

**The Maine Dressage Society**  
**Year End Awards Program**  
Revised 01/08/18

**Horse and Rider Registration**

- Each horse must be registered with TMDS and be ridden by a TMDS member at the time the scores are earned.
- Horse registration shall begin upon receipt of the membership form and horse registration form, and all applicable fees are paid and cleared. All forms and fees must be submitted before the first test is ridden.
- The horse registration form is separate form.
- A TMDS member (member of any of the dressage associations affiliated with TMDS) may register multiple horses by photocopying and submitting a separate form for each horse and by paying the horse registration fee for each horse.
- In addition to being registered, the horse's score must be submitted by the end of the award year (Nov. 30th) to receive any horse awards.

**Eligibility and Submission of Scores**

- All scores must be from open, adult, adult amateur or junior/young rider dressage classes held in the state of Maine whose prize list of that year has been listed in the current year's TMDS omnibus and the score must be from a 'L' rated judge or higher ('r', 'R', etc.).
- Adult amateur** is defined as being able to compete as an amateur from the beginning of the calendar year of which they reach age 22 and may not accept remuneration for: Riding, driving, showing, training, schooling, or teaching clinics or seminars; Giving lessons or training (summer camp counselors and therapeutic riding lessons are excluded), Any equine-related jobs such as veterinarian, bookkeeper, farrier, or groom, Selling horses or ponies or acts as agents for sales.
- \*You can change from Adult Amateur to Open category at any time, just let the program manager know. \*To change from Open/Professional to Adult Amateur contact the program manager for reclassification procedures.
- Junior/Young Rider** is a competitor is a junior rider until the end of the calendar year in which he or she reaches the age of 18 and a young rider until the end of the calendar year in which he or she reaches the age of 21.

- Classes that have restrictions based on the horse (e.g. age, breed, sex, size, previous performance, etc.) or rider (e.g. experience, sex, membership in a club other than TMDS, etc.) do not count.
- Dressage test scores from combined training classes do not count, unless the class is also pinned as a dressage class (2 sets of awards are handed out).
- It is strongly recommended by TMDS that shows follow the USEF/USDF show rules as closely as possible.
- Judge/Instructor conflicts - no rider may compete in an equitation or dressage class before a judge by whom he has been instructed, coached or tutored, with or without pay, within 30 days of the competition. The conducting of clinics or assistance in group activities, unless private instruction is given, will not be considered as instruction, coaching or tutoring.

- Horse/Rider combinations may only win the championship once at the levels Introductory through Second. Third, Fourth and FEI Level combinations may win at a level up to 3 times before being no longer eligible for that level at The Maine Dressage Society year end awards. Combinations can only move up (not down) the levels IF they have won the championship. (Grand Prix excepted)

**-TMDS Strongly recommends that each show and competitor follow the helmet guidelines as published by USDF.**

**RIDERS: For horse awards and rider awards:**

- You are responsible for your scores. You **MUST** send in the top 6 scores at the level(s) you are competing and still meet the requirements of the level, to the awards program manager. If you are competing in a level that requires 4 scores, send in the highest 4; only 3 scores needed, send in the highest 3. The top scores will be the ones used toward your year-end median score.
- Accurately fill out the competition awards score report form and send it by Nov. 30th of the competition year.
- All categories will count only the top number of scores required for that category. All other scores will be dropped.
- If you are trying for horse of the year, one of your scores must be from the top test of the level.

**Computation of Scores**

The median (middle) score will be chosen from all scores earned. In the case of an even number of scores, the two middle scores will be averaged. The median must be 50% or higher to be eligible for an award. Ties will be honored if the tie remains out to 3 decimal places.

**Horse Award Categories and Requirements:**

AWARDS PRESENTED: Ribbons for champion, reserve champion through eighth place will be awarded at each level for Junior/Young Rider, Adult Amateur and Open as well as Freestyle, Quadrille, Vintage rider, Master rider, School horse, and Aged horse. The champion at each level and for each of the mentioned categories will be recognized with a The Maine Dressage Society medal as well.

**Introductory, Training, First and Second Levels:**

To qualify at each level, the horse must have a minimum of six (6) scores earned at three (3) different shows from three (3) different judges. Please note, Introductory level scores are not eligible for the The Maine Dressage Society Grand Champion Horse of the Year Award.

