
SEPTEMBER 5: HOME STRETCH OPEN HORSE SHOW - PORT TOWNSEND
SEPTEMBER 6: HOME STRETCH OPEN DRESSAGE SHOW - PORT TOWNSEND
SEPTEMBER 19 - 20 : FALL CLASSIC - PASCO
SEPTEMBER 19: FALL CLASSIC DRESSAGE SHOW - PASCO
SEPTEMBER 26 - 27: LATE LATE DUAL OPEN SHOW - SPOKANE
SEPTEMBER 26 - 27: CWDS FALL CLASSIC DRESSAGE SHOW - YAKIMA
SEPTEMBER 25 - 27: WS FINALS SHOW - MONROE



Dressage

EVALUATING YOUR FEEDBACK AND UPDATING YOUR GOALS

If you have not done so, it's time to sit down and review your written goals. Go over them individually. Say them out loud. Own your thoughts. Are you on track? Are there any changes or adjustments that need to take place? Be honest with yourself. Identify the causes for these and make realistic timeline and goal changes.

Let's talk about your test. Did the judge(s) like how you and your equine performed? What is a good score? When we look at the current scale of marking, a score of "6" is rated as "satisfactory" and a "7" is listed as "very good." So in a nutshell, it is realistic to have goals of earning 6, 6.5 and 7's. Anything below needs to be addressed and anything above you should be very pleased with your efforts. This is of course, relative to the standard a judge is looking for.

The current scale of marking is:

- 0 = not performed
- 1 = very bad
- 2 = bad
- 3 = fairly bad
- 4 = insufficient
- 5 = sufficient
- 6 = satisfactory
- 7 = fairly good
- 8 = good
- 9 = very good
- 10 = excellent

Now, how did you feel you did? This is the real kicker. While having someone not familiar with you is a good source of information, in the big picture you and your trainer are the ones who truly understand your performance highs and lows and your daily improvements or setbacks. Remember, the show evaluation is just a glimpse in time, of that person's assessment, in that moment, away from home. Look at it, listen to what was observed, acknowledge where you missed the mark as well as your victories, make a new mini plan and move on. Tomorrow is a new day for growth!

Horseback riding is a sport. Just like soccer or any other team sport we are only as good as our weakest member. It's important that both you and your equine are progressing- within reason mind you. Make sure you have set realistic goals and you have a feasible plan as to how you will attain your results. It is not about daily riding but what you are communicating during your ride that is important. As like anything else, your journey will not be a straight line. You may make great progress for a week or two then hit a wall. You might feel stuck in a gerbil wheel and then one day it all clicks and your riding opens up to new possibilities. Wherever you are on your journey, appreciate where you are. Be grateful for the chance to have your equine and these opportunities- for from gratitude comes great growth because your mind does not have negative thoughts circulating within you. Remember attitude is everything, so choose a good one!

And as always, life happens and sometimes throws you a curve ball. Was there something out of your control that derailed your progress, or was there something else? Whatever the cause, how do you move forward towards the next three and six months? This is what makes us stronger. Rising up from challenges, digging in deeper to be successful and offering help or support to those around us. Share your success as well as your struggles; it may help someone else know they are not alone and encourage them to also dig in despite the work feeling overwhelming!

Review your goal. Stay focused. Seek help when needed. Most of all, enjoy the work- because it is so worth it!

There are several upcoming events to participate in before the season is over so get signed up and we'll see you down centerline! - Cheryl Beaudry

WSH Members at YEDA Nationals

During the first week of June, two teams—Showbiz A and Showbiz B—traveled to Lexington, Virginia, to compete in the YEDA National Show at the beautiful Lexington Horse Center. The teams were made up of 22 youth and adult riders, including WSH members Olivia Thomas, Olivia Uphoff, Preslie Leale, Kaitlin Bisango, Lauren Kuster, George Chick, Kaitlyn Smith, Jason Dodge, Kasey Smith, Michelle Weitman, Lynnea Gay, Audrey LeMasters, Lesli Lassman, Kellan Lassman, and Lola Jessup, along with coaches Jennifer Kuster and Tammy Smith.

The Youth Equestrian Development Association, known as YEDA, brought together more than 500 equestrians representing 68 teams from across the United States. Riders ranged from fourth-grade competitors to alumni riders in their 60s. After four days of tough competition, the Washington State riders brought home multiple National Championships and Reserve National Championships. Among the 68 teams competing, the Showbiz Senior High Team finished in 3rd place, and the Showbiz Junior High Team finished in 9th place.

