

# Dressage

## Year-End Award Rules for USEF/USDF RECOGNIZED SHOWS

1. All awards will be based on a horse/rider combination meeting these eligibility requirements.
  - A) To be eligible a Horse/Rider Combination must receive at least seven USEF scores, two from the highest of the level from two different judges at two different shows. Each score must be at least 55%. To be eligible, a FEI Horse/Rider Combination must receive at least five FEI scores. Each of these scores must be at least 55%.
  - B) For GDCTA members who are USDF Participating Members competing at Training Level and above, scores no longer have to be submitted to GDCTA to count, but will be based on the official show and score results posted at USDF.org. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program **AT THE TIME SCORES ARE EARNED**. You must register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chairperson.
  - C) A list of members participating in the awards program will be kept on the website. It is the **competitor's responsibility** to check frequently to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Recognized Awards Chairperson if it is not.
  - D) A Horse/Rider combination showing at more than two levels during the competition year will only be eligible for awards at the two highest levels shown. This is still in effect even if the minimum requirements as listed in section 5 below are not met at the highest level shown. For example, a Horse/Rider Combination (showing at Training, First, and Second Level during the year), who fail to meet the eligibility requirements for Second Level, is still only eligible for First Level awards.
  - E) At the beginning of the Awards year Adult Amateur riders must choose to ride either Open or Adult Amateur. To be eligible for an Adult Amateur award you must qualify for the Amateur status under the US Equestrian Federation. Simultaneous competition in both divisions is not allowed.
  - F) A Horse/Rider Combination that has won a year-end Championship for a particular level will no longer be eligible for awards at that level or any lower level. The exceptions to this rule are Grand Prix, Junior FEI and Young Rider FEI levels. A Horse/Rider combination that has WON a year-end Championship award in the Freestyle/Pas De Deux division or the Young Horse Division may compete in those divisions again but at a higher level.
  - G) Once a Horse/Rider Combination has qualified for a Recognized Show Award, the Horse/Rider combination cannot qualify for a schooling show award at that level or any level below.
  - H) Restricted classes which are not open to all competitors, such as breed, pony, and championship, are not eligible to count toward year-end awards.**
  - I) The awards year will run from October 1st through September 30th of the following year. Since the GDCTA membership year runs from December 1st through November 30th., members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.
2. Awards will be presented in the following categories: Open, Adult Amateur, and Junior/Young Rider.
3. Awards will be offered at USEF Training through Fourth Levels, Prix St. Georges, Intermediate I, Intermediate II, Grand Prix, FEI Junior, FEI Young Rider, FEI Children's and Young Horse Division (see A below). As well as awards for Musical Freestyles in one "open" category at each level.
  - A. Young Horse Division Award for 4-5-6 year olds: To be eligible a Horse/Rider Combination must have at least three scores; for 5 and 6 year-olds two must be from the "Final" test of the level from two different judges at two different shows. A minimum score of 6.0 or higher is needed to qualify. Scores do not have to come from a Markel/USEF Designated Qualifying Competition, however, all scores must be from a test judged by an S-judge.
  - B. Calculations for Freestyle/Pas de Deux (both FEI and the new USDF/USEF) awards are different from all other awards: only 3 scores of 63% or above are needed to qualify. The 3

best scores earned will be averaged to arrive at the percentage used to determine winners in each class.

4. Scores from all USEF and USDF Recognized dressage events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program regardless of region. The only exception to this is that scores from Regional Championship classes and National Championship classes will NOT be counted as these are “restricted” classes. (See 1. H.)
5. Dressage Awards are based on percentage scores and not placing in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the top qualifying scores depending on level.

Category	Qualification Requirements	Award Calculation
Non-FEI Training – Fourth Level	7 scores > 55% earned at USEF show; 2 of the scores must be from the highest test of the level and earned at 2 different shows from 2 different judges	Average of top 5 scores
FEI PSG, I1, I2, Grand Prix	5 scores > 55% earned at USEF shows	Average of top 3 scores
Freestyle & Pas de Deux	3 scores > 63% earned at USEF shows	Average of top 3 scores
Young Horse Division	3 scores > 6.0 2 of the 3 scores must be from the final test of the level from 2 different judges at 2 different shows	Average of top 3 scores

6. **No changes to the awards standings can be made after October 31st of the current competition year.**
7. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.