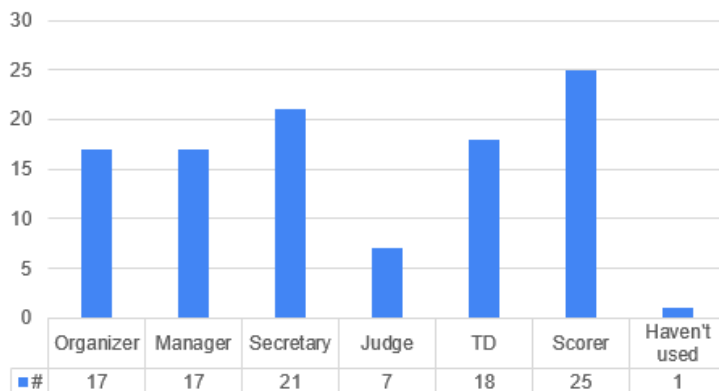# Recap: GIRA.io Feedback Survey

Survey conducted August 11 – September 15, 2023 | 25% response rate
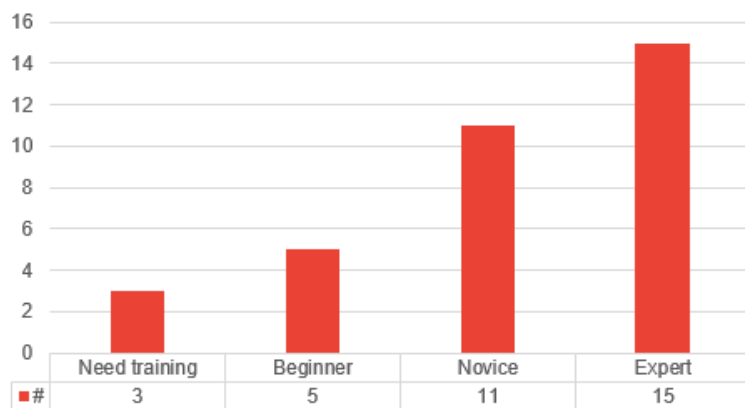134 Show Organizers, Managers, Scorers and Licensed Officials (Judges and TDs) | 34 respondents

Licensed Competition GIRA Role

	Organizer	Manager	Secretary	Judge	TD	Scorer	Haven't used
#	17	17	21	7	18	25	1

34 respondents

GIRA Skill Level

	Need training	Beginner	Novice	Expert
#	3	5	11	15

Is GIRA Training Adequate?

- Yes
- No, offer 'on demand'
- No, offer 'monthly'
- No, offer 'quarterly'
- No, offer self-paced tutorial

Scoring/Placement used by WE Countries (25 countries: 24 members of WAWE +1 non-WAWE)

# WE Countries	GIRA.io	Equi-Score	Manual	Own App	No Competitions	No Response
25	6	4	4	5	1	6
	Columbia France Mexico Portugal Switzerland United States	Australia Belgium Germany Holland Switched to Equi-Score from GIRA due to expense	Austria Canada Denmark Italy	Australia Canada Poland Romania Sweden	Luxembourg	Brazil Czech Republic Hungary Netherlands South Africa Spain

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GIRA.io Survey Respondent Recap

Responses: Setup: Having your competition added to GIRA.io by the USAWE GIRA Administrator (or backup).
Issues
I've only used Gira since May of 2023. The first show was a schooling show that wasn't showing up for me to add the scores. It wasn't made visible by the Gira Administrator. The second shows June 3rd and 4th had many setup and show report downloading issues, June 17-18th show had issues with the same, July 15th or 16th show wasn't allowing me to upload results. I was getting an error that the show was already closed (on the day of the show). The Gira Admin said "oops - fat fingers, it's fixed".
All 4 shows were missing the 2nd GIRA show organizer
Missed correct show dates
No problems except for a couple glitches where you have to hit a button twice.
Kudos:
The level of response by Julie is awesome! We probably need more folks who can help with that side of things.
Yes -Julie has set me up multiple times
This has gone very well. Administrator is always available to take care of what is needed. Very easy set up system.
We simply sent an email request to the Gira admin and it was done, so super easy
Done quickly per request, even the schooling shows.
Was great!
Yes, I've done this, works well
Very easy as a show manager
The administrator is beyond amazing! The responses are prompt no matter time or day
Setup is simple and straight forward
Easy!
Great, very prompt response

Responses: Admin > Data Base > Athletes: Configuring, adding and/or verifying rider-horse pairs and performance level(s)
Issues:
Noticed many errors of horse/rider pairs, Horse/rider pairs at one level in the system more than once. Horse/rider combinations that never existed.
I do this on a regular basis for the competitions I manage. The only issue I've had is when the column headers on the USAWE website view of the current members or recorded horse's lists get changed. This causes a disruption in GIRA's ability.
Once, complicated at first with so many athletes. Need easier sorts/filters and ability to change things.
The automatic putting of all riders under "Open" was something that was a hiccup. It would be better if it was a blank and it was mandatory to pick Open, Amateur, Youth, etc. when entering Athletes.
This works fine, BUT it is a HUGE PITA to need horse recording numbers and athlete numbers for schooling shows. The multiple athletes that are the same is frustrating.
Dislike duplicate Athlete rider-horse pairs. There should not be duplicates
GIRA is not pulling in data from USAWE membership and not pulling in USAWE Recorded Horses (have to manually key both)
A little tricky. We did go back and forth a bunch and still found errors in the end.
GIRA should NOT have duplicate rider-horse Athletes
Kudos:
Once I figured out how that's databases interact it's easy and intuitive
Pretty easy to do