Individual and team results were grouped by division as follows:

Senior High Division

- Jason Dodge: Reserve Champion - Invitational Senior High Reining (return for finals); 8th place - Invitational Senior High Diamond Rail/Pattern Horsemanship
- Kaitlyn Smith: Champion – Invitational Senior High Sapphire Ranch Riding (return for finals); Champion - Team Senior High Sapphire Ranch Riding; 6th place - Invitational Senior High School Rail/Pattern Horsemanship
- Kaitlin Bisagno: 3 rd place – Invitational Senior High Ruby Pattern Horsemanship
- Lauren Kuster: Reserve Champion - Team Senior High Ruby Rail Horsemanship; Reserve Champion - Individual Senior High Ruby Rail Horsemanship; 7th place - Individual Senior High Ruby Rail Horsemanship Finals
- Kenna Uphoff: Champion - Team Senior High Emerald Rail Horsemanship; 6th place - Individual Senior High Emerald Horsemanship
- Olivia Thomas: 3rd place - Team Senior High Emerald Pattern Horsemanship
- Preslie Leale: Reserve Champion Individual Senior High Emerald Rail Horsemanship Finals

Junior High Division

- Lola Jessup: 5 th place - Invitational Junior High Emerald Rail Horsemanship (split A) return for finals; 5th - Team Junior High Ruby Pattern Horsemanship; Sportsmanship Award
- Kellan Lassman: Reserve Champion - Invitational Junior High Emerald Rail Horsemanship (Split B) return for finals; 3rd place - Team Junior High Emerald Pattern Horsemanship
- Audrey LeMasters: 5th place - Team Junior High Opal Pattern Horsemanship; 7th place - Invitational Junior High Opal Pattern Horsemanship
- Kesli Lassman: Champion - Individual Junior High Opal Rail Horsemanship Finals

Alumni Division

- Kasey Smith: Reserve Champion - Individual Alumni Emerald Pattern Horsemanship; 5 th place - Individual Alumni Emerald Rail Horsemanship
- Michelle Weitman: 5 th place - Individual Alumni Emerald Pattern Horsemanship; 6th place - Individual Alumni Emerald Rail Horsemanship
- George Chick: 4 th place – Individual Alumni Sapphire Rail/Pattern Horsemanship; 6th place - Individual Alumni Sapphire Ranch Riding; Sportsmanship Award
- Lynnea Gay: 5 th place – Individual Alumni Sapphire Rail/Pattern Horsemanship; 9th place - Individual Alumni Sapphire Ranch Riding

Other WSH members who qualified but did not attend were Lyv Blanton, Piper Murphy, Aili Hendrickson, Stella Marsh, Amy Ross, Joy Bjerke, Rulon Fregeau, Maveryk Blanton, Anastasia Cobb, and Arianna DeCaro.

WSH Members at YEDA Nationals



Zone Happenings!

NORTH CENTRAL ZONE

The North Central Zone has had a busy year! Sun Basin Riders and Desert Duellers have been working diligently in their clubs to have a lot of participation by holding their meetings as well as holding various activities. Both Sun Basin Riders and Desert Duellers Youth Merit have been doing meetings, community service and so much more!! Sun Basin Riders is having their annual BBQ in July along with a clinic for their youth.

We would like to extend congratulations to our 2026 Graduates, Roper Dillman and Brooke Hurley!

Desert Duellers recently held a show, June 13th & 14th. Big shout out to Alyssa Howe getting a 14.5 barrel run!

We want to thank all of those volunteering to help Zone, Youth Merit & our clubs!

NORTHEAST ZONE

NEZ is on summer break until September 3rd. We will be back at the Chinese Garden in Spokane Valley. Games Division has been in full swing, and Horse Show Division has been on the go as well.

Remainder of season dates:

June 26 WA State Classic Dressage Show, Moses Lake, WA

June 27-28 WA State Classic, Moses Lake, WA

July 11-12 North Country Riders Show, Deer Park, WA

July 25-26 Cowgirl Up, Cusick, WA

July 25-26 Four Seasons Horsemen 3 in 1 Show, Spokane, WA

August 1 Youth Merit Books due to Emma Tanner

August 14-16 Washington State Championship Show, Cashmere, WA

August 15-16 CWDS SUMMER CLASSIC Dressage Show, Yakima, WA

September 3rd Zone Meeting at Chinese Gardens, Spokane Valley, WA

September 19 Fall Classic Dressage Show, Pasco, WA

September 19-20 Fall Classic, Pasco, WA

September 26-27 63rd Annual Late Late Dual Open Show, Spokane, WA

September 26-28 CWDS Fall Classic Dressage Show, Yakima, WA

Good luck for the remainder of the season and we will see you in the fall.

