

Cayuga Dressage and Combined Training Club Awards 2019

It is time to nominate your fellow horsepersons for end of year awards! Your humble awards committee (whose motto is “We can honor whatever we want because we can!”) has been busy in their hive of altruism thinking up new and better awards to delight and honor our members. But not all of the fun is ours alone! You get to nominate (and even self-nominate in some cases) the best, brightest and even most fool hearty. Send your replies to [Norm Johnson](#). All nominations due by October 15.

The awards needing nominations are:

1. Good Sportsmanship Award

This award was created to highlight the ideals and values of good conduct, civility, good role modeling and sportsmanship in our sport. An award is given each year to the club member who has consistently displayed the values of kindness to people and animals, in competition graciousness in losing or humility in winning, in everyday activities in the club and stable encouragement of others in their endeavors, and a willingness to serve as a positive role model for other people coming into the sport. This award is by nomination. The awards committee will, with the assistance of the board, select the annual recipient, who will be honored at the annual banquet and in the newsletter with a feature article on her (or his) views of good sportsmanship.

Nomination letters should include the person’s name and a detailed description of why the nominator thinks this person is a good recipient. They should be received no later than October 15.

2. Spirit of Dressage Award

This award is given annually to a person 21 years of age or under (as of January 1 of the award year). The award is \$150, to be used towards advancement of educational goals. To be eligible for the award, the candidate must: 1) be a member in good standing in CDCT at the time of application, 2) be pursuing the art of dressage in a consistent fashion (though not necessarily competing), 3) complete a statement of purpose and submit one nominating letter from any club member or a trainer and submit these documents to the Board of Directors of the club no later than October 15.

Description of the award:

Dressage is a lifelong pursuit, and Cayuga Dressage and Combined Training wishes to recognize a young person who is representing the values and ethics of dressage as an art form: the quest for honesty, natural-ness and harmony in one’s dealings with his or her horse, the attention to the deliberate and careful development of the talents of the horse and 3) an emerging expression of these qualities of cultivation in one’s own life. *(continued)*

Statement of purpose: Please write a short statement (between 250 and 500 words) describing your background with dressage, why you are attracted to this art and what this discipline has taught you. Please also indicate your future plans regarding your riding.

3. What Was I Thinking Award?

(Self-nominations possible, more than one award may be given if the humble awards committee deems it to be necessary) This award is designed to honor the person who took enormous risks this year and is not yet sure if they are worth it. Acts of sheer bravery, utter stupidity, fool-hearty enthusiasm and downright risky decisions are to be honored. A nomination must include a description of the behavior or action that merits awarding with all-expense paid trips to exotic locations (other than the emergency room).

4. That turned out better than I thought award

This award, also open for self-nomination is likely to be packed next year as we have the results of our What Was I Thinking Awards. Did you do something risky last year? Are you glad you did? Write it up and tell us about it. You too can be the gateway drug to risk taking behaviors. More than one award may be given.

5. The Good Egg Award

This award goes to the man or woman who best exemplifies all around Good Egg-ness and wants both world peace and a horse that loads on a trailer. This is the person who is always there and doing lots. This is an annual award and the winner will be awarded the priceless ceramic egg, presented by last year's winner. Nominate away.

6. New Member of the Year Award

This award goes to the new member who has dived right into the melee and proven themselves dedicated to the club. You may not self-nominate for this award.

7. Deus ex Machina

The Greeks were fond of really tragic, dramatic situations in their theater. By act three the situation was often hopeless and there appeared to be no way out of it UNTIL a huge wooden crane arose behind the stage wall and deposited one of the gods on the stage. This god would fix everything and everyone could go home relieved - and usually, alive. This device was called the, "deus ex machina-" god from the machine. You may not self-nominate for this award.

8. The White Glove award

Given to the horse and rider pair who are the most impeccably turned out at shows, be it a recognized or schooling show. One may not self-nominate for this award.

9. Miss (or Mr.) Congeniality award

One does not have to be Sandra Bullock nor do they have to be packing a .38 in order to convince (or coerce) people as to how nice they are. This award goes to that person that is deemed an overall genuinely nice person. This is not a self-nominated award.

10. Shaping the future of CDCT

This award goes to the person (or persons) promoting the club and keeping it alive, even if not actively showing themselves. There may be more than one winner of this award. Not a self-nominating award. (But you can give hints to other members that you are deserving of this award)

11. Ambassador of CDCT

Given to the PR person of the club. Should be someone with a lot of moxie, who reaches out to not only other GMO's but goes even further to the Grand Poobahs of not only the region, but may reach out to the USDF itself. Goes the extra mile to interface with other people in the know of dressage. Once again, not self-nominated, but as a person who tends to reach out to others, well you know what you must do.

12. Nothing's Going to Stop Me Now

This award goes to the person who even in the face of adversity plows ahead and makes it all work. This can be self-nominated.

13. The Versatile Horse

Given to the horse (well actually the owner) who has performed in other disciplines such as hunter, driving, trail riding, working equitation etc. In other words you name it, this horse has done it. Owner or other to nominate.

14. The I never thought my horse could do dressage award

This award goes to the horse that was most unlikely to excel in dressage, whether not the right breed, had two left feet, was stubborn, spooked at the sight of a dressage arena etc. Owner or other to nominate.

15. Teacher of Wisdom Award

This award is given to the teacher of dressage and or/combined who inspires his or her students to cultivate patience with and adherence to the classical principles of horsemanship, to develop the ethics of honesty, straightforwardness, kindness, civility, hard work, and compassion in one's dealing with other people and our horses, and to continually strives for improvement of one's character and one's horsemanship the true spirit of our classical art.

To be eligible for nomination, the teacher must have been a member of CDCT for at least two years at the time of the nomination deadline and have at least three students who are current club members (of any duration). The nomination letter must address why the teacher is deserving of the award and be submitted by at least three students. Nominating students agree to have a representative from among them at the awards banquet to present the award personally to their teacher. Their teacher must also be present to receive his or her award. The winner's nominators will be notified in advance of the awards ceremony.

There is a monetary amount for this award of \$250, which will be held by the club and against which receipts can be submitted for reimbursement. The funds can be used for furthering one's horsemanship education through riding in or auditing clinics, taking lessons, or purchasing relevant DVD's or books. The monetary award cannot be used to offset expenses for showing, travel, or routine maintenance of one's horse, riding wardrobe, or barn. Any amount not used and submitted to the club for reimbursement within the 12 months following the award will revert to the club.

This award is underwritten for five years, beginning in 2019. The recipient will be awarded the \$250 funds and a plaque.