

**Constitution and Bylaws of the Grand Valley Chapter of the
Rocky Mountain Dressage Society, Inc.**

ARTICLE I Name The name of this organization shall be GRAND VALLEY CHAPTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DRESSAGE SOCIETY, INC., known as the Grand Valley Dressage Society (GVDS).

ARTICLE II Objectives This Chapter is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable and/or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986, (or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code). These purposes shall be to:

1. Promote and encourage a high standard of accomplishment in dressage through educational programs, in furtherance

of this goal, the Chapter will work closely with local, regional, and national organizations to:

a. Improve the general understanding of dressage through educational clinics, forums, and seminars, and to

promote these and other activities to affect this goal;

b. Assist and cooperate with local and regional dressage organizations of common concern;

c. Cooperate with other organizations having an interest in training horses, riders, and judges through the principles of dressage.

2. To represent the interests of the Chapter's members in forming the policies of and in managing the Rocky Mountain

Dressage Society,
Inc.

ARTICLE III Address The address of this Chapter shall be determined by the Chapter Executive Board.

ARTICLE IV Membership Any member in good standing of the RMDS shall be eligible for membership in this Chapter in accordance with provisions of the RMDS Constitution and By-Laws, Article IV. In addition, Supporting Members will be considered as members in good standing only for the purposes of GVDS Year End Awards, GVDS newsletter, Members Only website access, and GVDS specific programs and activities. Supporting Members are not eligible to hold office. Supporting Membership is for adults and junior/young riders who are unable to utilize the full benefits of an RMDS membership. The Supporting Membership financial level will be as determined by the Chapter Executive Board for the applicable year and may be adjusted annually with sufficient notice to the membership.

ARTICLE V Dues Section 1. Basic Dues: Basic dues for this Chapter shall be in the amount specified in the Standing Rules of the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society, Article VIII.

Section 2. Supplemental Dues: Supplemental dues may be levied on Chapter members by amendment of this Section in accordance with the provisions of Article XI of this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 3. Dues Collection: Chapter Basic and Supplemental dues may be collected, at the discretion of the Chapter Executive Board, either through the annual renewal process with RMDS or by separate levy by the Chapter.

Section 4. Membership Year: The Chapter Membership Year shall be the same as the RMDS Membership year.

ARTICLE VI Officers Section 1. Officers: The Chapter Officers shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. One person can be elected to serve in two (2) positions.

Section 2. Qualification: Chapter Officers shall be members in good standing.

Section 3. Election and Term:

Chapter officers shall be elected in accordance with the provisions of Article X for a term of 1 calendar year or until a successor has been duly elected.

Section 4. Vacancies: In the event of vacancy in any elected position, the remainder of the term shall be filled by a general election in accordance with the provisions of Article X.

Section 5. Records: At the conclusion of his/her term of office, each officer shall transfer all records pertaining to his office to the succeeding officer within a period of two (2) weeks.

Section 6. Duties of the President: The President shall be the chief officer of the Chapter. He/She shall call and preside over all Chapter meetings. He/she shall, with the Secretary, sign all contracts for the Chapter. The President shall act as the Chapter representative at all RMDS Executive Board meetings. He/She shall act as the official Chapter spokesman before the public in all matters. He/She shall perform such other duties as is normal for an organization President.

Section 7. Duties of the Vice-President: In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall exercise any power or duty of the President.

Section 8. Duties of the Secretary: The Secretary shall give notice to the membership of all Chapter meetings. He/She shall keep accurate summary minutes of each Chapter meeting and report the same at each meeting. He/She shall provide written notice to the RMDS Executive Board of any newly elected Chapter Officers and of the Chapter Delegates to the RMDS Board of Governors. He/She shall provide a written copy of the Chapters Constitution and By-Laws whenever they are amended to the RMDS Executive Board. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the Secretary shall exercise any power or duty of the President.

Section 9. Duties of the Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping the Chapter financial records, maintaining the Chapter accounts, and reporting the Chapter financial status at each meeting. In the absence of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, the Treasurer shall exercise any power or duty of the President.

Section 10. Removal from Office: Any Chapter office shall be declared vacant upon the petition of 40% or more of the Chapter members. This petition must be delivered to the President or, if the petition is to vacate the office of President, to the Vice-President. The vacated office shall be filled by election in accordance with the provisions of Article X.

ARTICLE VII Chapter Executive Board Section 1. Members: The Chapter Executive Board Shall Consist of the elected officers of the Chapter, and appointed chairpersons of the permanent committees: Education/Programs, Volunteer Coordinator, Communications, Membership, Sponsorship, Points, and Awards. Other committees and applicable chairpersons may be appointed by the Executive Board as needed.

Section 2. Responsibilities: The Chapter Executive Board shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Grand Valley Chapter and for the implementation of motions adopted by the membership.

Section 3. Meetings: The Chapter Executive Board shall meet as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. Such meetings shall be informal but will require the keeping of minutes.

ARTICLE VIII Meetings Section 1. Regular Meetings: The Chapter shall hold at least six (6) regular meetings annually, one of which must be after the November RMDS Board of Governors Meeting. Such meetings shall be open to all Chapter members. A regular meeting shall be one for which the date, time, and location have been announced by written notice to the membership at least one (1) month in advance of the meeting. Meetings may be in-person or via electronic method (telephone, on-line).

Section 2. Special Meetings: The President shall have the power to call special meetings of the Chapter at any time and must do so when requested in writing by twenty percent (20%) or more of the Chapter members. Such meetings shall be open to all Chapter members. Written notice of the date, time, place, and purpose of a Special Meeting shall be sent to the membership at least one (1) week in advance of the meeting.

Section 3. Quorums: The quorum for any Chapter meeting shall be one-half (1/2) of the Chapter Officers plus two (2) additional members.

Section 4. Adoption of Motions: Except as otherwise specified in these By-Laws, a majority vote of the members present, and voting shall be required for adoption of a motion at a properly called meeting of this Chapter.

ARTICLE IX Delegates to the RMDS Board of Governors Section 1. Selection: Delegates to the RMDS Board of Governors shall be elected by the Chapter and shall meet requirements specified by the RMDS Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2. Decreased Voting Rights: In the event the Chapter's voting rights at a RMDS Board of Governors meeting is less than the number of elected Delegates the Chapter President shall select from the elected Delegates those who will represent the Chapter at the RMDS Board of Governors.

Section 3. Increased Voting Rights: In the event the Chapter's voting rights at a RMDS Board of Governors meetings

is greater than the number of elected Delegates, the Chapter President may either appoint additional Delegates or distribute the voting rights amongst the elected Delegates.

ARTICLE X Elections shall be held annually at the November regular meeting for the purpose of choosing Chapter Officers, but no later than the December regular or awards celebration meeting, whichever comes earlier. Voting for officers will be by written format, that is, by mail, online, or by ballot brought to a GVDS meeting. In the event of vacancy in a Chapter office, elections shall be held to fill the office at any regular meeting or any special meeting, provided a notice of the pending election was stated in the written notice of the special meeting. In the event that there is only one slate of officers to present for election, voting may be by verbal acclamation.

ARTICLE XI Amendments These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Chapter by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, provided written notice of the purport of the proposed amendment was provided to the membership at least thirty (30) days but not more than sixty (60) days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE XII Dissolution Upon dissolution of this Chapter, all of its assets shall be paid or transferred to one or more exempt organizations of the kind described in Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

ARTICLE XIII Parliamentary Authority Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern all meetings of the Chapter to the extent they do not conflict with these By- Laws.

Approved by the Chapter Membership March 15, 2021.

Arlene Rhodes, Secretary