Graduates

Stella Marsh graduated from West Valley High school and Spokane Community College

Olivia Thomas graduated from Lewis & Clark High school

Lindsay Kuster graduated with BA from Eastern Washington University

Arrilyn Hall graduated from Riverview High School

Roper Dillman graduated from Ephrata High School

Brooke Hurley graduated from Ephrata High School





Name, "Blue Magic", four year old.
Sire, "Mountain Peavine".
Dam, "War Lady".

Miss Mary McClellan of Seattle is now the proud owner of this beautiful dappled grey mare. Bought by Mr. Corby from R. Thurman of Springfield, Ky. "Blue Magic" is now under the guidance of Mr. Corby who is planning on showing her in the three-gaited classes in the coming 19 horse-shows.

CONGRATULATIONS

We wish to congratulate the Richland Riders Club and their president, Harvey Simpson, for undertaking their first recognized horse show. This show will be held on the club grounds.

Washington State Horsemen
Youth Merit Members

Your
WORKBOOKS

are due to your
ZONE ADVISOR

on

AUGUST 1!



Thank you
for your hard work
and dedication!



Quarter Horse

In May a tragedy affected the quarter horse community and our equine community as a whole. As I'm sure most of you have heard, last weekend at the 2026 NBHA Professional's Choice Vegas Super Show three quarter horses were stabbed and severely injured. The horses are expected to make a full recovery but were unable to compete for the rest of the trip and are currently in recovery. With that being said, and with the show season going into full swing, I thought it might be helpful to share a few safety considerations not only for our safety but also for the safety of our horses.

As we all know, we are in a time of heavy social media. Social media can be an amazing tool to share our success and to spread awareness and information about our experiences in this sport that we all love. Unfortunately, it also opens us and our animals up to the world, creating a lot of exposure. So, with this tragedy in mind, if you are someone who chooses to post on social media, be cautious and aware of your accounts. Remember to be careful about posting exact show or stall locations and pictures that may reveal you or your animal's exact location. Be aware of any suspicious behavior on your account, look out for repetitive messaging from strangers possibly asking to visit your stalls or other ways to have an in-person interaction with you or your animals. Also, when you are at the show be aware of your surroundings, be aware of repetitive visitors who you may not know, any sorts of suspicious or unusual behaviors, missing or out of place tack and equipment or anything else you deem as a concern for safety.

Along with this, it can be common practice to lock up your personal belongings and tack stalls. Although it may seem like including your horses stalls would be a good idea, please take into consideration that this may not be a safe practice in the event of a fire or medical emergency that required emergency access or release of your horse. If you feel as though there is something wrong do not be afraid to report it to the venue or even local authorities and remember to watch out for not only yourself but others too. It's always better to be safe than sorry when it comes to our families, show communities, and animals.

Despite this being such a terrible thing to happen to the quarter horse community I hope we can all take this as a situation we can expand our awareness on because unfortunately not everyone has positive intentions and we must be even more cautious as time goes on.

With all of that being said, I hope everyone has a fantastic and safe show season!

- STEPHANIE SIMPKINS





2026 WASHINGTON STATE HORSEMEN

Annual Convention Registration

November 13-15, 2026

CloverIslandInn - KennewickWA

Those registering early will save by paying the "early bird" fee for registration and meals. Room reservations may be made by contacting the Clover Island Inn at (509) 586-0541. We have blocked only a few rooms this year so reserve early to get the group rate (under WA State Horsemen Convention). On the dinner portion of this form, please write either "A" for adult or "C" for child (12 and under) in the appropriate date column. Refunds (registration and dinners) will not be granted after November 6.

Attendee's Name (Please Print)	WSH #	Dinner <10/1	Dinner 10/1-15	Dinner >10/15	Mtg <10/1	Mtg 10/1-15	Mtg >10/15	LineTotal

A = Adult Dinner Cost - \$45(<10/1), \$47 (10/1-15) or \$50(after 10/15)

C = Child (12 and Under) Dinner Cost-\$27 (<10/1), \$29 (10/1-15),or\$32 (after 10/15)

Individual MeetingRegistration Fee - \$35 (<10/1), \$40 (10/1-15),or \$45 (after10/15)

Family Meeting Registration Fee (include on just one line of an attendee) - \$55 (<10/1), \$60 (10/1-15), or \$65 (after 10/15)

Buffet Menu

6oz Flat Iron Steak
Herb Crusted Chicken,
Scalloped Potatoes,
Seasonal Vegetables,
Green Salad with Assorted Dressings, Macaroni Salad,
Rolls and Butter,
Coffee, Lemonade

