

Summer Report
Central Texas Dressage Society
Lynne Smith, President
July 2026

CTDS proudly marks its 46th anniversary this year, continuing to grow and thrive as a vibrant community of dressage enthusiasts

Membership & Community Engagement

- 168 members, up from 161 last year
- 3,500+ Facebook group members + New Instagram account (ctdsdressage)
- Strong community engagement through shows, clinics, and educational events

Competitions & Events

- Six schooling shows annually, averaging 30–35 rides per show, often with a waitlist
 - Cancelled December show due to EHV-1 outbreak - no instances of the disease within our membership, just an abundance of caution
 - Moved February show to June to bypass weather issues - last 2 February shows have had to be moved or canceled due to weather
 - NEW - September show will debut a Pony Club Rally add-on in partnership with the Texas Hear Pony Club to showcase Horse Management, Pony Club and appeal to younger riders
- Bluebonnet Classic I & II, Level 2: Held our 98th annual 2-day rated show in May
 - NEW - 2nd arena - now a 2 ring show
 - 250 tests ridden, 79 riders, 87 horses, 46 volunteers, 12 vendors
 - Filled within hours of opening (opened at midnight, filled by 1pm)

Educational Programs

- Coming Up: November Symposium with JJ Tate - November 2026
- Volunteer Training Program:
 - Hands-on mentorship at mini-shows
 - Expanded our pool of trained scribes and scorers
- Possible Upcoming Events:
 - How to Fall Clinic
 - Working Equitation Clinic
 - Trailer Maintenance and Safety

Innovation & Inclusion

- Pony Club Rally Experience Add-On at September Show - hope to make it an annual event
- Annual tack sale at September show
- Custom-written leadline tests
- Non-musical freestyle and adult leadline classes

- Seeing an increase in younger rider participation

Awards & Scholarships

- Year-End Awards Banquet at a local restaurant with high-quality prizes
- Shannon R. Martin Memorial Freestyle Scholarship
 - 2026 recipient: Elaine Hildreth (AA)
- Halo Award (Member Sponsored Thoroughbred Award)
 - 2026 recipient: Oriana (owner K. Hammerlind, JR)
- Annual scholarships awarded to AA, YR, JR, and Open riders based on club involvement and volunteer hours

Financial Updates

- All shows have run in the black