The USEF Horses of the Year Award

Criteria: Awarded to the two horses, one National and one International, that have excelled above all others in equestrian competition for the current year.

- Each USEF Recognized National or FEI Affiliate may nominate one horse or pony per their representative breeds or disciplines. Each USEF Breed/Discipline committee may also nominate one horse or pony per their representative breed or discipline.
- The nominated horse or pony must be at least 3 years old.
- The nominee must have won a national championship at a Federation licensed competition held within the US, an FEI rated four-star competition (or an FEI rated three-star competition for dressage), or medaled in an FEI continental, regional, or world championship in its respective discipline. (The only exceptions are Welsh Ponies, Connemara Ponies, and Hunters for which the Affiliate will set forth the criteria for their nomination.)
- Must have competed in a USEF licensed or FEI competition in 2021.

Selection of Winner and Timeline: The Awards Desk will send requests to National Breed/Discipline Affiliates and USEF Breed/Discipline committees requesting nominations. In the event insufficient nominations are received by the Breed/Discipline Affiliates and Committees, USEF Marketing and Sport Staff may put nominations forward. Nominations will include the following:

- Owner’s Name and Contact Information
- Age, Breed, Sire, Dam, Trainer
- Short biography
- Highlights of past accomplishments
- Current year’s competition accomplishments
- 3 high resolution pictures that could be used in promotion of the award

Nominations will be accepted starting in September and will close November 5th. Nominations may be accepted past the published deadline in special circumstances if the Awards Desk is notified in advance. Please contact Alice Adams aadams@usef.org with any questions regarding late nominations. All nominations must include biographical accomplishments. USEF staff will verify eligibility and that nominees meet the criteria on the nomination form. After each affiliate/committee submits its nominee, the USEF Awards Committee, comprised of individuals representing virtually every recognized affiliate, will then analyze each nominee’s 2021 accomplishments and overall career credentials and vote for up to six (at least 3 National and 3 International) horses or ponies. These horses will then be presented to the public and submitted for popular vote via the Federation website and email promotions. At the end of the voting period, the horse competing in FEI sanctioned disciplines as well as the horse competing and showing within the National breeds and disciplines with the highest number of votes will become the USEF’s Horses of the Year.
The semi-finalists will be voted on in secret ballot by the general public.

Voters will rank the National and International semifinalists in order of preference. Duplicate or incorrect ballots are void. Voting closes December 30th. Votes tabulate as follows:

1st = 5 points
2nd = 3 points
3rd = 1 point

The National candidate with the most points will be the National Horse of the Year and the International candidate with the most points will be the International Horse 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 Horses of the Year will be announced to the public during the National Horse of the Year Awards Dinner.

Perpetual Trophy: Alexa King bronze

Past Winners and Finalist (the winners are in bold)

2005
Authentic - Show Jumper
**Brentina - Dressage**
Cefnoakpark Bouncer - Driving, Welsh
WR Sonaskada+/- - Arabian
Winsome Adante - Eventing

2006
**Authentic - Show Jumper**
CH Callaway’s Copyright - Saddlebred
Floriano – Dressage
Mister Nicadual - Reining
Selwood Park Deneuve - Half Andalusian

2007
Aequus+/- - Arabian
Esteban – Friesian
Free Willy – Hackney
Sapphire – Show Jumper
**Theodore O’Connor – Eventing**

2008
Adams Fire- Half-Arabian
Dante FQ- Friesian
Flexible- Show Jumper
**Jamaica- Combined Driving**
Tiziano- Hunter

**2009**
Courage to Lead
CHOur Charming Lady
Kripton Seni II
**Ravel**
Sapphire

**2010**
Afires Heir
Gunners Special Nite
Heza Jackrabbit
Lone Star
CHSprinkles

**2011**
Sjoerd
Coral Reef Via Volo
Starr Llight
**Neville Bardos**
CHThe Daily Lottery
Weltino’s Magic

**2012**
Jersey Boy
CHCourageous Lord
Germ (Harem)
**Flexible**
Manoir de Carneville
Richter Scale

**2013**
A Ruf Gal
Sam
Simon
Bizkit
Brunello
CH Callaway's Annabel Allison

2014
Cortes 'C'
Spooks Gotta Whiz
Uminco
Elis GV
Nutcracker Sweet PF
Macadamia

2015
Brunello
Dash Rip Rock
Glynhafan Hermione
PVF Peace of Mind
Rothchild
Verdades

2016
Catch Me
Sjaantje
Top of the Mark
HH Azur
Mighty Nice
Verdades

2017
Co Fan S
Cuba
Winding Oaks Tom Foolery
HH Azur
Verdades

2018
Cobra
Karsten
Private Practice
Verdades
Eddie Blue
MsDreamy

2019
Darry Lou
First Apple
Tseterleg
**El Primero**
Shezaffirecracker
The Daily Lottery
Zander fan Camelot

2020
**Gazelle**
Dolton
**Pritchard Hill**
Vivaldi De Besilu
2021 USEF Horse of the Year Nomination

Please submit this form by the deadline, November 5th, 2021 to:
Alice Adams, Marketing Department
USEF, 4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511.
aadams@usef.org, Tel: (859) 225-6944, Fax: (859) 231-6662

Criteria for nomination:
• Each USEF Recognized National or FEI Affiliate may nominate one horse or pony per their representative breeds or disciplines. Each USEF Breed/Discipline committee may also nominate one horse or pony per their representative breed or discipline.
• The nominated horse or pony must be at least 3 years old.
• The nominee must have won a national championship at a Federation licensed competition held within the US, an FEI rated four-star competition (or an FEI rated three-star competition for dressage), or medaled in an FEI continental, regional, or world championship in its respective discipline. (The only exceptions are Welsh Ponies, Connemara Ponies, and Hunters for which the Affiliate will set forth the criteria for their nomination.)
• Must have competed in a USEF licensed or FEI competition in 2021.

Name of Breed/Discipline Affiliate or Committee: ____________________________________________

Name of Nominated Horse: ____________________________________________

USEF Horse ID Number ____________________

Affiliate ID Number ____________________

Owner(s): If more than one, please attach all names and addresses

Name ___________________________________________________________________________________

Street Address __________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State _____________ Zip ______________________

Nominee’s Notable Accomplishments for CURRENT YEAR (prior years will be disregarded):
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
Nominee’s Notable Career Accomplishments Prior to 2021:

_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

Horses Age ____________________ Breed ________________________________________________
Sire _________________________________ Dam __________________________________________
Trainer ___________________________________________________________________________________

**3 high resolution photos of the nominated horse must be included with the submission**

Executive Director/President of affiliate or Chair of USEF Committee submitting the nomination:

Name: ___________________________________________________________________________________
Signature: ___________________________________________________________________________________
Date: ___________________________________________________________________________________
Daytime Phone Number: (____________) _____________________________________
Email: ___________________________________________________________________________________

* Also please include any additional criteria used to determine your Affiliation’s nominee.