



## Meet Our Saddle Fitters: Meg Dischler

**September 12, 2019** - Trilogy Performance Saddlery fitters specialize in hand-fitting, flocking and providing ongoing client support for their region of the country. Trained by the best in the field and regularly educated through skill-building seminars, fitters are well-equipped with knowledge and passion for helping improve horses and riders.

We want you to learn more about Trilogy's team of fitters! Meet **Meg Dischler**, authorized fitter who services Wisconsin, Minnesota, Northern Illinois and the surrounding areas.



*Authorized Saddle Fitter Meg Dischler*

### **What created your interest to pursue saddle fitting as a career?**

Growing up I had a very challenging horse to fit...a Lipizzan/Saddlebred cross with a very curvy back. It was nearly impossible to find a well-fitting saddle for him that also allowed me to sit in a balanced way. My journey with him was an incredible learning

experience and a good example of how totally frustrating it is when your saddle doesn't fit and you can't find anyone to help you!

Also, I really like problem solving. My parents are both consultants in IT and Engineering, so I think I was brought up to have this mind set! Saddle fitting is a constant evolution of change and it requires the fitter to be constantly evaluating and analyzing the situation to keep the horse and rider well fitted over time.

### **What has prepared you to become a saddle fitter?**

My previous positions in sales and management. For example, I was the National Sales Manager for a small Veterinary company for several years. As a small company I learned how to not only do my job but to wear a lot of hats! Everyone has to pitch in where it's needed and be proficient and helpful at many different things in a small company! Being a fitter is much the same! Not only does a fitter have to be markedly proficient at their technical craft of evaluating horses, riders, and movement, and flocking, we also have to learn marketing, sales, communication, and business management skills. Time management, organization, communication, and planning is essential.

My life as a horsewoman and Dressage rider has taught me a lot as well! I feel lucky to be a rider and a fitter. It allows me to have pretty detail-oriented conversations with my clients and to better understand what they are feeling in their saddles and their horses.

### **Name one unexpected thing you have learned since becoming a saddle fitter?**

Just one?! I have learned so many things since becoming a fitter! I think one of the big highlights for me is learning to evaluate the horses bodies, musculature, and movement. "Muscling never lies!"

### **What is your favorite part about being a Trilogy saddle fitter?**

I love being able to make a positive difference for the horses and riders! I work with some really incredible people and horses and I'm really grateful and excited to be an integral part of their team. It takes a small village to well support a top Dressage horse and a good saddle fitter close to the center of your inner circle is essential!

### **What is the most challenging part of being a saddle fitter?**

Sometimes troubleshooting horses that are tough to fit can be really hard, but it's a good problem to have, and a challenge that I welcome. I'm so grateful to have Debbie

as my sounding board to bounce ideas off of and give me guidance with the tough situations!

**What advice would you give someone who is interested in becoming a saddle fitter?**

Be prepared to work hard...really hard...but it's worth it! When Debbie has a piece of advice to give or a suggestion take it! Its gold!