



INTERCOLLEGIATE

LEADING COLLEGIATE DRESSAGE IN AMERICA

Article submitted by Kim Beaudoin
Marketing and Public Relations for IDA



A BRIEF HISTORY

The Intercollegiate Dressage Association (IDA) began in 1995 as an informal competition among a small group of colleges and secondary schools in the northeast. Michelle Hoffman, who was a student at Mt. Holyoke during this time was the originator of the IDA concept. She personally drew up the basic structure for the team competition and the guidelines for calculation of team points, which, for the most part, are still in use today.

The rapid international growth of dressage inspired greater development within college and secondary school riding programs. This led to an increase in participation and interest in a more formally constructed national organization.

In the spring of 2001, the first eastern region finals were held at Virginia Intermont College. During the finals, representatives from numerous colleges and secondary schools met to approve by-laws, elect officers and create the structure for the organization that is dedicated to increasing interest and participation in competitive dressage at the college and secondary school level.

The organization began with a handful of college members and quickly grew to include riders from all over the US and Canada. In 2003, the IDA became a college only organization.

OUR MISSION & STRUCTURE

The mission of IDA is to introduce students to the equestrian discipline of dressage and to foster continued development, understanding and appreciation in the art of dressage through organized student competitions and educational opportunities. IDA's main functions are to promote the sport of dressage and to establish and enforce IDA rules and policies.

At IDA shows collegiate riders in teams of four, compete at Introductory Level (Intro A & Intro B), Lower Training Level (Intro C & Training Level Test 1), Upper Training Level (Training Level Test 2 & 3), and First Level. Most colleges provide the horses used during competitions which adds to the challenge and sportsmanship of the competition. The IDA is divided into regions for the purpose of intercollegiate competition, and individual and team points are earned towards regional standings and qualification for national finals.

IDA is affiliated with the United States Dressage Federation and US Equestrian, and adheres closely to US Equestrian rules. IDA is funded by member dues, contributions and sponsorships. ★★

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

For more information on the IDA, please visit www.teamdressage.com and follow along with us on Facebook (@Intercollegiate.Dressage) and on Instagram (@teamdressage_ida)

*"Creating leaders
in & out of the saddle"*



www.teamdressage.com

