

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	8/28/2024	

Rule Change Intent

The Connemara Committee seeks to reorganize the Connemara HOTY section for better clarity of award sections. The McKenna Trophy category and the Clifden Trophy category fill gaps in the Open Award categories for their respective award divisions. To avoid any further confusion, the committee wants to move these two trophy categories into the list of Open awards in their respective slots based on award division where they fit into the list. These two award categories would now receive HOTY awards in the same manner as the other CO Open Awards, with the Special Trophy awarded to the winner in addition to the top 6 placings in the category being recognized and awarded. Currently, the two categories that the McKenna and Clifden trophies represent do not otherwise have an award category, with only the winner being recognized with the trophy. These two trophies were awarded prior to the creation of the other Connemara Open HOTY award categories, therefore were left as separate entities, but this change will make the Connemara HOTY Awards more universal throughout.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Connemara

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Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

GR1126 Connemara

1. Awards will be given in the following categories. To be eligible, horses competing in Federation Open Licensed Competition, must have breed registration papers, or verification of registration from the ACPS, filed with the Federation prior to the first day of competition in order for points at that competition to count.
 - a. Open Purebred Connemara Dressage (All Federation and FEI levels/tests)
 - b. Open Halfbred Connemara Dressage (All Federation and FEI levels/tests)
 - c. Open Purebred Connemara Eventing: awarded to purebred Connemaras competing in Beginner Novice through Training levels at Federation Eventing Competitions.
 - d. Open Halfbred Connemara Eventing: awarded to halfbred Connemaras competing in Beginner Novice through Training levels at Federation Eventing Competitions.
 - e. ***Open Purebred or Halfbred Connemara Eventing Modified through Advanced Levels: awarded to purebred or halfbred Connemaras competing in Modified through Advanced levels, including the equivalent FEI levels, at Federation Eventing Competitions, for which the Federation tabulates points. The McKenna Trophy is awarded to the highest ranking purebred or halfbred Connemara within this HOTY category.***
 - f. Open Purebred Connemara Jumper: Awarded to purebred Connemaras competing in Jumper classes which accrue National HOTY points per GR1134.5.
 - g. Open Halfbred Connemara Jumper: Awarded to halfbred Connemaras competing in Jumper classes which accrue National HOTY points per GR1134.5.
 - h. Open Purebred Connemara Hunter: Awarded to the highest ranking Purebred Connemara competing in Open Hunter classes, excluding Pony Hunter classes, which accrue National HOTY points per 1132 at Federation Licensed Competitions.
 - i. Open Halfbred Connemara Hunter: awarded to the highest ranking halfbred Connemara competing in Open Hunter classes which accrue National HOTY points per GR1132 at Federation Licensed Competitions.
 - j. ***Open Purebred Connemara Pony Hunter: Awarded to purebred Connemaras competing in the Regular Hunter Pony section, the Children's Hunter Pony section, and/or the Green Hunter Pony section in Federation Hunter Competitions. The Clifden Trophy is awarded to the highest ranking purebred Connemara within this HOTY Category.***
2. Special Awards
Awards will be given in the following categories. To be eligible, horses competing in Federation Open Licensed Competitions, must have breed registration papers, or verification of registration from the ACPS, filed with the Federation prior to the first day of competition in order for the points at the competition to count.
 - a. ~~McKenna Trophy: awarded to the highest ranking purebred or halfbred Connemara in Modified through Advanced levels, including the equivalent FEI levels, at Federation Eventing Competitions, for which USEF tabulates points.~~
 - b. ~~Clifden Trophy: awarded to the highest ranking purebred Connemara competing in the Regular Hunter Pony section and/or the Green Hunter Pony section in Federation Hunter Competitions.~~
 - c. Seldom Seen Trophy: to be awarded to the highest placing purebred or halfbred Connemara ridden by a junior at USEF Dressage competitions.