

YEAR-END AWARDS PROGRAMS

I. Purpose

- A. To foster a high standard of horsemanship by sponsoring and promoting equestrian activities that encourages the use of classical dressage techniques.
- B. To encourage dressage competitions in Nebraska.

II. Objectives

- A. To recognize outstanding performance in dressage competition by horses owned by NDA members.
- B. To encourage NDA members to take part in the learning experience of dressage competition.
- C. To augment and parallel the awards programs of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF), while making allowances for local conditions.

III. Funding

- A. A recognition fee of \$25.00 shall be paid by each competition applying for NDA recognition.
- B. All horses must be registered with NDA. The lifetime registration fee is \$25.00.

IV. Eligibility

- A. To be eligible for consideration for year-end awards, a member (or a person on behalf of the member) must contribute to NDA in one of the following ways during the competition year in question:
 - 1. Volunteer 4 hours of service at NDA-sponsored events.
 - 2. Raise \$50.00 in sponsorship money.
 - 3. Volunteer 2 hours of service at NDA-sponsored events and raise \$25.00 in sponsorship money.
- B. Rider must be an NDA member at the time scores are earned.
- C. Horse must be registered with NDA at the time scores are earned and must be at least 36 months old at the time ridden.

- D. Horse must be owned or leased by a NDA member at the time scores are earned to be eligible for Horse Awards. To verify ownership or lease arrangement, NDA relies on the USDF Horse Score Check. For all other awards, owner is not required to be a NDA member.
- E. The number of scores that must be earned in order for a horse/rider team to be eligible for all NDA Year-End Awards except Freestyle Awards, Rider Rosettes and Qualified Riding Member Certificates is:
 1. For Introductory through Fourth Levels: Earn a minimum of 4 scores at a given level from 2 competitions and 2 judges.
 2. For FEI levels and Prix Caprilli levels: Earn a minimum of 2 scores at a given level from 2 competitions and 2 judges.
- F. To be eligible for Horse Awards, Rider Awards, and the Schooling Show Medal Series at a given level, a horse/rider team must earn a median score of 55% at that level and must earn at least 1 score of 55% or above from the highest test of the level.

- E. If any of the foregoing requirements are not met, the NDA Board of Directors may, at its discretion, revoke a show's recognition, and the recognition fee will be forfeited. If a show's recognition is revoked, no scores earned at the show will count towards any NDA awards.

Last updated 1/2009

V. Scores for NDA Year-End Awards

- A. The competition year is from October 1 of the previous year through September 30 of the current year.
- B. Scores from the following types of competitions will be counted towards the specified NDA Year-End Awards:
 1. *Horse Awards*: USEF/USDF-recognized competitions two of which must be in Region IV.
 2. *Rider Awards*: USEF/USDF-recognized competitions, two of which must be in Region IV.
 3. *Schooling Show Medal Series*: NDA-recognized schooling shows.
 4. *Rider Rosettes*: USEF/USDF-recognized competitions or NDA-recognized schooling shows.
 5. *Qualified Riding Member Certificate*: USEF/USDF-recognized competitions or NDA-recognized schooling shows.
 6. *Freestyle Awards*: USEF/USDF-recognized competitions, two of which must be in Region IV.

