

Ohio Dressage Society – Volunteering & ODS Bucks Policy

To encourage individuals to volunteer and to thank them for volunteering, Ohio Dressage Society enacted the ODS Bucks program. The guidelines for the program are as follows:

Earning ODS Bucks: Any individual, members and non-members, can earn ODS bucks for volunteering at ODS sponsored horse shows and clinics. Individuals will earn \$5 in “ODS Bucks” for every hour that they volunteer at a these ODS events. Any individual who volunteers for an entire day at our shows will earn an additional 10 ODS Bucks. ODS Bucks may be earned for other volunteer efforts outside of ODS horse shows and clinics (e.g. presenting an educational seminar or working on the breed awards program) with the ODS Board’s prior approval.

Excluded Events: Individuals/members **cannot** earn ODS bucks or satisfy volunteer hours for year-end award eligibility by volunteering at non-ODS events, including other clinics, USEF shows, and schooling shows that count for ODS year-end awards but which are not sponsored by ODS.

Volunteer Hours Required For Year-End Awards: In order to be eligible for year-end awards, ODS members are required to volunteer 4 hours per calendar year (or pay \$20 if they do not meet the volunteer criteria). Members may satisfy this requirement by volunteering at any ODS event (e.g. ODS recognized or schooling show, or ODS clinic). With pre-approval by the ODS Board, volunteer hours may be earned at other ODS events on a case-by-case basis.

Members who participate in the ODS year-end awards program will **not** receive ODS Bucks for the first 4 hours of volunteer time they completed to be eligible for year-end awards. They will begin accumulating ODS bucks for any volunteer hours completed in excess of the 4 hours required to be eligible for year-end awards. Members must inform the volunteer coordinator that they intend to participate in the year-end awards program.

For example, a member who volunteers 10 hours in a year and who participates in the year-end awards program will earn 6 hours worth of ODS bucks (\$18), and her remaining 4 volunteer hours will satisfy her requirement for participating in the awards program.

Redemption: ODS bucks may be redeemed at any ODS event (ODS schooling and recognized shows, ODS clinics). ODS bucks may also be redeemed for ODS membership, year-end awards, or the year-end banquet.

In order to redeem ODS bucks, an individual may inform the organizer/secretary of the ODS event that they are cashing in ODS bucks. ODS members planning to participate in the year-end awards program should take care to hold back 4 hours of volunteer time for eligibility in the awards program. The organizer/secretary will send a report to the volunteer coordinator to update the ODS bucks spreadsheet.

Once cashed in, hours/ODS bucks will not be refunded, even if the individual redeeming ODS bucks subsequently chooses not to attend the event.

ODS Bucks may not be redeemed prior to being earned and recorded.

ODS bucks have no cash value, and ODS will not pay any individual for ODS bucks earned. ODS will not pay any individual for ODS bucks that go unused for any reason or as a result of discontinuation of the ODS bucks program.

Expiration Date: ODS bucks, if not redeemed, expire at the end of the year following the year in which they were earned. For example, ODS bucks earned in 2015 must be redeemed in 2015 or 2016. ODS bucks earned in 2015 but not redeemed will expire on December 31, 2016.

Transferability: Individuals may transfer volunteer hours to other volunteers, regardless of whether the transferor or transferee are ODS members. Such transferred hours may be in fulfillment of the volunteer hours required to qualify for year-end awards or for the purpose of transferring ODS bucks. All transfer requests must be made to and approved by the volunteer coordinator.

Records: The ODS volunteer coordinator maintains a spreadsheet to track all ODS bucks earned. This spreadsheet is posted on the ODS website. It is the responsibility of each individual who volunteers to check that her volunteer hours have been properly recorded within 30 days of the time the individual volunteered. Discrepancies in the official record of hours and an individual's recollection of the hours volunteered will be resolved by the volunteer coordinator and/or the ODS board. Decisions made by the volunteer coordinator and/or the ODS board regarding volunteer hours are final and not subject to challenge.

Questions? For questions about volunteering or earning/redeeming/transferring ODS bucks, please contact the volunteer coordinator ohiodressagesociety@gmail.com. For questions about the ODS Bucks policy, please contact ODS President James Gerhart at jsgerh7@aol.com.

*This policy is subject to change without notice. The ODS Bucks program may be discontinued at any time, without notice, by a majority vote of the ODS board. In the event the ODS Bucks program is discontinued, no cash value will be paid for ODS bucks earned but not redeemed.