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This was very easy. We had all of her Rider numbers and we just use Gira to double check that they were current members and everything matched.
It took me a few tries, but I formed the habit easily and then navigation was better. In a pinch, I was able to get an immediate response form the Administrator with accurate information.
Garbage in garbage out. Show managers have a responsibility to list horse rider pairs correctly from the get go. Again, not difficult if you pay attention
Great because Gira is connected to the USAWE membership and horse recording databases
No problem. I had to learn that if a rider moves up a level, you have to add them as an athlete at the new level.
This is very straight forwards and very easy to use
This is great. The only time-consuming part is adding new athletes (1 minute at most). Nothing to complain about. Just data entry.
I have always entered new athlete pairs by hand, but I understand being able to choose from a linked USAWE Database would result in fewer errors or duplications.
After learning curve no problem
Once you get the hang of it, easy to do

Responses: **Admin > Configuration: Configuring a competition - Tests, Participants, Judge(s) and Start List**
Issues
The whole process is very cumbersome and not intuitive. I have not used the system for the Cow Trial but as a user have tried to look up Cow Trial results with no success. I guess that is a special training session?
Works well… I've not figured out how to edit my start list over several days and vary which level go when etc.…
Start List should not disappear when setting up. Extra clicks are annoying
Athletes and Participants should default to 25 (not 10) as most shows have 25 rider-horse pairs
Start List button can be glitchy. You often have to hit it twice. All others work ok.
Start lists are challenging to figure out and I would like an option to do the start list for a two-day show before the show starts. I have not figured out how to split a phase in 2 days and have the start lists accurate. We run all dressage and EOH for intro Sat then EOH for everyone else and speed on Sunday.
Duplicate rider-horse pairs were confusing as to which pair to add to show and how will the choice impact show results, leaderboards (Regional and National) placings and Lifetime Rider Medal data tracking
It should be optional to have rider start time printed on Order of go sheets, especially for EOH and Speed. Riders start comparing that the show is running early or late when the times printed may not be correct or used.
Kudos
I have done this for inexperienced show managers.
I do this, on average, 3-4 times per month. With familiarity, the process now takes me under 10 minutes, typically (unless there is a REALLY big show or a lot of people who are not yet in GIRA).
A few times preparing for the next day's show. Little details make things complicated. Like having to run start list before anything else. Once you know it, then it's pretty smooth.
Easy to do
Well, this is it really shines. It's super easy to set up and configure a show and get your start list done plus it's easy to re-organize it start list which I really appreciate it.
No problems once I learned the system. Actually, very easy and convenient. Better than one other electronic scorekeeping system that I used in the past with a different equine sport.
Was great. The only hiccup was it wouldn't let us add more than 2 Judges Breaks in a start list. We had a few scratches from the 1st day and were trying to keep everyone's times the same on the 2nd day with just adding more judges breaks (was also 100+ degrees so the extra breaks were needed). We ended up keeping some of the scratch people in just as place holders.
This works fine. Although multiple arenas are difficult, if we had multiple judges on different trials, I'm not sure how to run that.

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Not difficult
Straightforward (x2)
This is again very easy to use and very well put together.
I helped with this part, but another person configured most of it.
Easy to do if you only have one arena going at a time. GIRA doesn't recognize that two arenas may be running simultaneously even when you enter the trial start time correctly and/or indicate different arena locations.

Responses: Admin > Configuration: Configuring EOH Obstacles
Issues
Sometimes a bit funky when deleting an obstacle or needing to edit … but otherwise good!
A few times, kind of a pain to change, but I like that it has details now.
I wish there was a way to add or delete multiple obstacles at the same time.
Ensure obstacle name matches USA rules
This works well, as long as you pay attention to which obstacles at which levels and not include the wrong obstacles at L1 (don't hit all levels until after you enter L1 obstacles).
Takes a bit to figure out how to delete obstacles if map changes between levels or if course designer changes mind based on Judge/TD course map review. Need to add Start and Finish to list as both must be completed for successful trial.
Kudos:
Easy (x4); Not Difficult (x5), Straightforward - Great tool
I have done this for inexperienced show managers.
Super simple process. I do this, on average, 3-4 times per month.
Some judges use different terminology for the different obstacles but if you know the sport you know what they mean. very easy and straight forward

Responses: Admin > Configuration: Configuring Speed Obstacles
Issues
Ensure obstacle name matches USA rules
Configuring it is ok. Needs to be stressed in training, GIRA Manual and Quick Reference Guide that the bonus 10 points for spearing the ring goes on the Replace Pole obstacle (not spear ring).
Speed score sheet should display the obstacle name so it would appear on the score sheet in course map order.
Need to add a column to document GIRA's SS:HH as timers record speed trial in MM:SS:HH but GIRA only displays it in SS:HH
Children and Introductory are NOT eligible to compete in Speed and should not be an option within Speed Setup. There are issues with GIRA pulling in Children and Introductory rider-horse pairs into the Speed Start List. Since USAWE pays $5K per year for license and the trials are customized for our USA Rules, then Children and Introductory should NOT be a choice within Speed Configuration. Takes a bit to figure out how to delete obstacles if map changes between levels or if course designer changes mind based on Judge/TD course map review. Need to add Start and Finish to list as both must be completed for successful trial completion. Course Maps include Start and Finish on legend.
Kudos
Easy (x11), No problem finding the obstacles. Wish there were icons to use too. Straightforward - Great tool
Even simpler process. I do this, on average, 3-4 times per month.

