

MDC, Inc. SHOW APPROVALS AND RATINGS

Rules and Information

(Revised 5/2007)

MDC, Inc approved competitions are shows which are approved by the Board of Directors for the purpose of having the points for scores received by the MDC, Inc member entered, recorded and counted towards the MDC, Inc Awards and Trophy programs. Each show requesting the MDC, Inc show approval must pay a fee. MDC, Inc shall not be entitled to financially benefit from or be held responsible for approved shows in any way other than those responsibilities as stated in the approval agreement.

MDC, Inc. sponsored competitions are presented by the MDC Board or a show accepted by the Board to be a sponsored show for the same purposes of the approved shows in regard to the Awards and Trophy programs. MDC, Inc will be legally and financially responsible for a sponsored show and entitled to financially benefit from it in accordance with purpose of, and agreements with said show. A sponsored show does not pay approval fees or rental fees for the MDC, Inc arena and letters.

All MDC, Inc approved and sponsored competitions are included in the MDC, Inc calendar which is published in the newsletter. MDC, Inc member shows are those competitions that renew approval annually and have their respective dates and comparative dates held from year to year.

Applications: Any dressage competition requesting MDC, Inc approval must complete an application form and remit with the proper fee to the Membership/Records office at least 60 days prior to the competition date.

Member shows will be contacted at the end of the MDC, Inc show season and will receive information needed to apply for show approval for the upcoming season. A preliminary calendar will be in the January/February newsletter provided applications have been received.

Members requesting show approval shall receive a preliminary calendar with deadlines listed for confirmation of date, and any information needed to publish the final calendar. A final calendar will be in the March/April newsletter. Updates will be printed as needed.

The application for MDC, Inc approval for the current year's shows will be held for previous show dates until December 20th. After December 20th, that show date may be given to another show. If you want your date reserve it early!

Member shows will receive approval if:

1. They have returned the required notice of intent to hold the same show with the same comparative date or weekend, by the given date in December of the preceding year.
2. Their show is in good standing with MDC, Inc.
3. Applications and fees are received by the due date.

Member shows cannot change dates for their annual show without renewed Board Approval.

New shows requesting approval will be granted approval if:

1. There is no other MDC, Inc approved show being held on that same weekend, unless it is on the same show grounds.
2. Application for approval with all the required information and fees is received in time for the MDC, Inc Board or current President to approve the date and the show.

All applications shall be forwarded to the President's office for the Club's permanent records.

Approval Fees: The fee provides *a full participating membership to the MDC, Inc.* for the listed Show Contact. Each Show Contact will receive the MDC, Inc newsletter and all mailings/information pertinent to the MDC, Inc approved shows and their committees. *The Show Contact will also receive a GMO Membership to the USDF, voting privileges and the member will be eligible for the MDC, Inc Awards and*

Trophy programs. It also provides the member with a yearly subscription to the newsletter and all club mailings, and it allows the member to participate in clinics and workshops at special member rates when offered.

\$80.00 for the first competition of the show year
\$60.00 for each additional competition of the show year
+ \$10.00 if you would like mailing labels

Mailing labels, if requested, will be sent by date requested only if a minimum of fourteen days is allowed between the date applications are received by MDC, Inc and the date the labels are needed.

The correct approval fee must be sent with the application to the current Membership/Records Office. Checks are to be made payable to the **Michiana Dressage Club, Inc.** All fees received will be forwarded to the MDC, Inc Treasurer with monthly membership reports.

Approval fees can only be partially refunded if notice of a change or cancellation is received prior to thirty days before the competition date and if labels and other material have been printed or sent. In all cases a minimum of \$5.00 will be retained to cover office expenses.

The Show Contact does not necessarily have to be the Show Secretary. The Show Contact is to be the person listed in the MDC, Inc. calendar of approved and sponsored competitions to receive all inquiries in regards to the show and to receive all of the Club's mailings concerning same. The Show Contact will assume all responsibility for the show, with respect to the approval rules.

MDC, Inc RATINGS FOR APPROVED DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS

The MDC, Inc has established a rating system for all approved shows to help members identify the type of shows being presented, to encourage schooling shows to employ USEF rated judges and to urge show committees to present USEF/USDF sanctioned competitions. Each show will be assigned a rating of (1), (2) or (3), depending upon the rating requested by the show committee and the information given on the show application.

The rating of each show will have a bearing upon the MDC, Inc High Point Awards for each rider competing in MDC, Inc Approved shows. The rating is the coefficient used to determine the number of points awarded for each placing.