SUBTOTAL OF LINES ABOVE:	\$
DINNER DISCOUNT:	\$ - 20.00
TOTAL ENCLOSED **::	\$

**** New this year! If at least one of the attendees registered to attend meetings is ALSO purchasing a dinner ticket, reduce your total by \$20.00 !!**

Address: _____

Phone: _____

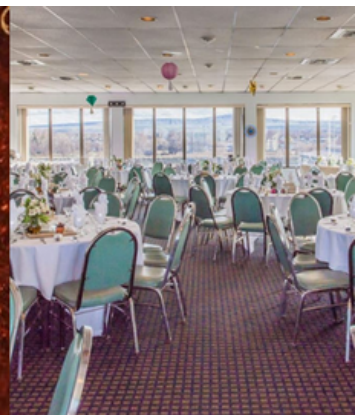
City / State / Zip: _____

Zone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Club: _____

Please Make Checks / Money Orders Out to WSH and Mail To:
7210 E Fairview Ave - Spokane Valley WA 99212-1526





COLOR THIS PAGE AND RETURN TO WSH TO BE FEATURED ON THE
WSH SOCIAL MEDIA!

Name:

Age:

Club:



TWIN BENSON

MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Man of the Year Award is a memorial to Twin Benson and is presented each year to an outstanding WSH Member who has given unselfishly of himself or herself for the benefit of others. This is the spirit which made Twin beloved by all who were privileged to know him. Nominations for this award shall be made in the form of a letter and historical resume setting forth the qualifications of the current year's activities (and past history) which are believed to make him or her eligible. Nominations are not limited to members of the club to which the nominee belongs but any WSH Member may nominate a person for this award, provided the letter contains information on the award criteria.

The criteria is as follows:

1. Service to Youth - within and outside his or her own club.
2. Service to his or her own club.
3. Service to Washington State Horsemen - Zone and State levels.
4. Service to the community.



MAYOR LARSON

JUNIOR INSPIRATIONAL AWARD

Is there a young person in your area that has been an inspiration to their fellow peers? A special perpetual trophy, sponsored by the former Mayor Larson of Yakima, will be presented to a junior WSH member who has gone out of his or her way to provide assistance or help to others and who through their personal endeavors has truly been an inspiration. The nominee should be one who has entered horse events, though need not be a top winner.

The letter of nomination is to include:

1. Nominee's name and address.
2. Birthdate (must be 17 years of age or under as of January 1 of the current year).
3. Club (if applicable) or agency through which he/she pays WSH dues.
4. Reason for nomination.
5. Necessary references for these reasons.
6. Signature of the nominating agency, i.e. family, club, zone, officer, etc.



JESSELYN ROEHR

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award is to recognize an individual that has dedicated themselves to years of service to Washington State Horsemen. Recommendations by any WSH Member will be considered.

Nominations are to be based on the following criteria:

1. At least a 10-year member of WSH.
2. Has served at the State level (may include Board of Directors, Committee Chair, appointed, or elected), State Judge, Steward, Timer, etc.

CLUB OF THE YEAR AWARD



To compete for this award, the club is to submit its qualifications in a letter form. Letters for consideration shall be in duplicate with the name of the club appearing only on the original. Both copies shall be submitted to the Awards Committee Chair. All letters to be considered **MUST** contain information in all categories for the current year. Nominations received that do not follow the directions carefully (as listed below) may be eliminated.

Selection of the Outstanding Club will be based on the following.

1. Do all the members of your club belong to WSH?

2. Describe ways in which your club supports meetings, officers, judges, stewards, timers, record keepers, committees, etc. at Zone and State levels.

3. List club-sponsored activities designed to develop or support · The Youth Merit Program · Education (clinics, etc.) · Horse activities other than shows or gymkhanas · Social activities

4. List club-sponsored activities in general that are other than those listed in items 1-3 above. Suggestions include (but are not limited to) educational, committee service, etc.



HORSE SHOW DIVISION
SENIOR INSPIRATIONAL LU ANN LE
MON PERPETUAL

To be awarded to the Senior that has shown leadership, good sportsmanship, and all-around promotion of Washington State Horsemen during the show season. Must be a current member of WSH but does not have to be signed up for WSH Year End awards. Members are encouraged to submit recommendations to the Horse Show Director.



HORSE SHOW DIVISION JUNIOR INSPIRATIONAL

To be awarded to the Junior that has shown leadership, good sportsmanship, and all-around promotion of Washington State Horsemen during the show season. Must be a current member of WSH but does not have to be signed up for WSH Year End awards. Members are encouraged to submit recommendations to the Horse Show Director.