



USEF YOUTH SPORTSMAN'S AWARD GUIDELINES

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

PROGRAM GOALS

1. Identify potential future leaders in the equine industry from all breeds and disciplines.
2. Recognize youth members for their achievements both in and outside of the sport.
3. Provide exposure to committees, governance and career opportunities available within the equine industry.

REQUIREMENTS/QUALIFICATIONS

1. Active junior membership in good standing with USEF and a USEF Recognized Association or International Discipline Association.
2. Age of eligibility—17 or under as of December 1 of the current competition year.
3. Demonstrate an ongoing commitment and dedication to the promotion of equestrian sport.
4. Serves as a positive role model for peers.
5. Participates at any level of competition, including local, regional or national events.
6. Exhibits characteristics that exemplify positive sportsmanship principles.
7. Community involvement.

TIMELINE

1. The application process opens on May 1 of the respective year. Applications may be obtained from USEF or a USEF Recognized Association or International Discipline Association.
2. Applications and required materials must be submitted directly to the USEF Recognized Association or International Discipline Association and received by their office on or before October 1.
3. The USEF will notify the USEF Recognized Association or International Discipline Association with regard to submission deadlines for National Winners and alternates.
4. Members of the National Affiliates Working Group (NAWG) will review and discuss applications during their November meeting.
5. Final selection and telephone interviews (if required) of the finalists for the overall USEF Youth Sportsman's Award will occur by December 1.
6. The National Winners of each association will be recognized at the USEF Annual Meeting in January.

SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR USEF RECOGNIZED ASSOCIATIONS OR INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLINE ASSOCIATIONS

1. All completed applications, letters of recommendation and essays are to be submitted to the USEF Recognized Association or International Discipline Association.
2. The USEF Recognized Association or International Discipline Association may select nominees from each district, region or zone (if applicable) or from its entire youth membership.
3. Each USEF Recognized Association or International Discipline Association will then select one National Winner from the nominees. An alternate should be chosen in the event the National Winner is unable to attend the USEF Annual Meeting and workshop.

**IF THE NATIONAL WINNER IS UNABLE TO ATTEND THE USEF ANNUAL MEETING AND WORKSHOP,
HE/SHE MUST NOTIFY USEF 60 DAYS PRIOR TO THE START AND AN ALTERNATE WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND.**

4. The names of each USEF Recognized Association or International Discipline Association National Winner and alternate, along with completed paperwork and materials will then be submitted to the USEF National Affiliates Working Group (NAWG).
5. The NAWG will select an Overall Winner of the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award from the group of National Winners.

AWARDS

National Winners selected by the USEF Recognized Associations and International Discipline Associations will be honored during the USEF Annual Meeting and will receive:

- \$500 grant, to be paid to the educational program of their choice (see funding criteria).
- Invitation to the USEF Annual Meeting to attend committee and board meetings, equine industry career session (possible tour as well) and awards banquet. Hotel, possible tour expenses and meals will be provided by USEF. Travel expenses will be reimbursed up to \$500.

The Overall Winner of the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award will receive in addition:

- Youth Sportsman's Award commemorative trophy.
- Additional \$500 grant, to be paid to an educational program (see funding criteria).
- A USEF Life Membership (valued at \$2,500).
- A nomination for the USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year Award.

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