The USEF Horses of the Year Award

Criteria:
Awarded to two horses, one (1) National and one (1) 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 2022.

Selection of Winner and Timeline:

The Awards Desk will send requests to National Breed/Discipline Affiliates and USEF Breed/Discipline committees requesting nominations.

SPECIAL NOTE: 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
- Three (3) high resolution pictures that could be used in promotion of the award

Nominations will be accepted starting in September and will close November 4, 2022. Nominations may be accepted past the published deadline in special circumstances if the Awards Desk is notified in advance. Please contact Leigh Skaggs, lskaggs@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 2022 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 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.*

**The Horses of the Year will be announced to the public during the National Horse of the Year Awards Dinner.**

**Award:**

*Perpetual Trophy: Alexa King Bronze*

**Horses of the Year**

**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
- CH Our Charming Lady
- Kripton Seni II
- **Ravel**
- Sapphire
Horses of the Year
Past Winners and Finalist
(The winners are in bold)

2010
Afires Heir
**Gunners Special Nite**
Heza Jackrabbit Lone Star
CH Sprinkles

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

2012
**Jersey Boy**
CH Courageous Lord
Germ (Harem)
**Flexible**
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
Horses of the Year
Past Winners and Finalist
(The winners are in bold)

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
Ms Dreamy

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

2020
**Gazelle**
Dolton
**Pritchard Hill**
Vivaldi De Besilu

2021
**Balou du Reventon**
Dolton
Suppenkasper
**Big Shot**
HS Daydream’s Heads Up
Sjaan