Rating (1): Schooling shows that elect not to employ an USEF-rated judge, nor and MDC Technical Advisor or an USEF T.D., that are primarily interested in providing a small, informal schooling competition of less expense, and aim toward the needs of local riders receive a (1) rating. These shows do not have MDC affiliation nor recognition. Such a show must employ a judge who is at least a graduate of an approved USDF learner judge program (L). In addition, classes may be held in a non-standard dressage arena as so stated in the prize list. Points awarded are multiplied by a coefficient of (1) for year-end awards.

Rating (2): Schooling shows that meet the criteria of the (1) rated shows, and also have MDC affiliation or approval. A schooling show of a (2) rating must always provide an arena of correct size for all dressage levels in accordance with the USEF rules and must include all required information in the prize list. Points awarded are multiplied by a coefficient of (2) for year-end awards.

Rating (3): All USEF/USDF sanctioned competitions receive a rating of (3). As USEF rules must be followed, there are no added rules for the rating assigned. A show rated (3) need only follow applicable MDC approval rules. Points awarded will be multiplied by a coefficient of (3) for year-end awards.

RULES FOR GOVERNING MDC, Inc. APPROVED SHOWS

An MDC, Inc approved show must adhere to the rules in accordance with the designated rating. Failure to comply with any rule may result in a fine of \$25.00 and/or withdrawal of MDC, Inc approval.

1. If the show has not been published in the omnibus, then a prize list must be sent to each current member of the MDC at least thirty days prior to the competition's date and a minimum of two weeks prior to the closing date for entries.
2. If an approved competition is cancelled after prize lists have been sent, the show must send notice to all MDC, Inc members by postcard or through an announcement published in the MDC, Inc newsletter, provided that an announcement can appear in a published issue prior to the day the show was to have been held. If canceled before the prize lists have been sent, an announcement must be sent to the newsletter editor as soon as possible.
If canceled after entries have been sent, all MDC, Inc. members whose entries were received **MUST** be contacted by phone immediately.
3. The prize list of all MDC, Inc approved and sponsored competitions **MUST** include a disclaimer of liability in regard to the Michiana Dressage Club, Inc.'s responsibility of the same.
4. The prize list must state clearly that the show is MDC, Inc approved and must indicate the rating. Printed in a prominent place, i.e., MDC, Inc. (2).
5. The prize list must contain all necessary information and class specifications, such as the following:
 - a. Arena size and footing, (2) and (3) rated shows must use standard arenas unless an exception is approved.
 - b. Stabling availability.
 - c. Facilities available (concessions, telephones, rest rooms, etc.)
6. All prize lists should state clearly, "MDC, Inc members are responsible for knowledge of and adherence to all MDC, Inc. rules that govern competitors and the MDC, Inc approved competitions."
7. If MDC, Inc membership and dressage information flyers have been sent, they must be displayed in a prominent place and made available to all interested parties on the date/s of the competition in the Secretary's office.
8. Any exceptions to the approval rules may only be allowed by the MDC, Inc Board of Directors or the current MDC, Inc President.
9. Competitors who have had clinics or lessons with the presiding judge within 30 days preceding the show must show H.C. (Hors Concours, scored do not count). Scores will not count for awards either at that show or for the year-end awards.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION FOR MDC, Inc APPROVED SHOWS

Shows are requested to offer Suitable-to-Become-a-Dressage-Horse Class (Dressage Suitability) that are open to all horses, regardless of age, that have not been shown above First Level (not to be restricted to just Novice Horses).

Combination classes (any category) may also be offered and are two classes of the same level and test, which are to be ridden as one class but scored as two separate classes. Winners will be pinned in each class, and points received will be recorded as two classes. Each class should be offered as separate class, with normal fee for each, but with the rider having the option to enter both classes for a special fee (not double the fee of one). The prize list should state with the class specification that the two classes are to be ridden as one. The rider will ride once, but will be scored twice if both classes have been entered.

It is recommended that show managers/secretaries do not compete in shows in which they are working and suggested that USEF guidelines be followed.

REGULATIONS FOR DRESSAGE ARENAS (ACCORDING TO USEF SPECIFICATIONS)

The standard arena is 60meters (198 feet) long and 20 meters (66 feet) wide. The following must be held in a standard dressage arena: First Level through F.E.I. Level tests and USEF Qualifying tests.

The small arena is 40 meters (132feet) long and 20 meters (66 feet) wide. Only Intro Level, Green as Grass, and Training Level tests may be ridden in a small dressage arena.

MDC, Inc requires that (2) and (3) rated shows adhere to the USEF's arena specifications, with exception to be allowed to a show rated (2) by the MDC, Inc Board only for special and sufficient reason and if the Prize List so states.

Exceptions to arena requirements can only be allowed with permission from the Board of Directors or the acting President of the MDC, Inc for special circumstances such as early spring shows or late fall shows using only an indoor riding facility. The size of the arena provided for the show must be clearly stated on the prize list.