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Responses: Admin > Configuration: Configuring the Cow Trial
Issues
Cow Trial needs to be looked at. GIRA is not calculating results if team is a mix of Divisions (Y, A, O) and Performance Level (L2-L7)
GIRA is missing Cow Trial Scoresheets - Individual and Team
GIRA is missing Cow Trial Scoresheets - Individual and Team Team Cow only works if all rider-horse pairs are in the same Performance Level. USAWE GIRA Administrators are NOT familiar with setting up the Cow Trial (since they both said they don't have shows or have shown in a Cow Trial). This is no excuse. They can use a Practice Show within GIRA to get the experience and see what the issues are in setting up a Cow Trial in GIRA. USAWE GIRA User Guide and Quick Reference Guide needs to provide info on how to set up a Cow Trial in the US when there's different performance levels on a team. GIRA needs to be set up as 'Individual' (not teams).
Kudos
This one is a little more challenging, but mainly I think because I am less familiar with it. I've done it, I think, 5 times now. Each time it gets easier.
No experience (x 18)
Works well, No problems (x 2)

Responses: Scoresheets (Reports > Evaluations): Downloading GIRA generated scoresheets (Dressage, EOH, Speed). Note: The Cow Trial currently does not generate a scoresheet.
Issues
I don't like that all Dressage and EOH score sheets are on one report. This makes it an extra step for me to click on all dressage tests to print at once since they are double sided. Then go back and repeat the process to get the EOH sheets to print. The score sheets for Gira also do not match the scoresheets in the rulebook - this is a big problem.
Found it was hard to score accurately as GIRA sheets do not have boxes to reflect scores after coefficients, nor boxes for movement totals or obstacle totals.
This is sometimes a hassle, to have to download before being able to print.
Downloading file as 'Protocol'; should display License # and Trial (BOD paid to fix this issue)
Speed needs to have a column for SS:HH since GIRA converts MM:SS:HH to SS:HH and the end of day results in GIRA only display SS:HH. This is very difficult for LOs to verify and difficult for competitors to understand
The dressage score sheets could use an extra column after the coefficient column so that if you need to manually score them you can write the score with the coefficient in that column. The dressage sheets are also missing a box for the movement total on the front and then a box for the collective total on the back. (BOD paid to fix this issue)
Dressage score sheets do not have "Leave the arena at A in free walk". This needs to be added.
Cow Trial is missing the ability to download Individual and Team Scoresheets - this needs to be resolved.
Kudos
Easy, no problems (x 10); Very easy and a great way to double check that you have finished all of your other steps completely. I really like that feature; Love this option. It significantly shortens the time required for Show Secretary.
I have done this multiple times for inexperienced show managers.
N/A; another person did this part (x3)

Responses: Scoring (Evaluations): Entering Scores during a competition (Dressage, EOH, Speed and Cow Trial)

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Issues
I enter our scores after each phase because using my cell phone is too touchy and opens up for a lot of errors in entering. I think all scores should be manually hand checked as it is VERY easy to input incorrect scores. By doing this, I found that there was an error in how the collective marks were being calculated. No one else caught this error in 6 months of the new tests being out. Clearly that shows that show management and LOs are not verifying results before signing off.
Biggest challenge is making sure WIFI is available
Entering info for Speed can be confusing as I'm never sure whether I'm supposed to enter a negative number or a positive number.
Difficulty clicking 0
I had to teach my scorer that if someone got a 0 on an obstacle, that he had to mark another score first, then he could change the score to 0. I don't know if that has been changed in the software or not.
If a competitor needs to be moved to a different level and scores have been entered the system will not allow the competitor to be removed from that level and will duplicate the rider in the trial with each attempt to remove. For a schooling show this was reported to Julie Alonzo who tried to remove rider and it just duplicated the rider again. Julie said she would report it.
The GIRA Dressage tests are not the same as the official association dressage tests. GIRA dressage test also do not list the coefficients. (BOD paid to fix this issue)
Unable to choose '0'. Have to futz by clicking a different number, then re-clicking '0'
Kudos
Easy (x 14); I can typically train a person to do the scoring in 5 minutes or less, even if they are not familiar with /comfortable with technology. If you can tap a button on your phone, you can enter scores. It significantly shortens the time required for Show Secretary.
Love the verification option now, but it needs to slow down (x2)
Very smooth and easy to understand.
I have scored at shows. It requires multiple windows (one per show). Enter the scores, have Gira read them back to verify.
Fantastic tool. Cuts down on human error.