**Third and Fourth Levels:**

To qualify at each level, the horse must have a minimum of three (3) scores earned at three (3) different shows from three (3) different judges.

**FEI Levels (Prix St. Georges, Intermediate, Grand Prix):**

To qualify the horse must have a minimum of two (2) scores earned at two (2) shows from two (2) different judges.

**Freestyle:**

To qualify, the horse must have a minimum of three (3) freestyle scores earned at three (3) different shows from three (3) different judges. The scores must be from no more than two consecutive levels.

**Western Dressage Award**

To qualify at a level a horse must have a minimum of six (6) scores earned at three (3) different shows from three (3) different judges. Third/Fourth level equivalents three (3) scores, from three (3) different shows and three (3) different judges.

Separation of divisions by junior/young rider, adult amateur, open and by levels will be at the discretion of the program manager.

**Quadrille:**

To qualify, the team must have a minimum of three (3) quadrille scores earned at three (3) different shows from three (3) different judges. The scores must be from no more than two consecutive levels. \*NOTE: all team riders must be members and all horses must be registered in order to qualify for year end awards.

**Vintage Rider:**

The rider must be 50 years of age or older as of January 1st of the competition year. The horse and rider are considered a team. The horse/rider team must have a minimum of four (4) scores earned at two (2) different shows from two (2) different judges. The scores may be from different levels.

**Master Rider:**

The rider must be 60 years of age or older as of January 1st of the competition year. The horse and rider are considered a team. The horse/rider team must have a minimum of four (4) scores earned at two (2) different shows from two (2) different judges. The scores may be from different levels.

**School Horse:**

The horse must be ridden by three (3) or more riders, all being TMDS members at the time the scores are earned. It must be indicated on the horse's registration that it is a school horse, and the names of the riders should be included. The horse must have a minimum of six (6) scores earned at three (3) different shows from three (3) different judges. The scores may be from different levels.

**Aged Horse:**

The horse must be 20 years of age or older as of January 1st of the competition year. The horse must have a minimum of six (6) scores earned at three (3) different shows from three (3) different judges. The scores may be from different levels.

**Breed Recognition Awards:**

A copy of the breed registration papers must be submitted prior to November 30th of each year. The horse must meet the requirements for the level at which it is competing. (This does not include medals)

**Greystone's Barry Lyndon Perpetual Trophy:**

To be awarded to the highest scoring First level horse in the horse's first year of competition at First level. Please state on the registration form if this is the horse's first year at first level.

**Black Market Gold Perpetual Trophy:**

To be awarded to the highest scoring Second level horse.

**Rider Award Categories and Requirements:**

Scores from previous years that were received from a judge with the designation of L or above and from a show listed in that year's omnibus may be used for Medal Awards.

**Bronze Rider Achievement Award:**

Two (2) scores for the Introductory level and three (3) scores for Training level that are 60% or higher.

**Silver Rider Achievement Award:**

Three (3) scores for First level and three (3) scores for Second level that are 55% or higher.

**Gold Rider Achievement Award:**

Three (3) scores for Third level and three (3) scores for Fourth level that are 55% or higher.

**Platinum Rider Achievement Award:**

Three (3) scores from FEI level that are 55% or higher.

**The Maine Dressage Society Champions will be recognized at the following levels:**

***Junior/Young Rider, Adult Amateur, and Open Divisions at Training/First/Second Level will be recognized as a Horse of the Year Champion:***

To be awarded to the highest scoring horse from Training, First and Second Level. The highest test of the level must have been ridden at least once to be eligible for the horse of the year.

***Junior/Young Rider, Adult Amateur, and Open Divisions at Third/Fourth Level will be recognized as a Horse of the Year Champion:***

To be awarded to the highest scoring horse from Third and Fourth Level. The highest test of the level must have been ridden at least once to be eligible for horse of the year.

***Junior/Young Rider, Adult Amateur, and Open Divisions at FEI Level will be recognized as a Horse of the Year Champion:***

To be awarded to the highest scoring horse from any of the FEI Levels.

The Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting is the last Sunday in January following the show year.

**If you cannot join us at the banquet/annual meeting we recommend that you have someone pick up your award for you. You can also pick up the award at a later date from Beth at her home. NO AWARDS WILL BE MAILED.**

PROGRAM MANAGER:

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