



Equestrians of the Year
&
Annual Equestrians of Honor Awards

Criteria: Awarded to the National and International horsemen or horsewomen who have excelled above all others in equestrian competition for 2026 while demonstrating superior sportsmanship and dedication to the principles, vision, and mission of the United States Equestrian Federation. The nominee must be an active, competing member in good standing. There is no age limitation for Equestrian of the Year.

Selection of Winners and Timeline: The Awards Desk will send out reminders to Sport Program Liaisons to initiate tracking potential candidates for Equestrian of the Year. Mailings will be sent to National Breed/Discipline Affiliates and Committees containing informational packets and nomination forms. Nominations may be accepted year-round.

Nominations will need to include:

- Athlete's Name and Contact Information.
- Highlights of the current year's notable competition accomplishments.
- A brief bio to include personal information, examples of volunteer work, and a brief synopsis of past show records.
- Nominations should be no more than 2 pages in length.

International Nominees are selected from the current year's winner(s) of the:

- o William C. Steinkraus Trophy
- o Becky Grand Hart Trophy

National nominees are selected from the current year's winner(s) of the:

- o Bill Robinson Trophy
- o Emerson Burr Trophy
- o C. J. "June" Cronan, Jr. Trophy
- o Barbara Worth Oakford Trophy
- o Norman K. Dunn Trophy
- o Vaughn Smith Trophy

Multiple nominations may be made throughout the competition year by the National Affiliates, the USEF Breed/Discipline Committees, and the USEF Sports Programs and Marketing staff. In the event insufficient nominations are received by the Breed/Discipline Affiliates and Committees, USEF Marketing and Sport staff may put nominations forward. An individual can be nominated and win this award more than once.

Nominations close October 30 and must include the current year's accomplishments and overall credentials.

** Nominations may be accepted past the published deadline in special circumstances if the Awards Desk is notified in advance. Please contact Jera Jordan at jjordan@usef.org with any questions regarding late nominations. **

USEF staff will verify nominees meet the criteria provided. Nominations will then be forwarded to the Awards Committee. The committee will meet to select the Equestrians of Honor. All selections are subject to the approval of USEF Executive Staff.

All Equestrians of Honor are notified of their selection, by email, of their categorical wins and are invited to accept their awards in person during the Pegasus Awards Dinner. Nominees' names (with short bios) will be posted on the website for voting as defined below.

The semi-finalists will be voted on in a secret ballot by the general membership. Voters will rank the National and International semi-finalists in order of preference.

Duplicate or incorrect ballots are void.

Voting closes December 31, 2026

Votes tabulate as follows:

1st: 5 Points

2nd: 3 Points

3rd: 1 Point

The National Candidate with the most points will be the **"National Equestrian of the Year."**

The International Candidate with the most points will be the **"International Equestrian of the Year."**

***In case of a tie, the candidate with the most 1st places in the block ranking wins, then the most 2nd places, then the most 3rd places until the winner is determined. ***

Award: The "Equestrian of the Year" will be announced to the public during the USEF Annual Meeting Pegasus Awards Dinner.

Perpetual Trophy: "Robert P. Strub Trophy" which features a coin silver two-handled cup depicting a war scene

Equestrians of the Year Past Winners:

2020	Kent Farrington & Tracey Fenney
2021	Laura Kraut & Hunt Tosh
2022	Adrienne Lyle & Hunt Tosh
2023	McLain Ward & John French
2024	Liz Halliday & Nick Haness
2025	Boyd Martin & Daniel Geitner

Equestrian of Honor Awards								
	Olympic	FEI	Non-FEI Breeds & Disciplines					
Trophy for	William C. Steinkraus Trophy	Becky Grand Hart Trophy	Bill Robinson Trophy	Emerson Burr Trophy	C. J. "June" Cronan, Jr. Trophy	Barbara Worth Oakford Trophy	Norman K. Dunn Trophy	Vaughn Smith Trophy
An individual rider, driver, or handler of any horse or pony breed shown in...	International dressage, eventing, or jumping competitions.	International driving, endurance, reining, vaulting, or para-equestrian competitions.	Harness or driving performance in non-international competitions	Hunter classes (<i>Over fences</i>)	An under saddle in non-hunter, non-show hack, and/or non-Western disciplines.	A non-reining Western discipline	An in-hand or at-halter competition	Hunter Pleasure, Hunter on the Flat, Show Hack, Hunter Hack, Dressage Hack, Costume, Side Saddle, or Western Dressage
2020	Kent Farrington		Margy Cox	Tracy Fenney	Joel Gangi	Colby Powell	Sandro Pinha	Jonathan Ramsay
2021	Laura Kraut Sabine Schut-Kery	Roxanne Trunnell	Peter Stachowski	Hunt Tosh	Alexandra DeGray	Susan Morey	Jeff Schall	Martha Rattner
2022	Will Coleman & Adrienne Lyle	Kate Shoemaker	Jim B. Robertson	Hunt Tosh	Matt Siemon	James Hitt	Janae Griffin	Wendy Potts
2023	Tamie Smith & McLain Ward	Tracy Bowman & Cynthia Screnci	Shannon Price-Heald	John French	Shanna Gish	Colby Powell	Tim Roesink	Duane Esser
2024	Liz Halliday & Karl Cook	Rebecca Hart & Fiona Howard	James Taylor	Nick Haness	Ashton Kiesner	Colby Powell	Lynn Peeples & Andrew Sellman	Kristin McKillop
2025	Boyd Martin & Kent Farrington	Tracy Bowman	Shannon Price-Heald	Daniel Geitner	Allyson Nord Wandtke	James Hitt	Ted Carson	Amanda DuPont



2026 USEF Equestrian of the Year Nomination

Please submit this form by the deadline, October, 30, 2026, to:

Jera Jordan, Marketing Department

USEF, 4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511. jjordan@usef.org.

Tel: (859) 225-6939

Criteria for nomination:

Awarded to the National and International horseman or horsewoman who has excelled above all others in equestrian competition for the **current** year, while demonstrating superior sportsmanship and dedication to the principles, vision, and mission of the United States Equestrian Federation. The nominee must be an active, competing member in good standing. There is no age limitation for Equestrian of the Year.

Name of Affiliate/Committee: _____

Affiliate ID Number: _____

Nominee's Information:

Name: _____ **USEF ID Number:** _____

Phone Number: () _____ **Email Address:** _____

Nominee's City/State: _____

Breed/Discipline: _____

Name of Equestrian of Honor Award: _____

Nominee's Notable Accomplishments for 2026 ONLY (*prior years will be disregarded*):

Nominee's Notable Career Accomplishments Prior to 2026:

Executive Director or President of the Affiliate submitting the nomination:

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Daytime Phone Number: (_____) _____

Email: _____

* Also please include any additional criteria used to determine your Affiliate's nominee.