Responses: **Validating Scores (Admin > Report > Results**): Verifying scores/placings during a competition (Dressage, EOH, Speed and Cow Trial)
Issues
I am certain that 90% or more of the licensed officials and TD's do NOT know how to verify scores in Gira opening it up to many errors. I was TD at 4 licensed shows in 2022 where none of us (Show manager, S Judge nor myself)
Wish the voice could slow down a little bit more. The TD sometimes needed to be repeated because it went too fast.
Collectives only display for ties, makes it difficult for official validation
GIRA generated Speed scoresheet needs to have a column for SS:HH since GIRA converts MM:SS:HH to SS:HH and the end of day show results in GIRA only display SS:HH. This is very difficult for LOs to verify and difficult for competitors to understand
Unable to choose '0'. Have to futz by clicking a different number, then re-clicking '0'
Kudos
Easy (x 15)
This is necessary regardless of the software or paper and calculator.
This works well. I know that sometimes the GIRA computations have been wrong, but we have not run across any problems yet.
No problem, love this option. It significantly shortens the time required for Show Secretary.

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The read back function works exceptionally well for this
Again, I've done this now hundreds of times. Gira gives me confidence that the scores are 100% valid as the scorer also does this. Check the paper for coefficients and errors, have Gira read the scores as I check them.
I do this regularly, when I'm serving as TD, and I also teach my scorers (and any new TDs I might have) how to do this. Everyone seems to pick it up easily, and using GIRA has simplified the process of validating placings tremendously. This is particularly helpful in large (50+ competitors) competitions and competitions with multiple judges.
Many times. Print out to use.

Responses: Please explain how you validate scores with data inputted into GIRA (i.e., voice validation within GIRA, manually with a second scorer, visually compare to hand scored sheet, etc.). If you don't validate, please explain why not.
Validation
All the above (x2); And the TD checked a few to be sure we were doing it correctly
Voice and manually… we usually manually score every 3rd test to check that we agree. Some TD also manual score a few tests to check.
voice validation with Gira. But I also validate that the scorer has done the coefficients correctly and that the errors are deducted correctly on the scoresheet before I validate with Gira.
Is this question asking what I do as a show manager? I already answered the question in the previous part, for what I do in the role as TD.
Validate with "slowed down voice". And spot check against tests sheets
Voice validation, visual comparison (x17); Voice validation with GIRA. Manual took 2 people to validate, 1 to check, and 1 to read.; Voice Validation within GIRA by TD; Voice validation or using a 2nd person. I have seen 2 people, one entering and another reciting the numbers / scores and have also helped recite scores. I and the scorers I train use voice validation within Gira to compare the entered scores with the scoresheets. We both used the voice validation, manually with the technical delegate and compared the hand scored sheet. I loved using GIRA for this. When I scored, I validated the scores with the voice validation within GIRA. I tell my scorers that it will go fast, especially after a whole number. They get it after the first sheet. It is just a bit odd at first. I use the voice validation. It works so well and the only issue I have is when it is noisy around me, I put both earpieces in and it makes it so much easier because I have a hard time following lines on a computer. Manually with 2nd scorer plus TD validation. I generally use the voice validation and have a second person visually compare to hand score sheet. Visual and Voice validation; manually if have a second scorer, visually compare manual scoresheet to GIRA validation screen display. Used the voice validation option at least twice for each score sheet. GIRA voice validation, visually compare as time allows.
I compare the score sheet numbers using the voice validation within Gira. visually ensure that the numbers match what I see on the score sheet.
Show manager also scored manually, then two sheets were compared.
We first manually entered them, and then had that person use the voice validation and then once that was confirmed our TD would do both visual and voice validation.
Voice validation. Depending on the scorer and the cadence of the show I will normally validate every scoresheet. Sometimes I may spot check 75% but that's rare and likely only with a proven scorer and large complex shows.
Visually compare to hand-scored sheet (x2)
Hand score
Manually with 2nd scorer
We visually compare twice when entering. Then we print the evaluation form after the scores have been entered. We place this sheet (entered scores) with the handwritten scoresheet, and put them all together

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behind the results sheet for the class. The TD then can verify that the correct numbers were entered into GIRA and that the correct totals were transcribed from GIRA to the handwritten scoresheet.

Responses: End of Show Reports (Admin > Reports): Downloading show results for end of day posting (Dressage, EOH, Speed and Cow Trial)
Issues
I wish there was more training on this. The first day I printed way too many sheets and it got confusing. After I realized I could just print the General it went smoother the 2nd day. I didn't find out about the excel sheet till after the shows were done, which would have been the best way to do the award ceremony.
Stopped doing that, it's a waste of paper. I post a log with the times each class is final. Competitors can view scores online.
Reports don't match USA rules
Dislike using GIRA > Admin > Reports > General as it is missing valuable data used by LOs, Show Mgrs. and competitors in validating scores.
Worthless - the GIRA End of Day Show Reports do NOT provide the same level of data required by USA Rules for Working Equitation. Nor is it displayed in the same format. Very confusing for LO (Judge and TD) in validating scores and very confusing for competitors.
What is the GIRA.io Results Verification Log/Final Competition Placement (FCP) Sheet dated 5/31/23 on the usawe.org website > Competition Resources? Who approved that as a means of score validation? TD/Judges did not receive any notification (or instruction) of this form.
Kudos
Easy (x8); very straight forward; Very convenient; So easy – love it and again it saves so much time
Easy, but we were delayed because of a storm, and had to shut down the show. Didn't finalize immediately. We need to have the show reopened to complete the results and check.
Did not do this (x2)
I have done this for inexperienced show managers.
I use this feature on occasion -- for instance, if I have a judge who is validating placings, it is often easier to give them print outs of the reports for each trial / overall placings rather than have them use my computer to review things (it's easier).
Once we figured out which reporting style, we wanted it was easy. I loved being able to generate different reports for Ribbons for example.
They print off nicely and they were easy to create
Have not done cow trail yet but all others. We print out results and post as levels are completed

