

Minutes of the USDF Region 9 (in person) meeting occurring on December 4, 2025. – at the USDF Convention in Lexington, Ky.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon in Lexington Kentucky by regional director Bess Bruton. We went around the room introducing ourselves. Those included Betty Beebe, Becky Brown, Elizabeth Clifton, Katherine Dalner, Alecia Daniel, Jody Lynn DeStefanis, Pierson Fox, Arlene Gaitan, Christina Harman, Jennifer Jarvis, Anne Kuhns, Marilyn Kulifay, Barbara Lewis, Sarah Jane Martin, Donna Meyer, Victoria Moffett, Leslie Rohrer, Leah Stephen, Gaye Slomka. And guest Pierre Piaffe.

During the introductions Debra Reinhardt, the Dressage Foundation, Stephan Hienzsch, and our president Kevin Reinig visited the meeting.

Bess recognized the PM Delegates, GMO Delegates, R9 Board members, and GMO presidents. She also congratulated Sarah Jane Martin for being the newest USDF Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

Christina Harmon moved and Jody Lynn DeStefanis seconded that we approve the 2025 summer meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Alicia Danie moved and Marilyn Kulifay seconded that the R9 Finance Working Group be Becky Brown, Elizabeth Clifton, and Sarah Jane Martin. The motion passed. Also serving on the group is Karin Loftin, Bess Bruton.

Discussion on the convention agenda, committee meetings/ forums, BOG proposals, and salute gala attendance.

Leah Stephen of San Antonio agreed to help get details for the next summer regional meeting to be held in San Antonio, Tx on the river walk...hosted by Alamo Dressage Association.

The next (2026) Annual Convention will be in Lexington at the Griffin Gate near the horse park, and it will only be 2 days to save money. We had a vote to see how many would like to have a zoom meeting convention. USDF will not allow a zoom meeting at the convention.

A straw vote was taken for how many want to have the convention here again. It was not unanimous.

The 2026 Trainers conference will be on January 19-20.

The FEI World Cup games will be in Ft Worth, Tx., April 8 – 12, 2026

The 2026 R9 Championships will be Oct 1-4, at the GSWEC, in Katy, Tx. Hosted by HDS.

Omnibus update. Thanks for all who took out ads, and pages !!!

We had the drawing for the free ad in the 2027 Omnibus: Central Plains Dressage Society won. 21 were eligible for the drawing. The drawing was for the incentive offered... ad copy and payment received by the deadline of July 30th... were eligible for the drawing of a free ad in the next years omnibus.

Christina Harman, and Jenifer Jarvis offered to help call for the 2027 omnibus advertisers. The 2027 Omnibus will have the new tests. The incentives will be offered again. And Bess plans on expanding the history section.

Sarah Jane Martin gave a report on SWDC changes. The SWDC website will be taken over by Nicole Miller and should be updated by the new year.

Bess is trying to find copies of past omnibus to have history for the region.

She is looking for a Volunteer to contact GMOs for information to include on the website and what information to upload to the newsletter. Betty Bebee offered to help.

Christina Harmon offered to check the links in the R9 enews / R9 website for errors.

Bess ask for the GMO's to send her information for the R9 Spring & Fall Executive Board reports.

The Dressage Foundation is offering a new USDF Education Fund. Please consider donating to it.

Nicole Miller is looking for help from region 9 on Facebook. Arlene Gaitan volunteered.

Marsha Lewis wants to know any GMOs who would like to host a Youth Outreach Clinic for kids. HDS, CPDS, & Elizabeth Clifton has an interest.

Jennifer Jarvis moved and Donna Meyer seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.