

**Demonstration Rider Information**

***Demonstration Riders Wanted for Fall Symposium with Dorothee Schneider***

***October 19 & 20, 2019***

*By Beth Beukema, Fall Symposium Organizer*

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***Ride with the “Championmaker” Dorothee Schneider***

Dorothee Schneider will be the featured clinician at the NEDA Fall symposium on October 19 & 20, 2019. The event will be held at the picturesque Equestrian Center at Mount Holyoke College, in South Hadley, MA. Don't miss this unique opportunity to learn from this prominent German rider and clinician

The focus of the Fall Symposium with Dorothee Schneider will be the progression of training through the levels from young horse to the Grand Prix. Across the two-day event, auditors will view 10-12 horses work under the direction of Dorothee. Demonstration riders and their horses will be highlighted in six, 45-60 minute sessions. Some sessions will have two horses in the ring simultaneously,

As this is a symposium, demonstration riders will be asked to perform in front of a large audience of 500 auditors, so calm and cool nerves are required. The focus of a symposium is the education of the audience rather than completion of any certain criteria on a rider's agenda. Riders should be comfortable riding in front of a crowd and open to the clinician's techniques with a willing attitude and a sense of humor. An integral part of the symposium, the demonstration riders and horses are key to the success of the event. We are in search of horses at various levels of training from young sports horses through the Grand Prix level. Ms. Schneider will be involved in the final approval process and has requested that all riders be experienced riding at third level or above.

**In search of the following horses:**

We need four, young horses: 4, 5 or 6-year-old horses capable of showing the qualities to look for in dressage prospects and that have been started in their training along the lines of the young horse classes. The young horses need not have competed in the FEI Young Horse classes but should have equivalent competency level and have some competitive experience. These horses will be shown **one day each** to allow the audience to see a variety of horses over the two-day symposium.

The additional horses (Third Level through Grand Prix) required must all have competitive experience at the level they are applying for and show harmony of horse and rider in their training approach. A video of a **complete test** must be uploaded to YouTube and a link provided to cumulative competition scores. The mature horses will be grouped as we highlight schooling from Third Level horses through Grand Prix.

Horse and rider combinations will receive: 2 auditor passes (one for rider and second for groom/guest); 1 or 2 demonstration rides under Dorothee Schneider with no fee; 2 lunch passes each day; 2 tickets to the Wine and Cheese reception Friday late afternoon; and an experience of a lifetime.

Here are the details on applying:

1. Applications will be accepted online ONLY between **June 26<sup>th</sup> and midnight, July 24<sup>th</sup>**.  
[www.neda.org](http://www.neda.org)
2. Incomplete and late applications will NOT be accepted.
3. Rider must be a NEDA member at the time of application.
4. Only rider and groom will receive passes to symposium. Rider applicants are encouraged to purchase tickets to the symposium and if they are selected NEDA will refund the purchase price. This promises to be a sold-out event and we do not want you to miss out on attending.
5. Owners need not be a NEDA member but if their horse is selected; tickets may be sold out. Potential owners are advised to purchase tickets on June 8 when auditor ticketing opens.
6. Rider must submit video link of a **test ride** at the level they are applying for. Test may be at a competition or at home. Videos longer than 8 minutes will be discarded. Young horse applicants (4,5 & 6 year-olds) may submit test of choice. Other horses must be from **Third Level through Grand Prix**. Video must be submitted on line to YouTube or similar site.
7. Video link must open; check it before sending
8. Submit link to cumulative competition scores for horse applying from USDF.org or Centerline Scores with horse registration number. Check that the link works.
9. Submit equestrian biographical information on rider (250-400 words)
10. Submit horse breeding: sire, dam, dam's sire
11. Horse information and history (250 words)
12. Stabling costs will be borne by the rider and paid to Mount Holyoke College (\$100 for the duration). Horses are encouraged to arrive Thursday to acclimate to the venue.
13. Attach a photo suitable for the program of horse and rider with photo credit, preferably a competition photo.
14. Potential riders are encouraged to book hotels now as it is a busy weekend in the five-college area. A very limited number will be out blocked for NEDA and Mount Holyoke but these will run out early.

The selection criteria will include competition record, gaits, and harmony of horse and rider. Please make sure your video is high quality with the horse easily visible and shot with a steady camera. We do not recommend cell phone hand held videos. Poor quality video could adversely affect your selection. The final approval of horses and riders will be by Dorothee Schneider. Preliminary selection will be by a panel of two - "S" judges and one "R" judge. The selection process should be completed by early September with riders announced mid-September.

For further information contact Beth Beukema, Fall Symposium Organizer. [fallsym@neda.org](mailto:fallsym@neda.org)

Good luck with your application and remember, this will be a highly sought-after opportunity.