Responses: Show Results (Admin > Files): Downloading the end of show results Excel file to send results to the USAWE Awards Committee.
Issues
File name needs to include show license # and name (the same file naming required by USAWE Results) (BOD requested this issue be fixed; thank to Kris Blacklock)
ok most of the time, but there are still sometimes issues with an athlete having too many duplications.
Kudos
Haven't done this (x5); defer to show manager
Very easy (x14); Just wish I knew about it during the awards. This was very easy and another great way to double check everything; Love this option. It significantly shortens the time required for Show Secretary. Very helpful. Very informative. I use this feature regularly. My show secretary did this but I know it took less than 5 minutes

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Easy to download. Great the file name now has the show license# and show name - thanks to Kris Blacklock requesting this.
Have not had issues with this other than I didn't know it was required for the first show. Seems to be pretty seamless however I have not actually checked it.
My show secretary did this but I know it took less than 5 minutes
Much nicer than creating this by hand!

Responses: Leaderboard (National and Regional) - accuracy of leaderboard placings based on points pulled from GIRA.io show results.
Issues
Often times Regional scores are not accurate
There have been several instances of missing points and NO ONE seems to know why the results are not it. This can be very frustrating
GIRA is inconsistent in providing show info. Data is missing and Results can't explain why
Why are some National and Regional Leaderboard rider-horse pairs missing the 'Details'? (x2)
Kudos
Haven't seen or experienced with this (x 7); I haven't looked at the Leaderboard since my horse has been injured for a long time. I do not check these, but will in the future. I never look at the leaderboard, so I have no idea. I am not experienced in observing this portion. I've not seen any errors but have not paid close attention to this part
No problems (x2)
This is an area that has improved tremendously through the use of GIRA and should be increasingly accurate. The issue we had previously (where show organizers would spell people/horse names wrong, or would enter the wrong number.
I think having the leader boards update quickly is important. Also it would be nice if on USAWE there was a place riders to could get a performance that shows all their scores from a season on to one report
It's all up to the show manager to record riders and horses correctly
I'm very happy these are integrated!
Just recently learned more about this process. The only question about leaderboard placings I have received from a participant turned out to be correct on the leaderboard.
Fairly accurate, Excellent that GIRA now auto fills the leaderboard and shows each riders competition history

What are some features you really appreciate?
I made many mistakes in the first couple of shows when I used GIRA but once I figured it out I love it! It makes secretary and scoring duties so much faster and more accurate. The validation feature cuts down on human error in entering scores (I used to hand calculate twice and then have someone else hand calculate to make sure it was correct). Also, the end of show reports take a fraction of the time they did before. I do not want to go back!
Ease in show placing; online so competitors can view score/placing online
It's nice to be able to see results of shows quickly.
Having the score sheets organized and ready is brilliant!! As a rider I love having the scores online.
As a TD the validation is key. But the most important thing Gira does is put the placings together. That is incredibly difficult to do by hand. Auto math, auto placings, the verbal validation. I think this program is easy to work with and terrific to use, frankly. As a judge, I love that I can go in later and see the individual scores on the tests as well as the placings. I can compare my consistency in collective marks and see how various competitors actually compared. As a judge you do remember rides, so this is a really useful tool.

