

2026 OADG Year-End Awards

The Ottawa Area Dressage Group (OADG) is pleased to offer year-end awards to our members, including special recognition awards. These awards are presented in-person at the annual awards banquet, to celebrate our members' achievements in a fun social setting.

The OADG Awards Committee works with the show organizers to track the scores of OADG members from local Ottawa dressage shows. These scores are automatically saved and added up through the competitive season, and the season-end totals are used to identify the Champion, Reserve, and 3rd place standings for each circuit and level. Divisions are separated by the rider's status – Junior (JR), Adult Amateur (AA) or Open (O).

A “qualifying score” is any score that fits the criteria for the Awards Committee to track and add it into the cumulative totals. Qualifying scores are defined as being higher than 50%, and from a show that is open to all competitors (for example, breed shows are not included).

For a year-end award, the competitor must accumulate at least 3 qualifying scores for that horse/rider combination, from a variety of local shows on the same show circuit – Virtual, Schooling, Equestrian Skills Development (ESD), Silver, Gold, or FEI (Platinum/CDI). The highest 3 qualifying scores are used to calculate the year-end total.

Scores from non-local shows are classed as “external scores”. Although these scores are not automatically tracked by the Awards Committee, a competitor may decide to submit 1 external score to be counted towards a year-end award. These scores must be submitted by the rider or owner by email to the Awards Committee by the date published on the OADG website.

Criteria to be eligible for OADG year-end awards

To be eligible for the year-end awards:

- ✓ Both the owner and rider must be members of the OADG as per our membership rules, including foreign horses. The owner may hold a “non-competitor” membership.
- ✓ The owner and rider must be current members; scores from shows before the membership deadline are tracked, but after the membership deadline, scores are only tracked after both the owner and rider join the OADG or renew their membership.
- ✓ Scores are tracked on each of 6 local dressage circuits: Virtual, Schooling, Equestrian Skills Development (ESD), Silver, Gold, and FEI. There is currently no score tracking for Bronze dressage shows.

- ✓ The horse and rider combination must accumulate 3 qualifying scores from:
 - ✓ at least 3 separate shows in the same circuit (the highest score from each show qualifies)
 - ✓ at least 2 different show locations (exceptions: the Virtual show circuit, and the Schooling show circuit where 1 location is allowed)
 - ✓ at least 2 different judges
- ✓ The competitor may submit 1 external score as a qualifying score (using the external score form).
- ✓ Only dressage tests approved by either Equestrian Canada (EC) or CADORA are eligible for OADG awards.
- ✓ For the special recognition awards, the nominator must submit the appropriate form with all requested information.

Competitors' responsibilities

The scores are tracked throughout the show season, and the Awards Committee adds up the cumulative scores. Interim scores are posted mid-season, and final scores are published after the last show.

- ✓ It is the rider's or owner's responsibility to verify the tracked scores when they are published, and to report any necessary changes to the Awards Director by the deadline published on the OADG website. No changes to scores will be accepted beyond the published deadlines.
- ✓ Changes to horse/rider information must be submitted to the Awards Director by email as soon as possible.
- ✓ All external score forms must be submitted to the Awards Director by email by the date listed on the OADG website.
- ✓ All forms for year-end special recognition awards must be submitted to the Awards Director by email by the date listed on the OADG website.
- ✓ All year-end award forms must be received by the deadline published on the OADG website.

Competitors have 2 opportunities (mid-season and end of season) to check that their scores are being tracked correctly. Some examples of "things to look for" are:

- their name and the horse's name are recorded correctly (which is important as the tracking records are used for engraving the trophies, plaques and medallions)
- the horse/rider combination is being tracked in all circuits they are competing in

All forms are available on the OADG website. The Awards Director's email is awards@ottawadressage.ca.

Shows and show circuits

There are 6 local show circuits: Virtual, Schooling, Equestrian Skills Development (ESD), Silver, Gold, and FEI (also known as Platinum/CDI). Riders can compete on any or all of the circuits.

Within each circuit, there's a number of local shows. Some locations host more than one show per season, but they usually have different judges.

