

Preamble:

This year's NBEA LTED focused on the Learn to Compete and Train to Compete phases of the Long-Term Equestrian Development pathway.

The LTED will consist of two clinics with Equestrian Canada Licensed NCCP High Performance 1 - Dressage coach and FEI dressage judge **Birgit Epskamp Valkenburg**.

Eight riders will be selected. Priority will be given to those who are currently competing at Second Level or above. If the eight spots are not filled, then applicants competing at First Level will be considered. The remainder of the dressage community, as well as equestrians from any discipline, will be warmly encouraged to attend and audit. Developing one's eye for movement, correctness, and corrections is a huge part of athlete progress at all levels. Riders and their coaches should plan to attend and reap the benefits of observing what lies ahead on their own pathways.

Program format

- The registered rider will submit a video of one test from a 2025 EC-sanctioned competition from the month of May (such as DNB #1) for Birgit to review prior to the clinics.*
- Two 2-day clinics will be held, one in June and the other in September. Eight eligible riders will be selected to ride in both clinics.
- Private lessons of 45 minutes each, one per clinic day. Following the lesson, 15 minutes will be spent in discussion with Birgit, the rider, and the rider's coach.
- Saturday evenings will include a potluck supper with riders, coaches, and auditors, followed by a lecture from Birgit, speaking about the judge's perspective and training plans.

Riders are strongly encouraged to make plans to stay for each day of the clinic to audit as many of the other lessons as possible. This is a training camp, and designed to be inclusive to all the riders throughout the two days per camp.

Rider requirements:

- NBEA 2025 member in good standing
- Currently competing at Second level or above **or** planning to compete at Second level or above in 2025. (Applications for riders at Training and First level will be collected in case spots remain available).
- Commitment to ride in both the June and September clinics.

- Planning to compete at a minimum of **two** EC-sanctioned dressage competitions in New Brunswick in 2025.
- Must attend the May DNB #1 competition and have test rides videoed for sharing with Birgit in advance of the first clinic. ** (If the horse/rider is not competing at an EC sanctioned competition in May, a video of a test performed at home within 1-2 weeks of the registration deadline may be submitted. Videos must be recent; not 2024. Priority will be given to riders in competition).*
- Has a minimum of Rider Level **4**. The higher the rider level, the higher the priority for selection.
- ASTM helmets must be worn at all times while lunging and while mounted at the clinic venue.
- Biosecurity: All participating horses must have proof of vaccinations (flu, rhino, strangles) and Coggins test valid for 2025. Biosecurity best practices must be observed at clinic venue
- If more than 8 eligible horse/riders apply, selection will be made by the NBEA LTED committee in consultation with Birgit. Should a rider withdraw at any time, a replacement may be selected from the list of original applicants.
- All participants must sign a waiver

Rider Cost: \$400 – two private lessons at each clinic x 2 clinics.
 Rider's NCCP current coach may attend for free.
 One groom may audit for free.

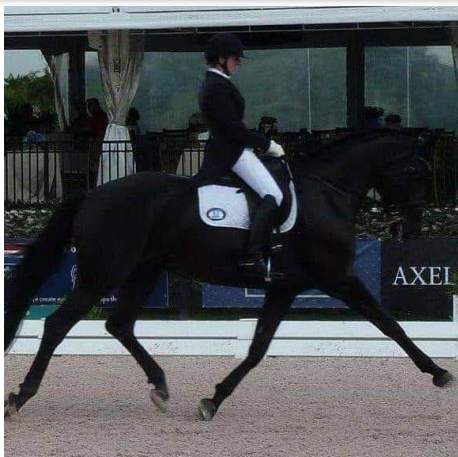
Rider participation in the clinics will be highly subsidised by NBEA LTED funding.
 Fees are kept to a minimum.

Dates: June 7th and 8th
September 6th and 7th
 Rider is expected to attend both.

Venue:
Moncton – Kadillac Stables, owned by Anne Doiron
 1899 Melanson Road, Greater Lakeburn
 20x60 outdoor arena; indoor in the event of rain






Auditing: Interested riders, coaches, and trainers of all disciplines are warmly welcomed to attend.
 Auditing fee will be minimal.

DEADLINE for rider applications: May 2nd, 2025



Dressage LTED Coach

Birgit Epskamp Valkenborg Seeley's Bay, Ontario

-  High Performance 1 – Dressage coach
-  Competition Coach Specialist – Hunter/Jumper
-  Competition Coach Specialist - Eventing
-  FEI 2/3* judge – dressage/para dressage
-  FEI Grand Prix athlete

Born in Germany, Birgit has been riding since the age of 7, and successfully competed ponies at the national level in dressage, jumping and eventing, including a score of 80% in dressage at the German Team Pony Championships. She then trained young horses for Rhineland/Westfalen breeders and coached children.

Birgit married Armand Valkenborg and the two moved to Canada to found Windedge Farms. They have been training, competing, organizing international competitions and working to develop FEI Children, Juniors, Young Riders, and Ponies. She began riding Grand Prix in 2008, was named Trainer of the Year 1997 by the Quebec Equestrian Federation, and has earned “Elite” status in Quebec’s “Program D’Excellence”.

Now living in Ontario, Birgit is an NCCP certified High Performance 1 Dressage coach, FEI level 2* Dressage judge, and 3* Para Dressage judge