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I love how easy the software is to use. I love the time-savings of being able to download / print PDFs of the scoresheets. I find the software has decreased errors in scoring and placing over prior manual / Excel-file based approaches. The "validation" button where GIRA reads the scores back to enable double-checking the accuracy of data entry is great. I appreciate the ability to upload the EOH and Speed course maps to the system so that competitors can see them easily from their phones. I love the way the software enables USAWE competitions to be shared with others all around the world. The presence of USAWE competitions on the software helps underscore the WE activity here in the U.S., in a way that is both professional and highly visible. In addition, I appreciate the way the software reduces the error for the Awards Committee by making the Excel file results consistent across competitions.
Makes scoring so simple and fast. Love the real time score results.
The voice feedback is an excellent feature, which helps ensure a more accurate validation. I love this feature. The only improvement could perhaps be a more consistent cadence between the different numbers, but that is a small issue.
Verbal reading of data for verification
I love being able to go online and see scores of rides during the competitions around the country so I can cheer my friends on even if I'm not at the show. As a rider I love having scores entered quickly so I can see how I'm doing in the placings.
I enjoy the convenience, reliability and simplicity GIRA offers.
This software was so amazing and smooth. I think with some better training material, especially training videos, it is a software anyone can use. I love that the results are live and easy to read for the participants.
Getting the results faster with fewer errors.
I look on Gira weekly to examine all the scores from the different shows in the US. I look forward to checking how folks are doing, if they are moving up or getting higher scores, if other judges are scoring similarly, who is riding Novice B or higher levels and what their scores were... It is highly beneficial to have access to that. It is Fantastic as a competitor to see your results/ score quickly
I love this software. It makes managing and working shows so much easier. The automations it provides are lifesavers during a busy show.
Very user friendly and intuitive. Makes ranking easy.
The entire program is a joy to use.
I love how easy it is to use overall, as a competitor looking at live results, as a scorer, and as a manager setting up and running a show.
In my experience as a scorer, I found GIRA incredibly easy to use. It was quick to learn.
As a Show Secretary, I like it because it is pretty easy to set up. I love that I can print the dressage and EOH score sheets and don't have to create labels. Speed is only 1 sheet. As a Scorer, I think that inputting the scores is very fast. I also like that we don't have to make a copy of every test as GIRA stores all of those in the cloud. As a TD, it is easy to verify the scores. I think that GIRA is more accurate than hand scoring with a calculator as there were always input errors. As an Affiliate Organization, I love being able look up the results and take a snip of that to post on Facebook after the show. As a competitor or a spectator, I like to be able to look up how my friends are doing at a show.
I really like how there are so many opportunities to double check things and make sure thing are done right. Entering things are very easy and scoring is very easy!
Overall I love GIRA and could not imagine running the size shows that we do without it. Last Fall we ran 4 shows with 3 judges over 3 days. That makes for a lot of score sheets, scores to be calculated and validated. This required adjusting Start Times, posting scores promptly. This software has really helped us keep our shows organized and efficient. The exhibitors also love being able to see the scores in real time.
Validation (when slowed down); Online scoring accessibility
GIRA makes the secretary's job easier and saves time.
If it does what it is supposed to do and is accurate and reliable, it is easier and quicker.

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When we have it right, competitors and judges have the results immediately and clearly.
I made many mistakes in the first couple of shows when I used GIRA but once I figured it out I love it! It makes secretary and scoring duties so much faster and more accurate. The validation feature cuts down on human error in entering scores (I used to hand calculate twice and then have someone else hand calculate to make sure it was correct). Also, the end of show reports take a fraction of the time they did before. I do not want to go back!
Ease in show placing; online so competitors can view score/placing online
Program is rapidly improving, like how it identifies the bonus in Speed, like how it now generates the leaderboard points, with documentation of the show the rider earned the points at. Like the athlete autofill. The online real time scoring is EXCELLENT and critical to help achieve a fan base, and more involvement with owners and breeders that can watch the scores from far away. It also keeps everyone out of the office begging for the score sheets!
It's incredibly fast, accurate, and easy to use. You may not know the competitors love being able to check their scores online. It's great that it's able to be updated as the rule book is updated.

What are some features you would like to see removed / added / changed?
The scoresheets for Gira MUST match the scoresheets in the rulebooks. Need to be able to download Dressage tests and EOH separately. Would like to see obstacles listed for Speed round instead of just bonus obstacle. Also must have a place for Deductions on Speed round (failure to salute, etc.).
Entering a 0 score is funky… I'd like to be able to split my levels up to make my own order of go.
I'd like to see the test sheets printed with the level objectives on them so that riders are continuously educated as to what is expected of them, and how their scores match to the expectation. I would like a button on the top that takes me to the bottom of the screen to find the validate key. It would be nice to have an offline version, but it would be obsolete in a couple of years anyway. I would love as a scribe to be able to entire the scores and comments directly into Gira, but that will happen sometime in the future I'm sure.
Easier to adjust order of go to account for riders with multiple horses.
I would like to see a space on the score sheet for every number we might be writing down. It does sound like that is one of the things that is being addressed currently. It's not a big deal, but it would be an improvement. I would also like to see the ability to have the speed trial score sheet include two or three blank lines at the bottom of the competitors so that we can write in competitors if needed. Sometimes a person decides to move up a level after the sheets have been printed and they need to be written in but there's nowhere to do that and have it come out neatly. This problem would be solved if there was a default two or three blank spaces that would automatically print every time to allow for the writing in of competitors.
The fact that the show manager is able to change details of a horse or rider records. These records should pull directly from the USAWE database and show managers should NOT have the ability to edit them in any way.
More reporting functions that let us get one report showing horse/riders scores in ALL shows - especially useful to those looking to earn qualifying scores for Zones or Medals.
I'd like to see Obstacle icons.
The only change I would make is slowing down the verbal validation voice. But besides that the software is amazing.
As a judge I want to see more data in the report for validation. I want to see Dressage %, EOH % and Speed placing.
I think there is a good opportunity for enhanced database options. These would require development. Allowing full integration as a one stop source for awards and ride tracking down to the horse and rider would be fantastic.
Being able to add and remove multiple EOH obstacles at once would be very nice.
Cow Trial needs to accommodate mixed performance levels

