

## **Exciting News for OADG Junior Members**

The OADG is pleased to announce two initiatives for our Junior Members aimed at encouraging interest and participation in the Ottawa Dressage Festival Rising Stars competition. This competition is a special pilot project being offered by the ODF in collaboration with Equestrian Canada and is the first of its kind in Eastern Canada. (To learn more about Rising Stars, see the ODF website at: <http://nationalcapitaldressage.ca/stars/>.) It is our hope the Rising Stars concept can flourish in our area and become a great vehicle to nurture excellence in Dressage, especially in the Junior rider community.

First, your scores from the Rising Stars competition are considered “eligible scores” and will count towards OADG year-end results in the usual manner as tracked for other local shows. For ESD circuit riders in the Bronze Rising Stars, your scores will count towards ESD awards. For Silver circuit riders in the Gold Rising Stars, your scores will count towards Silver awards. For Gold circuit riders in the Gold Rising Stars, your scores will count as usual towards your Gold awards. Please take note that although this competition takes place over more than 1 day, only the top 2 scores in each level for the entire competition will be captured. We will allow all levels currently eligible for a year end award in your particular circuit. To find out eligible levels for your competition circuit, download the 2018 OADG Awards Criteria document at: <http://ottawadressage.ca/awards>.

Second, a bursary fund has been established to celebrate participation. No application is needed. Recipients will be drawn from the list of Rising Stars participants after the conclusion of the competition. To be eligible you need to be a 2018 OADG Junior Member and have competed in the show. Up to 8 bursaries of \$25 each will be awarded in early June. Successful recipients will be announced in the OADG Summer Newsletter and celebrated at the Annual Banquet in November.

For more information please contact the OADG President, Catherine Maguire, at [president@ottawadressage.ca](mailto:president@ottawadressage.ca)