

Western Dressage Association of Florida
Annual Meeting and 2023 Awards Presentation
Florida Horse Park, Ocala, FL
January 20, 2024

The meeting started at approximately 6:15pm with buffet dinner served by Grumpy Gramps under a covered pavilion. It was a chilly 42 degrees! We had choices of salad, rolls, lasagna, and chicken alfredo. Dessert was provided by Board Members Melanie Werst and Jackie Cavaliere of chocolate cake, ginger snaps, and brownies.

In attendance were all current Board members as well as approximately 60 members. Past President Joanne Lanzisera thanked everyone for attending and introduced the 2024 Board: President Melanie Werst, Vice President Amanda Kopak-Hiser, Secretary Jackie Cavaliere, Treasurer Brenda Morrow, and high point manager and rider medal program Director Holly Greene. Outgoing Board members Joanne Lanzisera and Wendy Jeffries were presented with “retirement from the Board” gifts for their 6 plus years each of serving the WDAFL.

Winners of Champion and Reserve champion from Saturday’s competition were announced and ribbons awarded. Medal winners for 2023 were then awarded. It was noted that since the inception of our Medal program in 2020, we have awarded 37 bronze, 9 silver, and 3 gold medals.

High Point Halters were awarded to the highest scoring WDAFL Junior, Amateur and Open riders from the WDAA World Show. High point ribbons for 2023 Junior, Amateur and Open divisions were also awarded, and these were presented in shadow boxes. All division awards (including virtual awards) for 2023 were also awarded to all qualified Junior, Amateur, Open and Exceptional Riders.

The winner of the stall decorating contest was unanimously won by SMART (Sarasota Manatee Association Riding Therapy) who went above and beyond with our horse show theme of “Let’s Flamingle”, and they were presented with their Flamingo trophy.

Those in attendance were asked if they had any questions and were invited to let the WDAFL Board know of any suggestions they may have. The membership was invited to join the Board, as we have a few open spots available and are always looking for new ideas and participation from the membership.

The meeting ended at approximately 7:30 PM.