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I would love it if the names of the obstacles would appear on the Speed score sheet.
I wish the speed was posted a little different (as MM:SS:HH; not SS) as speed is hard to figure and I think they did very well
It would be great if GIRA had online exhibitor registration where they could go in and do their own entry. This would save even more time from the show organizers perspective. With this added feature it would be helpful to track billing and payments as well. We currently use a google form for registration.
Speed score sheet needs column for SS:HH since GIRA converts MM:SS:HH to SS:HH Cow trial needs work - missing score sheet; also not calculating placings when teams are mixed between Divisions (Y,A,O) and Performance levels (L2-L7)
I wish the scoring would stay open for a couple days afterwards.
The only problem I have experienced (after the learning curve of figuring out the program) is setting up the start lists as explained earlier in the survey.
Merge the Dressage tests so that the association version and GIRA version are the same. Judges Signature is on opposite sides. No coefficients, etc.

User Guides and Support - Share any difficulties you may have experienced, what works well, suggestions for improvements. List any Q/A that would benefit GIRA.io users.
The best way to learn it is to use it. I think that there needs to be better training for TD's on how to use GIRA for validation. Once everyone is capable, then the judges don't have to be interrupted to validate anything. Impossible for a judge to have the time to validate every score like a TD can, a judge can only validate placings.
I wished at the end of the final results it would print 1 sheet that showed for example ALL L1 Dressage (including AA Open and Youth on one paper) same for EOH; instead of on sheet for L1 AA 1-youth 1-Open. It's hard at the end of the show to make sure you have all the sheets to present awards. Especially in a 2 day show. Riders are often wanting to leave and are impatient
I am actually in the process of working with Julie to put together recorded training sessions for on demand viewing. We would've had this last month, but there was a glitch with the zoom, so we had to postpone the recording. Overall, I think the current one on one or small group training as need arises, or as requested has worked well. There has never been a lack of training. All anybody has to do is request a training session and they get one which includes coaching them through the process of getting their show set up if possible during the training time. That is superior customer service, in my opinion.
After looking myself up on GIRA - I found that my name had a wrong member # attached. I then checked my horse and he had a rider associated with me that I have never heard of, I am the only rider who has ever shown my horse in Working Equitation.
Maybe short on demand videos, showing each of the primary functions of Gira for show administration would be useful. Little two minute clips, showing how to do each other phase of set up, and then each of the phases of that scoring, and then each of the phases of reporting.
In my beginning, I had a bit of a hard time remembering the sequence or order of input to establish my participants. But, once I got in the groove, it was fine.
We had difficulty with Withdrawn and Scratches. When to leave them in and when to remove them. Leaving them in affects the overall points but removing them affects the start times. I did not read any rules about if there were changes to start times, how and when they needed to be posted.
I still work at many shows that do not have reliable internet. This is really nerve wracking for the tabulator and show management.
I know some secretaries/ managers can have problems in some areas when they first use it. There seems to always be someone a phone call away to help and I think overall the awards and final placement is done a whole lot sooner and competitors don't have to wait around forever for results
Missing instructions, missing Q&A. Need a recorded zoom training session that can be viewed at any time.

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NOVAWE used GIRA for a schooling EOH show. We were having problems since we didn't have a dressage class. Julie contacted the developer and found that we needed to create a dressage time (class) even though we didn't use it. I appreciate Julie going the extra mile to help me.
The few questions and problems I have had were addressed immediately.
Add a Q&A section of common or unique questions so all can see the answer. Update Show Results to use the Admin > Results > Files report and not the General report
These were helpful. When I listened to the online instructions, I summarized the basic steps to remember, which was about 8-9 steps on one sheet. I used that list as much as the manual. Could something like this be added to the end of your manual?
The training was good and Julie has been amazing and prompt with any questions I had during my first couple of shows. My only suggestion would be to possibly add a second training after you first or second show. It is hard to retain the information when you are starting from scratch, you don't know what you don't know at that point. Having some experience with the program then having a follow up training for further clarification would be helpful. If I was expecting a follow up then I could keep a list of all of the tiny things that come up when you are learning something new. I was certain that there were better ways to do some tasks but when you are in the middle of a show you don't have time to figure out "the better way" you just have to get it done now.
Need Q/A so everyone can see the issues and how to resolve them Need to add how to remove 'Introductory' and 'Children' from Speed after Start List is generated.

Other than GIRA.io, are there any other software programs USAWE could consider for show scoring, placing, results and award tracking? Please provide software name, website URL, contact name, email address and phone number (if possible).
No (x13); None that I'm aware of
Why would we waste this organization's time and money to swap now? We'd have to retrain the entire organization. What a mess that would be. I think it would be silly to do that and diverge from WAWE. Particularly since there are so many customizations that have been added for the USA specific tests. We have so many more levels than WAWE, there is a lot in that program specific to the USA. I love Gira for my work as a TD. I dread going to a show that does not use it so I'm happy USAWE has a blanket license for all shows.
I don't think anything would be better than Gira because Gira is being used internationally within our specific sport. It wouldn't even make sense to use something else. it is unlikely that anything would be better, considering our sport has very unique features, and I would feel embarrassed if we were to move away from Gira which is already specific to our sport.
I don't have any suggestions
I don't know why we would stray from the system that has many other countries and Championship shows right there alongside our US flag and results. It is really cool...
None. Let me be clear on this. I've been in IT developing complex solutions for decades. It's what I do, I'm an IT architect by trade and the Gira platform is well developed and gets updated and enhanced more frequently than most applications on the market. USAWE pays very little for the application in comparison, and I know development costs for custom changes are also minor in the long run. Given that many WAWE sites use the application speaks to its usefulness. Further any thought that this could be managed internally via google sheets or excel would be extraordinarily I'll conceive.
Gosh no! I wish Gira could be used for the Breed Shows I run. I've tried several other programs out there and have not had any success. Nothing is as user friendly and intuitive, web-based.
The USA GIRA program is improving rapidly, I think we should stay with GIRA, to keep the USA competitions with the other mainstream WE shows in Europe. So easy for the world to see. We should continue to invest in and improve what we have done so far with GIRA, not start over.