2. Use a United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) licensed dressage judge or a USDF "L" Program graduate
3. Meet the following standards in conducting the competition:
 - a) Use a regular sized dressage arena, either 20 meters x 60 meters or 20 meters x 40 meters, as appropriate for the tests offered. Slight modifications to fit available space are allowed. The size(s) to be used must be specified in the prize list.
 - b) The arena must be marked with the regulation letters appropriately placed, and at least the corners and middle of the long sides indicated with boards, poles, etc.
 - c) Use USEF/USDF tests.
 - d) Require competitors to adhere to the following equipment requirements:
 - i. Simple snaffle bridle mandatory through Second Level;
 - ii. English-style saddle mandatory;
 - iii. Rider must wear boots or hard-soled shoes with heels;
 - iv. Humane spurs and a whip no more than 4-feet long are allowed;
 - v. No tiedowns, martingales, sidereins, or similar devices are allowed; and
 - vi. Rider must wear ASTM/SEI certified helmet at all times when mounted.
 - e) Make ride times and class schedule available to competitors by noon the day before the competition.
- B. NDA recognition will be extended to any USEF/USDF Recognized Competition that applies to the NDA Board at least 30 days prior to the competition and pays the required fee, unless waived by NDA Board of Directors.
- C. Any NDA-recognized competition must be publicized to all NDA members at least 15 days prior to the competition.
- D. Competition management is responsible for reporting all scores from the competition to the NDA awards chairperson within 30 days of the competition.
7. *Sedlacek-Rose Swedish Warmbloods Award*: NDA-recognized competitions (schooling shows or competitions that are USEF/USDF- and NDA-recognized).
8. *Peter Rose Memorial Trophy*: USEF/USDF-recognized or NDA-recognized schooling shows.
9. *David Funk Memorial Award*: USEF/USDF-recognized competitions.
10. *FEI Jr/YR Award*: USEF/USDF-recognized competitions.
- C. FEI tests (including, but not limited to, Young Rider, Junior and Young Horse Tests) will be combined with their equivalent USEF/USDF tests as outlined in the USDF directory.
- D. Ties will not be broken; however, subsequent places will be skipped as appropriate.
- E. Submitting scores for Year-End awards:
 1. Competitors must submit ALL scores from ALL NDA-recognized and USDF/USEF-recognized shows in which they competed during the competition year in question. A competitor who fails to submit all scores earned may be disqualified from receiving any NDA Year-End awards at the discretion of the NDA Board of Directors.
 2. Scores must be submitted to the NDA awards chairperson and **postmarked on or before October 5** following the end of the competition year.
 3. Except as provided in 4, below, when reporting scores to the NDA awards chairperson, a competitor must use the NDA Score-Report Form available in the NDA Member Handbook, on the NDA website, and published in the *Contact*.
 4. A competitor who is a Participating Member of USDF may submit scores earned at USDF/USEF-recognized shows by providing the NDA awards chairperson with a copy of his/her USDF Horse Score Check form. Biographical information and all other scores should be reported on a NDA Score-Report Form. (*Note: USDF tracks and publishes the scores of "Participating Members" only. Therefore, only USDF Participating Members may obtain USDF Horse Score Check forms from USDF.*)

- F. Median Scores will be calculated as follows:
1. When only four scores are earned, all 4 scores will be used in calculating the median.
 2. When five or more scores are earned, the top 80% of all scores earned count toward the median.
 3. The median is the middle score when the top 80% of the scores used to do the calculation are ranked from highest to lowest.
 4. For an even number of scores, the two middle scores are averaged.
 5. In the case of FEI and Freestyle competitors who submit only two scores, the scores will be averaged.
- G. An “adjusted median” will be used when competitors riding at different levels are competing for the same award. The adjusted median takes into account the greater difficulty of higher-level tests. The following calculations are used in arriving at the adjusted median score
1. Introductory Level median score is multiplied by 1.00
 2. Training Level median score is multiplied by 1.00
 3. First Level median score is multiplied by 1.01
 4. Second Level median score is multiplied by 1.02
 5. Third Level median score is multiplied by 1.03
 6. Fourth Level median score is multiplied by 1.04
 7. FEI Prix St. Georges median score is multiplied by 1.05
 8. FEI Intermediate I median score is multiplied by 1.06
 9. FEI Intermediate II median score is multiplied by 1.07
 10. Grand Prix median score is multiplied by 1.08

VI. Awards

- A. Horse Awards
1. Ribbons will be awarded through fourth place at all levels based on median score. The champion at each level from Introductory through Fourth level also receives a perpetual trophy. The FEI perpetual trophy (excluding FEI Jr/YR perpetual trophy) will be awarded to the horse with the highest adjusted median at any one FEI level.
 2. The horse with the highest adjusted median score, all levels eligible except Introductory, will be named NDA Horse of the Year and will receive the NDA perpetual trophy.

