

July 2020 Region 5 Message

I hope everyone is having a decent summer! Things are still very unusual and every changing, but I hope you are enjoying time with your family, loved ones and animals. I am enjoying the chance to ride a little bit more often than normal during the summer. Shows are starting to pick up a little, but the extra time at home is not unwelcome. It's so much fun to enjoy the summer riding with both of my girls and spending more time with them before they hopefully go back to school in August.

Several important **DEADLINES** are coming up:

- USDF National and Regional GMO volunteer nominations, as well as GMO award nominations, are due to the USDF office by August 31.
 - GMOs can submit nominations for [Newsletter Awards](#), [Website Awards](#), and [Photography Awards](#). Don't forget that all nominations are due to the USDF office by **August 31**. No more submitting hard-copy nominations! See the nomination forms for detailed information.
 - Regional GMO Volunteer of the Year nominations can be submitted by any participating member, group member or the Region Director.
 - One deserving group member will receive the [Ruth Arvanette Memorial Fund Grant](#) to attend the 2019 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention in Savannah, Georgia. The grant includes full convention registration and partial reimbursement for travel expenses. Applications due by **August 31**
- GMOs must return their GMO Delegate/Proxy Authorization form to the USDF office to appoint representation to the Board of Governors meeting at the USDF Annual Convention December 2-5, 2020.

Region 5 is very much looking for someone that might be interested in being the USDF Region 5 Nominating Committee member for the rest of 2020 and going forward. Eva Maria Adolphi has sold her farm recently and is retiring to a lovely apartment in a senior complex. She has just retired her TD license and is also giving up her position on the nominating committee so we need to look for someone who would be interested in filling her position.

Here are the goals and objectives of the Nominating committee:

Goals

1. Secure nominations for regional Participating Member (PM) delegates and the USDF Executive Board.
2. Ensure that all GMO members are represented on the Board of Governors by GMO delegates.
3. Educate the membership about the candidates and oversee the election process.

Objectives

1. Procure nominations for the following USDF Executive Board positions by June 1: Administrative Council At-Large Director (ALD), Technical Council ALD, and Activities Council ALD.
2. Procure nominations for PM delegates in all nine regions by April 15.
3. Obtain GMO delegate and proxy appointments when designated by each GMO.
4. Educate the membership about candidates and oversee the election process.
5. Notify GMOs who failed to respond to delegate and proxy-holder requests that they lost their votes at the Board of Governors meeting.

The person who would serve for Region 5 would help obtain Region 5 PM delegates yearly - we help them by asking folks at each convention if they are interested in serving for the next year; They would also follow up with GMOs who don't send in their delegates or proxies. This is a few phone calls and emails in October and November. They also confirm Regional Director candidates as well and help guide others who may be interested in running for USDF President, VP, secretary, treasurer. There are also a few conference calls throughout the year and we also ask that they attend the USDF Convention each year.

Please let me know if you know anyone who may be interested so we can follow up with them, or have them contact myself!

One more very important thing – due to the lack of competition in Region 5 for the rest of the 2020 USDF Regional Championship qualifying period, the qualifications for the 2020 USDF Region 5 Championships have changed. A press release was recently sent out, but I have also put it below.

Attention Region 5 Competitors:

With recognition that USDF Region 5 has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and now have less than fifteen total competition days to qualify for the 2020 Great American/USDF Regional Championships, the USDF Executive Board has approved alternative qualifying options for the 2020 Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships. In addition to normal qualifying procedures, horse/rider combinations may qualify for the 2020 Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships if they have obtained the following:

- *Earning two scores of at least the minimum qualifying percentage from either 2020 Great American/USDF qualifying classes, 2019 Great American/USDF qualifying classes, 2019 Great American/USDF Regional Championship classes, and/or 2019 US Dressage Finals classes. The qualifying fee did not need to be paid prior to riding in these classes.*
- *Competitor must contact USDF in writing to request the previously earned score(s) be recorded as Great American/USDF qualifying and pay the qualifying fee(s) to USDF. Request and fee must be paid prior to the closing date of the regional championship competition.*
- *Scores can be earned at one or more competitions and may be from the same judge or judge panel.*

As always, to make sure you are accessing the most up-to-date information, visit the USDF website at www.usdf.org and follow us on social media.

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director