

USDF Region 5 Update – February 2021

I hope everyone is staying warm and getting a little horse time this winter! I'm much thinner skinned these days and the winters feel colder and colder to me each year. I took a bit of time for my horse and myself this year and headed to Florida for a bit of training and showing. It is always amazing to me how my bond with my horse, which is already so strong, is reinforced and renewed when we travel together and have an opportunity to really be in each other's pockets so to speak. We are blessed to have our horses in our lives.

We are accepting bids for the 2022 Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships through February 8th. If anyone is interesting in placing a bid for the Regional Championships or has any questions about the process, please contact myself or the USDF office and we'll be happy to help! The final date for a Regional Championship to be held in 2022 will be October 10th in order to fit into the National Championship time frame, so please keep that in mind when looking at facilities and possible weekends. The Finals will be held in Lexington, Kentucky in 2021.

If you have an educational activity that your barn, group or organization is doing, please let me know so I can add it to the Region 5 educational activity calendar that is sent out with the monthly Regional updates by USDF. We would love to keep everyone as informed as possible. Things are a bit different with Covid, but we'd love to let our members know of anything being offered in our region that folks might be able to audit or ride in.

If you intend to qualify for Region 5 teams to the North American Youth Championships, then please make sure you take note of the application structure for 2021. The application and fee should be turned in to the USDF office by March 16, 2021 in order to avoid stiffer fees. If you apply by March 16th, the fee is only \$50 per application. Applications submitted between March 17th and April 27th are \$100 and the final application deadline is May 11th, but it will cost you \$300 to apply between April 28th and May 11th. At this point in time, absolutely no applications will be accepted after May 11th. If you plan to compete for NAYC, please also be sure to contact Joan Clay, our Region Coordinator for the FEI Juniors and Young Riders and let her know your intent. Her email address is jnclay@comcast.net and her phone number is 970.420.0887. The 2021 NAYC will be held at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival, Flintfields Horse Park, Traverse City, Michigan – August 9-15, 2021.

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director