2003	Vicki Luther	Felice Rose
2004	Sandie McConnell	Cynthia Johnson
2005	Mike Smith	Cynthia Johnson
2006	Cynthia Johnson	Beth Wood
2007	Diana Spaulding	Beth Wood
2008	Karen Stricklett	Margo Rehm

5. David Funk Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award
The David Funk Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award is a special recognition to be given on a discretionary basis by the NDA Board to a member who has demonstrated exemplary voluntary service to NDA. In 2002 NDA tragically lost one of its most active volunteers. Dr. David Funk, DVM, died during an attempt to save a blind calf from drowning in a farm pond. Dr. Dave was a constant supporter of NDA. He was a regular fixture at NDA events, helping in every aspect of ensuring the event’s success--from hauling horses to hauling equipment, from healing horses to fixing fences, Dr. Dave was there! The David Funk Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award was established to recognize those who contribute so generously of their time. *(Established 2002)*
6. FEI Jr/YR Award
The FEI Jr/YR Award is awarded to the declared Junior or declared Young Rider with the highest adjusted average from their top three sets of scores (a set consists of one Team test score and one Individual test score earned at the same show) on one horse. The Award was donated by the Wang Family to encourage participation within Region 4 and to recognize the hard work and dedication necessary to represent Region 4 at the National and International levels. *(Established 2007)*

VII. NDA Show Recognition

- A. To obtain NDA recognition for a schooling show, competition management must:
1. Apply to the NDA Board of Directors at least 30 days prior to the show and pay the required fee.

2. Peter Rose Memorial Trophy
The junior with the highest adjusted median score, regardless of level, will be named the NDA Youth Champion and will receive the Peter Rose Memorial Perpetual Trophy. Scores earned at either NDA-recognized schooling shows or USDF/USEF-recognized shows will be considered. (*Established 1992*)
3. David Funk Memorial Award
The adult with the highest adjusted median score at Second Level or above will receive the David Funk Memorial Award. Scores earned at USEF/USDF-recognized shows will be considered. (*Established 2002*)
4. The President's Award
The President's Award is a special recognition to be given on a discretionary basis by the NDA President to a member who has demonstrated exemplary voluntary service to NDA. The many educational programs, competitions, and recreational opportunities available to NDA members would not exist without the dedicated efforts of volunteers who donate their most valuable assets-time and work-for the benefit of the NDA Membership. To the winners of the President's Award go the sincere thanks and gratitude of the members of NDA! (*Established 1990*)

Year	Recipient	President
1990	Beth Wood	Clay Teske
1991	Martha Worcester	Clay Teske
1992	Sandy Reiber	Cecile Perry
1993	Daina Moore	Sandy Reiber
1994	Katherine Reiber	Sandy Reiber
1995	Steve Sorenson	Sandy Reiber
1996	Linda Backer	Sandy Reiber
1997	Rod & Vineta Rehm	Missy Ellison
1998	Dot Lathrop	Mike Smith
1999	Cynthia Johnson & Sandy Harman	Mike Smith
2000	Ly-Lee Funk	Diane Usher
2001	Peggy Harris	Diane Usher
2002	Chris Reed	Diane Usher

