

DSDCTA YEAR END AWARDS PROGRAM

Members of DSDCTA and its chapters are eligible for Year-End Awards within the following guidelines:

- The award year runs from October 1st of one year to September 30th of the following year.
- All levels will be awarded Champion through Sixth place.
- Simultaneous competition in multiple divisions is not allowed.
- Dressage and Combined Training awards will be offered in the following divisions:
 - Junior/Young Rider
 - Open to juniors and young riders who meet the USEF dressage definition of junior or young rider. A competitor is a junior rider until the end of the calendar year in which he or she reaches age eighteen, and a young rider until the end of the calendar year in which he or she reaches age 21.
 - For the purpose of DSDCTA Year-End Awards, if the rider is a junior/young rider as of October 1st of the award year all scores earned during the DSDCTA award year will count towards junior/young rider awards.
 - Adult Amateur
 - Open to amateurs who meet the USEF dressage definition of adult. For competition purposes, in the Dressage division, competitors shall compete as Adults from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 22.
 - For the purpose of DSDCTA Year-End Awards if the rider is a USEF adult amateur as of October 1st of the award year, all scores earned during the DSDCTA award year will count towards adult amateur awards.
 - Open
 - Open to all. There are no restrictions based on the horse (age, breed, sex, size, residence, or membership of owner) or rider (age, experience, qualifications, sex, residence, or membership).
 - Masters
 - Open to all members that are age 50 or older on October 1st of the award year. There are no other restrictions based on the horse (age, breed, sex, size, residence, or membership of owner) or rider (experience, qualifications, sex, residence, or membership).
 - Scores may be from open, adult amateur, USDF qualifying or championship classes and most restricted classes.

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- Members wishing to change the division in which they want to compete may do so at the beginning of the awards year. Members must declare the new division no later than October 31st of the award year. Members will maintain eligibility in the division selected until the DSDCTA Awards Chairperson is otherwise notified.
- Each horse/rider combination winning a Championship at any given level will not be eligible for further competition for awards at that level or below.
- Scores must be accumulated in shows with a United States Equestrian Federation recognized judge or a USDF “L” graduate judge.
- A running tally will be published on the Association Website, DSDCTA.org.
- The Awards Chairperson will obtain scores from any DSDCTA sponsored show from the official show results submitted by the show secretary for posting on the DSDCTA website.
- Scores from non-DSDCTA shows must be submitted to Awards Chairperson within 45 days of being earned. After 45 days there will be a \$25 penalty fee per test to be eligible for current show year.
 - Options for submitting non-DSDCTA show scores:
 - Tests can be mailed, or scanned and emailed, to the Awards Chairperson. The score sheets MUST include: name of show, date, horse’s name, rider name, score and signature of judge(s). Any Combined Training or Horse Trials score sheets must specify the rider’s final score, including any penalty points from the jumping or cross country phases. Any age specific class needs date of birth information or approximate if not sure.
 - For USDF sanctioned shows, riders may instead notify the Awards Chairperson via email once the results of the show have been posted on the USDF website. The email must include the name and date of the show. The Awards Chairperson will retrieve scores from the official show results posted.
- It is the member’s responsibility to check the website and ensure scores were received and posted accurately.
- All eligible scores are recorded, however, only the top two scores from each individual judge will count towards the median score calculation. Each ride will be recorded only once.
- All awards will be based on the median score. The median score is the score exactly between the highest and lowest scores. When there is an odd number of eligible scores, the median is the middle score. When there is an even number of scores, the median is the average of the two middle scores.
- The DSDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide, combine, or create divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.

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Dressage Awards Program

- Scores must be earned at a minimum of two (2) shows, with two (2) different judges.
 - Introductory Level – Four (4) scores minimum
 - Training Level through Second Level – Five (5) scores minimum
 - Third and Fourth Level – Four (4) scores minimum
 - FEI Junior/Young Rider – Three (3) scores minimum
 - Prix St George through Grand Prix – Three (3) scores minimum
 - Musical Freestyle – Five (5) scores minimum – Three (3) Freestyle scores, two (2) non-freestyle scores from the highest test of that level OR any test of the next highest level.
 - FEI Young Horse 4-Year Olds – Three (3) scores minimum
 - FEI Young Horse 5-Year Olds – Three (3) scores minimum
- To be eligible for awards at Introductory through Second Level, one (1) score must be earned at the highest test for that level.
- To be eligible for awards at Third Level and higher, scores can be earned from any test in that level.

