

## RULES FOR ANNUAL CHAPTER AWARDS

The following system shall be used by the Board to determine award recipients:

a. Levels.

The applicable levels are listed below in the description for Schooling and Licensed Divisions. Riders may submit scores for more than one level and/or division, but they must fulfill all requirements for each level entered. If the rider submits for two levels with the same horse, the levels must be successive. There will not be separate brackets for juniors and seniors.

b. Award Period.

The award period runs from December 1 to the following November 30.

c. Submission of Scores.

All scores must be received no later than December 15 of the current year. Scores must be submitted to the Chapter Awards Coordinator within 45 days of the date of the show in which the score was earned (if mailed, postmarked within 45 days). A different reporting scheme may be used for a particular awards year if it is agreed to in advance by the Board and publicized early in the competition year in the newsletter.

For the submission of scores, the applicant must use the score submission form provided in the newsletter and on the web site, or provide equivalent information (such as a copy of the test cover sheet). No score below 50% will be accepted. The Chapter reserves the right to ask for copies of the actual tests at year end.

d. Volunteer Requirement

In order to be eligible for year-end awards, the rider must fulfill the volunteer requirement for the Chapter. The annual volunteer requirement will be established by the Board at the November, December, or January meeting and published in the first newsletter published/posted after the requirements are established.

e. Schooling Division:

1. Levels for which Awards may be Earned

Introductory through 4th Level

2. Required Number of Scores

Four scores from any dressage schooling show sponsored or sanctioned by any VADA chapter are required. The four scores must be from at least two (2) different judges. All scores must be from the same level (i.e., all from First Level), with the same rider and horse, but must include scores from at least two different tests of that level.

The highest four scores submitted (for the same rider/horse/level/division) will be averaged for the final score. (with the exception that a lower score will be retained as the fourth score, if that score is needed to fulfill the requirement of using scores from at least two different tests in that level. For the Introductory Level, since no awards are given in the licensed division at this level, any scores earned at the Introductory Level at a licensed show may be applied to the requisite scores needed for the schooling show Introductory level division awards. In addition, the scores from the Adult Amateur and Junior Team Championships, since they can not be used for the licensed show division, may be used for the schooling level awards program.

The Board, at its discretion, may determine that due to unusual weather events or other unusual circumstances which resulted in multiple schooling show cancellations or postponements, a waiver of part of the requirements for an award in the schooling show program may be merited for a given awards year. Such determination shall be made by a majority vote of the Board.

f. Licensed Division:

1. Levels for which Awards may be Earned

Training Level through Grand Prix, USDF Freestyle, FEI Freestyle

2. Required Number of Scores

Scores can be from any licensed dressage show authorized by the USEF or USDF (excluding any shows that have restrictions on competitors, such as Arabian and part Arabian, Morgan or Quarter Horse breed only.) All scores must be from the same level, with the same rider and horse. Scores from Championship classes will be accepted, with the scores of the multiple judges averaged and the average counting as one score.

For USDF levels (Training through Fourth), five (5) scores are required from at least three different judges, and at least one of the scores must be from either the second-to-highest or the highest test of the level. (Training 2 or 3, First 2 or 3, Second 2 or 3, Third 2 or 3, or Fourth 2 or 3.) If the rider and horse have not earned at least one of their scores at the highest or next-to-highest test of the level, they will not qualify for a year end award.

For FEI levels, FEI freestyles, and USDF freestyles, three (3) scores from at least two different judges are required

3. How Score are Tabulated

For USDF levels (Training through Fourth Level), the highest five scores submitted (for the same rider/horse/division) will be averaged for the final score. If the top five scores for a rider at one level do not include the next-to-highest or highest test of that level (see paragraph f.2 above), then the lowest of the five top scores will be dropped and replaced by the highest score from among the highest or next-to-highest tests submitted at that level.

For USDF freestyles, FEI levels and FEI freestyles, the highest three (3) scores submitted (for the same rider/horse/division) will be averaged for the final score.

For all licensed levels, in order to meet the multiple judge requirement, the lowest of the 5 scores (USDF) or 3 scores (FEI) will be dropped to include the highest score from a different judge.