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Any additional thoughts on GIRA.io, scoring, placings, leaderboard show results?
Each year results MUST BE randomly AUDITED for accuracy against scoresheets that show managers are required to save. It would also be nice to have an email address for someone other than the Gira Admin or secondary Gira Admin that compiles all the incoming questions, compiles and tracks them as part of the audit process.
I really appreciate being able to use it!
I think USAWE should feel confident using Gira, unless the TDs are not doing their job and validating all the scores. It may be that they do not know that is their job or how to do it. I've had that experience with TDs before but assumed that had changed. However, the scorers that I have seen entering the info also do the verbal validation so to be honest, while I do the verbal validation on all scores it may not really be necessary. out of many many shows only found 1 error in speed. Hundreds of tests, 1 error. I have performed many roles that a lot of people in this org probably have not done. I've entered info as a show manager (I wasn't the manager but the manager wasn't on the ball), I've printed the results to post (TD job is to post) and I have done that for rewards. I have scored, I have TD'd and been a judge using Gira in many different ways. It's a very comprehensive software program and giving all the USAWE shows access to its use is a godsend. I actually haven't heard anyone complain about Gira until I was in a USAWE board meeting and I was surprised and actually couldn't speak to ask what their issues were. PLUS it allows the competitors to see their scores right away.
It seems more complicated than necessary, but after 3 years I'm mostly comfortable with it and teaching others.
Overall, Gira is well worth the price we are paying for a custom piece of software that cuts down so many hours of work and reduces so many errors. I love that we can see our results in near-real time.
I did not realize that GIRA actually does not have a function to populate the records page with historic results for each competition year - instead volunteers copy and paste endless rows of data.
Yes, communicate, communicate, communicate with writers about the benefits of Gira. So many riders I've met don't even know that they can look their scores up online or follow a show in progress online. I think USAWE could do a much better job promoting gira to its riders.
Only that I enjoy using it. It was easy enough to teach to new volunteers, and I love not having to snail mail any forms to headquarters.
I think championship shows should be worth more points or have a coefficient.   I think schooling shows should count with a fractional coefficient, or there should be some sort of year end awards for schooling shows.
I would sure hate to see gira go away
Seems to work well. Will use it if we host another show.
Gira has several huge advantages over any other software—it was created for our sport, which is unlike any other sport to set up and score; the developer has been very open to our feedback and has set up features specifically for USAWE; and USAWE's Gira license is far more economical than the cost of the other softwares I know of, many of which charge high fees per show, rather than the contract we have for usage in all our shows for the entire calendar year.
Need to have a GIRA Administrator in each time zone and in each region. Also, everyone on the Competitions Committee needs to know how GIRA functions.
Not really. But, THANK YOU FOR THIS PROGRAM!!! It makes my life easier whether I am the Show Secretary, the Scorer, or the TD!
1. What 'kickbacks' has the USAWE Administrator or organization received from GIRA for the use of their software? Past, present and future. 2. What are the levels of access within GIRA (Super Admin, Admin, Show Organizer, etc.), who has what access level and what does each access level authorize? 3. Participant list should only list the options valid for USAWE Rules (Youth, Amateur, Open, Schooling). Remove Children, Junior, Young Horse, Gaited Horse, and Maiden) and GIRA must match Awards Program designations

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(Youth, Amateur, Open). 4. Each Region should have a designated GIRA Administrator (same time zone and to ensure accessibility). Each GIRA Administrator must be knowledgeable about how to set up a show and to troubleshoot issues in show setup, Dressage, EOH, Speed and Cow Trials, end of day results. 5. UAT testing must be performed for each Trial each time USAWE coding changes due to new score sheet, award criteria changes, etc. Setup a practice show and validate each trial scores and placings (Dressage, EOH, Speed and Cow).
Julie has gone above and beyond answering all of my questions promptly. I do believe I talked to her while she was in an airport at one point.
Where does one locate the costs for using GIRA? What do other countries pay? GIRA Administrators need to know how to set up ALL (4) trials (including Cow Trial) and resolve issues in all four phases. This is a FOUR phase sport. GIRA Liaison needs to be an advocate for USAWE (not GIRA) as most answers are replied that 'no GIRA is setup that way'. When USAWE is paying $5K annually for software usage and USA Rules are coded, then GIRA needs to be coded to reflect USA Rules.
I think it's use should be encouraged to all show management

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