

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For further information or images: info@westerndressageassociation.org

Parker, Colorado - The Western Dressage Association® of America (WDAA) recently submitted an application petitioning the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) for Recognized Affiliate Association status for the discipline of Western Dressage. On May 10, 2013, the USEF announced their 30 day notice period for applications of Recognized Affiliate Associations and that is accepting comments regarding the submissions through June 11, 2013.

Recognized Affiliate Association status is granted by the USEF to a single organization to represent a particular International Discipline or National (Breed or) Discipline. That organization has a body of rules approved by the USEF and included in the Federation Rule Book. The WDAA is seeking to be the organization for the Western Dressage discipline.

The WDAA's goal to affiliate with the USEF is motivated by numerous factors. One is the desire to provide a platform and resources for USEF Breeds to offer classes in the discipline of Western Dressage. Another is the determination that any competitions that offer this discipline will be bound by the USEF mission of horse welfare, in particular to the drug and medication rules. The USEF code of sportsmanship and competition are on a fair, safe, and level playing field are viewed by the WDAA to be essential if the discipline of Western Dressage is to thrive and for the WDAA to fulfill its mission to honor the horse and to celebrate the partnership between horse and rider.

The WDAA invites all members, friends and supporters of the discipline of Western Dressage to review our organization and submission. The historical background of the WDAA; information about the structure and design of the organization; a synopsis of the discipline of Western Dressage; and information regarding our partnerships including State Affiliations, Breed Alliances, International Alliances and Corporate Support and Educational Partners are available via the WDAA website at www.westerndressageassociation.org. Interested parties can submit comments regarding applications to the USEF at this address westerndressageapplications@usef.org prior to June 11, 2013.

The WDAA recognizes the significant journey for both horse and rider which benefits from the practice of Classical Dressage techniques blended in the goals and hallmarks of the Western working horse. It is the belief of the WDAA that partnership with the USEF, among other equine organizations and breed associations, can further related educational offerings and competitive events while being ever mindful of the organization's mission, vision and values.

About the WDAA: The Western Dressage Association® of America is a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit organization focused on providing a model of horsemanship which optimizes the partnership of horse and rider for their mutual benefit. The mission of the Western Dressage Association® is "to honor the horse, to value the partnership between horse and rider and to celebrate the legacy of the American West" which it focuses on through its offerings of educational opportunities and events to the equestrian community. To discover more about the WDAA, please visit www.westerndressageassociation.org.