3. The horse with the second highest adjusted median score, all levels eligible except Introductory, will be named NDA Reserve Horse of the Year.
 4. A horse may be named NDA Horse of the Year only once at a given level.
- B. Rider Awards
1. Rider divisions defined:
 - a) Adult Amateur: Must be an amateur within the definition set forth by the USEF and must be able to produce a current USEF amateur card upon request of the NDA Board of Directors.
 - b) Adult Non-Amateur: May not hold a USEF amateur card, may not compete in any classes restricted to Adult Amateurs and may not receive NDA year-end awards for Adult Amateurs in the same awards year.
 - c) Junior/Young Rider: Must be 21 or younger as of January 1 of the awards year. Junior/Young Riders must report birth date to membership chairman. (There is a place on the membership application form where Junior/Young Rider birth date can be reported.)
 2. Ribbons will be awarded through fourth place for scores earned at USDF recognized shows at all levels in the following divisions:
 - a) Juniors 14 years and younger
 - b) Juniors 15 -21 years
 - c) Adult Amateur
 - d) Adult Non-Amateur
- C. Schooling Show Medal Series
1. Purpose
 - a) To encourage and reward participation in NDA recognized schooling shows.
 - b) To recognize achievement in horsemanship as demonstrated through competition in an educational environment.
 2. Awards
 - a) Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded for scores earned at NDA-recognized schooling shows in the following divisions:

- i) Juniors 14 years and younger
 - ii) Juniors 15-21 years
 - iii) Adult Amateur
 - iv) Adult Non-Amateur
- b) The medals will be awarded in each of the following levels:
- i) Dressage: Introductory, Training, First and Second Level
 - ii) Prix Caprilli: Low x-rails, Training and First Level. (Prix Caprilli scores do not count towards any other awards).
- c) In the event of a tie for a given medal, multiple medals will be awarded.
- d) Scholarships that can be used at NDA-sponsored events will be awarded as determined by the NDA Board of Directors, based on the number of NDA-recognized schooling shows attended and/or the number of classes ridden in at such shows. The scholarship amounts and the manner of distribution will be determined by the NDA Board.
- D. Freestyle Awards
1. In addition to meeting the general eligibility requirements described in Section IV, A through D, above, a horse/rider team must:
 - a) Have a minimum of 2 freestyle scores from 2 different competitions and 2 different judges.
 - b) Earn a freestyle median of 55% or above at a given level.
 - c) Earn 1 score of 58% or more from the highest test of the level or the level above. This score will not be used in calculating the freestyle median.
 2. Ribbons will be awarded to the Champion and Reserve Champion at each eligible level.
 3. Freestyle scores will count for freestyle awards only.
 4. The horse with the highest adjusted median freestyle score, regardless of level, will be named the NDA Freestyle Horse of the Year and will receive the NDA Freestyle perpetual trophy.

- E. Rider Rosettes
1. May be earned over one or more years of competition.
 2. Must be based on scores from at least two different competitions (at least one of which must be an NDA-recognized competition) and two different judges.
 3. Will be awarded for the following achievements:
 - a) White Rosette, 3 scores of 55% or better at a given level
 - b) Red Rosette, 3 scores of 60% or better at a given level
 - c) Blue Rosette, 3 scores of 65% or better at a given level
 4. A rider will receive only the highest-level rosette earned for a given set of scores submitted.
 5. After receiving the highest rider rosette at a given level, a rider is no longer eligible to earn rider rosettes at that level.
 6. **It is the responsibility of the rider to apply to the awards chairperson for a rider rosette.** Application is made by filling out the "Rider Rosette" portion of the NDA Score-Report Form.
- F. NDA Qualified Riding Member Certificate
1. An NDA member will become a Qualified Riding Member (QRM) the first time he/she earns a score of 55% at Training or First Level, at an NDA-recognized competition.
 2. An NDA Qualified Riding Member will be awarded a QRM Certificate and an asterisk (*) after his/her name in the NDA Member Handbook.
 3. **It is the responsibility of the rider to apply to the awards chairperson for recognition as a QRM.** Application is made by filling out the "Qualified Riding Member" portion of the NDA Score-Report Form.
 4. This program began in 1983 and is not retroactive.
- G. Special Awards
1. Sedlacek-Rose Swedish Warmbloods Award
This year-end award has been donated by Sedlacek-Rose Swedish Warmbloods for the adult amateur rider who earns the highest single score in a Training Level test at any NDA-recognized competition, whether schooling show or a USDF/USEF-recognized show. All qualifying criteria for year-end awards must be met. (*Established 1989*)