



National Walking Horse Association

Dressage National Horse of the Year

Awards Program

PURPOSE: These awards are for horses and riders that show consistency in competition through the entire show season in the discipline of dressage. *Note: All text in RED are updates for 2017 show season.*

Eligibility Requirements and Fees:

- Owner must be a current NWHHA member in good standing
- Rider must be a current NWHHA member in good standing or purchase a seasonal show card.
- Signup fee of (\$20) per horse/rider combination (*per level*) due no later than June 15th of current year

JUNIOR CHAMPION INTRO LEVEL HORSE OF THE YEAR (Test A & B only):

Purpose: For those horses and riders that do not canter or lope. Open to all ages of riders and horses.

Rules and Regulations:

- All membership or seasonal show card fees and signup fees paid
- Junior Champion Intro Level may not sign up for any other traditional dressage award level
- Junior Champion Intro Level may be English or Western, but not a combination of both
- Scores must be earned from USDF “L” Graduate judges, or higher
- Submit (5) five scores from the same level test AND
- Must be from at least (3) three different competitions AND
- Must be from at least (3) three different USDF/USEF dressage judges. *Note: Top (3) scores must be from different judges*

MUSICAL FREESTYLE DRESSAGE HORSE OF THE YEAR CHAMPION

Purpose: For those horses and riders that compete in Musical Freestyle Dressage.

Rules and Regulations:

- All of the same rules apply as the Junior Champion Intro Level AND:
- *Movements above the horse and rider’s level strictly forbidden and will result in points deduction*
- *Show management is not responsible for musical failure*
- *Each horse and rider must earn and submit 3 scores from 3 competitions and 3 different USDF “L” Graduate judges or higher*

OVERALL DRESSAGE HORSE OF THE YEAR CHAMPION

Purpose: For those horses and riders that canter and compete at all level and styles of dressage.

Rules and Regulations:

- All of the same rules apply as the Junior Champion Intro Level AND:
- Each horse/rider combination may sign up for (2) two consecutive levels. If you move up a level in the middle of the competition season, you may enter that level also, but only if the sign-up sheet is sent in to the NWHHA office before the first competition at that level.
- A horse **MUST** compete in and finish a ride at the highest test offered for the level.
- At least (1) one of the (5) five tests submitted must be at the highest test of the level.

SCORE SHEET SUBMISSION:

- Mail the score report form with a copy of the cover page from each of the five tests attached to the NWHHA Office to the attention: *Dressage Award Submission*
- Pages must include: Horse and Rider Name, Name and Date(s) of Competition, Judge(s) name, and final score percentage
- **DO NOT SEND** the actual test. Please only submit a copy.

Scoring and Awarding of Year End Champion

- Junior Champion: Introductory Level, Test A & B only
- Champion:
 - Intro Level
 - Training Level
 - First Level
 - Second Level
 - Third Level
 - Fourth Level
 - Western Dressage (all levels)
 - Musical Freestyle
- Highest median percentage of the top five scoring percentages of the horse/rider combination. **Musical Freestyle is the highest median percentage of the top three scoring percentages of the horse and rider from three different judges.**

To find the median of five scores, list the scores in order of percentages earned, from highest to lowest. The top three scores must be from three different judges. The middle, or third score, is the median average. Therefore, be sure to send the five highest scores the horse earned during the year that meet the above requirements. **Participants must use the Score Report Form found on the Dressage Page.**

EXAMPLE:

Rider: Jon Q Public, Horse: My Best Guy

- Training Level Test B, Anyshow, 14May2015, Judge: Mary J Hope, **Final Score 55.465%**
- Training Level Test C, Great Gaits Show, 01Jul2015, Judge: Gary Peoples, **Final Score 51.476%**
- Training level Test B, My gaited Show, 15Jul2015, Judge: Susie Sunshine, **Final Score 50.222%**
- Training Level Test B, All Gaits Good Show, 02Aug2015, Judge: Johnnie Spoton, Final Score **47.895%**
- Training Level Test C Schooler Gait Show, 01Oct2015, Judge: Edward Norton **Final Score 34.332%**

Median Score: 50.222%