Eventing Year End Awards Program

- Awards shall be offered for both horse trials and combined tests.
 - Horse Trials (Three Phase) consist of three phases; dressage, cross country, and show jumping. The good points awarded by the Dressage Judge are converted to penalty points. Any further penalty points accrued in the jumping phases are added to the dressage penalty. The rider with the lowest number of penalties is the winner. All three phases must be completed.
 - Combined Tests (Two Phase) is a combination of just two of the phases, dressage and show jumping. Your Combined Test score is the sum of the penalties from your dressage test and your stadium jumping round. Score sheet must show scores for both phases and both phases must be completed.
- Scores must be earned at a minimum of two (2) shows, with two (2) different judges.
- Three (3) scores minimum required in Pre-Amoeba through Preliminary Division. Only two (2) scores are required for the Intermediate and Advanced Divisions.
 - Pre-Amoeba Division
 - Dressage Test - USDF Introductory Level, Test A
 - Jump Height - Cross Rails

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- Amoeba Division
 - Dressage Test - USDF Introductory Level, Test B
 - Jump Height - up to 18"
- Tadpole Division
 - Dressage Test - USDF Introductory Level, Test C
 - Jump Height – up to 2'
- Bullfrog Division
 - Dressage Test - USEF Beginner Novice Test A or B
 - Jump Height – up to 2' 4"
- Beginner Novice Division
 - Dressage Test - USEF Beginner Novice Test A or B
 - Jump Height - up to 2' 7"
- Novice Division
 - Dressage Test - USEF Novice Test A or B
 - Jump Height – up to 2' 11"
- Training Division
 - Dressage Test - USEF Training Test A or B
 - Jump Height – up to 3' 3"
- Preliminary Division
 - Dressage Test - USEF Preliminary Test A, B, or C
 - Jump Height – up to 3' 7"
- Intermediate Division
 - Dressage Test - USEF Intermediate Test A or B
 - Jump Height – up to 3' 9" cross country and 3' 11" stadium fences
- Advanced Division
 - Dressage Test - USEF Advanced Test A or B
 - Jump Height – up to 3' 11" cross country and 4' 1" stadium fences

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Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Awards Program (DSHB)

- Awards will be offered in the following age categories (date of birth is necessary):
 - Ponies 14.2 & Under
 - Current Year Yearling
 - Two-Year-Old
 - Three-Year-Old
 - Four-Year-Old and Older Maiden Mares/Yeld Not Bred and Broodmare's in foal as of January 1st.
 - Four-Year-Old and Older Geldings/Stallions
 - Material Dressage Sport Horse Under Saddle
- The horse needs a minimum of three (3) scores, from at least two (2) different judges, from two (2) different competitions in the categories listed.
 - The horse owner must be a DSDCTA member at the time the scores are earned.
 - Scores from amateur or junior/young rider handler, group and under saddle classes are not eligible for DSHB all-breeds awards.
- Awards shall be offered for in-hand handlers responsible for showing the horses in hand at dressage sport horse breed shows in the following divisions:
 - Amateur/Junior Handler
 - The Amateur/Junior handler needs a minimum of three (3) scores, from at least two (2) judges, from two (2) different competitions in the Amateur/Junior handler class.
 - The handler must be a DSDCTA member at the time the scores are earned.
 - The handler does not need to use the same horse in each class to qualify for DSDCTA year-end awards
 - No limit to the number of times a member may win this award.
- The judge for the In Hand awards must have an USEF Sport Horse Judge license.

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Service Awards

- **Volunteers of the Year** – The award will be presented to members who demonstrate outstanding volunteer efforts.
 - *Service Certification* – Member who volunteers between 15 and 29 hours per year.
 - *Bronze Award* – Member who volunteers between 30 and 44 hours per year.
 - *Silver Award* – Member who volunteers between 45 and 59 hours per year.
 - *Gold Award* – Member who volunteers over 60 hours per year

Board members are NOT eligible for these awards

- **Volunteers Lifetime Service Award** – The award will be presented to members who demonstrate outstanding volunteer efforts over multiple years.
 - *Platinum Award* – Member who volunteers 120 cumulative hours
 - *Emerald Award* – Member who volunteers 240 cumulative hours
 - *Diamond Award* – Member who volunteers 360 cumulative hours

Board members ARE eligible for Lifetime Service Awards

Special Awards

- **The Elaine Williams Memorial Trophy** – This award is presented to the Training Level rider who has the three (3) highest scores (averaged) received at a DSDCTA sponsored show.
- **The Debbie Lillibridge Award** – This award will be presented to a Junior (21 years of age and under) combined training rider who has shown the greatest improvement over the course of the year.
- **Barbara M. Petti Heart & Spirit Award** – Each year a select member of the DSDCTA who exemplifies the mission of the DSDCTA in their daily lives and distinguishes themselves by their actions is recognized through the Barbara M. Petti Heart and Spirit Award. Their achievements extend beyond the competition arena to DSDCTA service, community service, and service to others.

Nominations must be submitted in writing on the Heart & Spirit Nomination Form found on the DSDCTA website Awards page. The top three finalists will be selected by the DSDCTA Board of Directors. Members will then vote for the winner. Deadline for submission is September 1st.