

THE DRESSAGE COMPANY YEAR-END AWARD RULES (revised 1/17/2022)

Objectives:

1. Consistent with the Club's primary mission of education, the Club wishes to provide encouragement for members and horses learning show ring skills and arena training in preparation for their further development in order to be able to compete in nationally sanctioned shows
2. To provide recognition for participation and achievement among as large a segment of the membership as possible by recognizing dressage skills among members and horses with experience at various levels

Definitions and Rules

1. The Year End Award competition year is from November 1st through October 31st.
2. Each Year End Award entry form shall contain one horse and rider combination.
3. All riders must be members of The Dressage Company at the time they submit their registration form and throughout that competition year.
4. A rider is eligible to compete on more than one horse and a horse may be eligible to compete for more than one rider.
5. A horse is eligible for any number of levels during a year.
6. Each rider/horse combination may only choose one division (Jr., Novice, AA, Open) per level for Year End Awards. Each horse/rider combination is allowed to enter two consecutive levels only (i.e., Intro to Training: First to Second, etc.). All tests submitted will be applied towards that division. (i.e., Novice: Does not need test stating that it was only a Novice Class)
7. There is a \$15.00 registration fee for each horse/rider combination per level per year.
8. "Levels", as used herein, are those of the USDF dressage level tests.
9. The Rider/horse combination must be registered for Year End Awards prior to riding in the show in which scores are submitted for consideration. Any scores from shows before the division registration date are ineligible for consideration and will not be accepted. Registration occurs on the date of the postmark on the envelope containing the paid registration form, or the date the registration form with payment is handed directly to the Year End Awards Chairperson, or a Dressage Company board member.
10. To add an additional level, a separate registration is required for each rider and horse combination at \$15.00 per level, and only scores earned after registration for the added level(s) may be accepted for consideration.
11. To be eligible for the Dressage Company Year-End Thoroughbred Incentive Program Award, a rider must submit their TIP number on the registration form.
12. Definitions:
 - a. A Novice is a horse or rider showing in its first year at any level and only for that first year.
 - b. A Junior Rider is a rider 21 years of age or younger as of January 1 of the competition year.
 - c. An Adult Amateur is a rider 22 years of age or older as of January 1 of the competition year according to USEF definition.
 - d. An Open rider is a rider 22 years of age or older as of January 1 of the competition year and accepts remuneration for the training of horses or riders according to USEF definition.
 - e. An AA has the option of registering as an Open rider for year end awards for any level, however, the rider must maintain this level for all submissions for the year.
13. The Year End Awards Chairperson is the person responsible for recording and tabulating Year End points. Final placing will be by the Year End Awards Committee which shall consist of a minimum of three (3) Dressage Company members.
14. Any USDF dressage test may be used as long as it is judged by a qualified USDF (L graduate or higher) / USEF (r Eventing or higher) judge. The rider is responsible for providing the year end awards chairperson in a timely manner with all information necessary to make an informed decision as to the qualification.
15. All scores must be submitted on the year end awards score submission form. The rider must average a maximum of their top three (3) scores submitted from three (3) different shows for each Level and self-certify that the rider, the judges and the shows have met all eligibility requirements. Scores from the same judge are acceptable if they are earned at different shows. Scores for Combined Tests and Eventing must include all completed phases of the competition to qualify. A score can only be used once. To document test scores with the year end chairperson, each rider in the program is required to send a copy of the front of the test with the name of the show, its date, the judge and the test score to the chairperson postmarked or emailed no later than Midnight, October 31st.
16. A rider must submit at least three (3) scores per division to qualify for year-end awards.
17. In order for a member to become eligible for Year End Awards, the member must attend one dressage company member, business or committee meeting or club event and have a minimum total of two (2) Participation Points which must have been earned for the current year (between November 1st and October 31st). Points are earned (one per hour) by volunteering with The Dressage Company horse show or another major educational event for the year sponsored by The Dressage Company. This does not include a ride. All year end awards score submission forms, properly completed with all information and all copies of test front pages, must be

postmarked, emailed or hand delivered to the year end awards chairperson by Midnight, October 31st of the competition year. This deadline may be adjusted by the Year End Awards Committee Chairperson if necessary. At the same time that the **Year End Awards Score Submission Form** is submitted, the rider must have submitted to the year end awards committee a properly completed **Dressage Company Participation Points** form for the same competition year (November 1 through October 31) to verify that the rider has accumulated the points required to receive a year end award.

18. Ties will be placed as ties and not broken.
19. The Year End Awards Committee may audit any Year End Awards Score Submission Form submitted and request a rider to provide additional information concerning the submission. It is the rider's responsibility to promptly provide the information requested.
20. There will be up to eight places awarded in each division. All others will receive a Certificate of Merit.
21. The same horse/rider combination will be eligible for Year End Awards Champion in the same level for three (3) years, including the first year as Novice. If the same horse/rider combination competes at the same level for a 4th or more consecutive year and there are no other competitors at this level, then this horse/rider combination can be awarded the Championship again. If there are other competitors in the level, then a horse/rider combination, after three (3) consecutive Championships at the level, will not be eligible for the Championship designation in that year. After skipping one year at this level the horse/rider combination would again be eligible to win the Championship award.
22. Scores are disallowed from any show in which the rider is a Show Secretary, Show Manager, Show Host, Facility Owner, or Technical Delegate.
 1. The Year-End Awards Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) Dressage Company members who may also be Year End Awards Riders in a year. If a Year End Awards Committee member is a Rider, the other two members must re-compute that rider's Year End Awards Score Submission Form scores and certify that the rider has received the score indicated. All members of the Committee must agree on the final placements in all divisions.
 2. The Year End Awards Chairperson will notify Entrants when their **Year End Awards Entry Form** has been received at the beginning of the show year. The Year End Awards Chairperson will then notify Entrants by way of email when the **Year End Awards Score Submission Form & The Dressage Company Participation Points Form** are received and if any other information is needed.

Year End Award Level and Division categories include:

	Levels	Divisions
COMBINED TEST	Starter, Beginner Novice, Novice, Training, Prelim, Intermediate	
DRESSAGE	Introductory, Training, First, Second, Third, Fourth, FEI	Novice, Jr. AA, Open
DRESSAGE MUSICAL FREESTYLE	Individual, Group	
EVENTING	Starter, Beginner Novice, Novice, Training, Prelim, Intermediate	
IN-HAND	Open	

Thoroughbred Incentive Program Awards

The Dressage Company participates in Jockey Club's Thoroughbred Incentive Program, offering Year End Performance Awards for Thoroughbred horses competing in all TDC levels and divisions. Eligible horses will have a TIP number, available at no charge from The Jockey Club.

TDC Volunteer Points System

Earn these points	With this activity
1 per meeting	Attend a club event or a board, business or committee meeting
1 point per hours worked	Club Officer
	Dressage Company Show
	Dressage Company Clinic
1 point per hours worked	Volunteer at a Dressage or Combined Test show sponsored by a Dressage Company member. Paid hours do not count. Have Show Manager or Secretary attest to & sign hours worked. Submit no later than 30 days after the show.
1 point	Donate a basket (minimum \$50 value) for the Year End Award Banquet
3 points per event	Donate a facility, present at a club program, host a meeting/clinic/workshop