- ✓ The list of local shows is available on the [OADG Shows webpage](#). This list does include some external shows, so take note of which are considered local and external for tracking purposes.
- ✓ For the Schooling show circuit, only the scores for Junior and Adult Amateur riders are tracked. Open riders are not eligible for awards at the Schooling show circuit. They are welcome to enter the shows; for example, to introduce a young horse.
- ✓ Bronze shows are not tracked and are not counted towards OADG awards.
- ✓ Qualifying scores from one circuit (Virtual, Schooling, ESD, Silver, Gold, or FEI) cannot be counted towards another circuit.
- ✓ Riders competing in shows outside the Ottawa area (external shows) may submit 1 external show score for the Silver and Gold circuits, including FEI awards for FEI classes at Gold or CDI shows. The rider or owner must submit an External Score Submission Form (available on the OADG website). Only 1 external score is accepted (exception: the CDI Achievement Award).
- ✓ For external scores:
 - For FEI awards for FEI classes at Gold or CDI shows, 1 external CDI as well as 1 local CDI score is permitted. The external CDI score must be from within Canada.
 - For the CDI Achievement Award, 3 CDI scores are required and may be from within or outside Canada.
 - Only qualifying scores from shows open to all competitors are accepted. For example, scores from breed-specific shows would not be accepted.
- ✓ Only scores 50% and higher are tracked.
- ✓ Test of Choice and Pony Cup scores are eligible scores provided the tests being ridden are outlined in the show's prize list.
- ✓ Masters' Test of Choice scores are not eligible except for the Senior Rider Award.
- ✓ Pony Classes - The OADG does not offer Dressage Pony Cup awards. Those awards are handled by the National Dressage Pony Cup organization. For more information, see dressageponycup.com (note that this organization includes both ponies and small horses).
- ✓ If more than one judge judges the same ride, the average of the scores is counted as the official qualifying score.
- ✓ "Add on" scores are not tracked. Scores are tracked only for those tests in which the horse and rider have actually ridden.

Things you should know about dressage shows and tests

When you send in your entry for a dressage show, make sure you know which circuit and which tests you are signing up for. Some shows use the Equestrian Canada (EC) tests while others use the CADORA tests.

- ✓ Regarding rider status – Junior (JR), Adult Amateur (AA) or Open (O):
 - ✓ For Silver, Gold and FEI classes, and the CDI Achievement Award, AA riders must be declared by Equestrian Canada and will be verified. Undeclared AA riders will be placed into the Open category. For the Schooling and ESD circuits, riders will use the status declared when they joined Ontario Equestrian.
 - ✓ The eligibility criteria for JR, AA and O are available in the [Equestrian Canada rulebook](#). A rider can only use one status; for example, a rider cannot compete as AA for some shows or rider/horse combinations while competing as O for other shows or rider/horse combinations.
- ✓ Check the show's prize list before you enter, to make sure you know which tests to practice – CADORA or EC. The Virtual and Schooling shows use CADORA tests; ESD shows may use either set of tests for the Walk Trot classes; and Gold and Silver shows use EC tests (FEI shows and classes, of course, use the FEI tests).

Other things you should know

If you're a competitor or an owner, you should be aware of the following details:

- ✓ Award winners are determined by the 3 highest qualifying scores received by each horse/rider combination during the show season (1 score per show). The horse/rider combination can show in as many shows as they want; the Awards Committee will use the 3 highest scores.
- ✓ For year-end awards where there is only 1 competitor, a minimum average of 60% must be achieved to win Champion; if not, Reserve is awarded. Exception: This does not apply to the Schooling Circuit or the Virtual Circuit awards.
- ✓ For horse/rider combinations competing in multiple circuits at the same or different levels, qualifying riders will be placed according to the following criteria:
 - ✓ The placements for the highest level circuit (Gold followed by Silver, ESD and then Schooling and Virtual) will be calculated first.
 - ✓ For the second circuit (lower circuit):
 - If the levels are the same or higher, (for example, Gold circuit 2nd level and Silver circuit 3rd level), the placings will be as ridden.
 - If the levels are lower (for example, Gold circuit 2nd level but ESD circuit 1st level), the ESD placing will be after all other eligible horse/rider combinations are placed.

Exception: The Schooling circuit, where horse/rider combinations competing there will always be placed above any other horse/rider combination from a higher circuit and at any level.

- Consecutive levels (such as First and Second Level) are permitted within the same circuit (for example, Silver circuit) and will be placed as ridden.

Virtual show series: New in 2026!

The OADG is pleased to offer a new series of virtual dressage shows, starting in 2026. This series also includes year-end awards.

- ✓ The rider must accumulate 3 scores from 3 separate virtual shows, and at least 2 different judges.
- ✓ One of the scores may be an external score (from any other virtual circuit), provided the test that is ridden is either a USDF or CADORA test (that is, the same tests that are offered in the OADG virtual circuit). The rider must submit that score before the date specified on the OADG website, using the external score form available on the website.
- ✓ For 2026, the year-end awards will be dependent on entries:
 - The minimum presented at the Awards Banquet will be Champion, Reserve, and 3rd place (all levels combined).
 - If enough entries are submitted, the organizing committee will split the divisions by level (W/T, Intro, First Level, Second Level, and Third/Fourth combined)
 - If possible, the divisions will be split into JR, AA and Open per division.
- ✓ One “special award” may be presented, at the Show Committee’s discretion and dependent on overall results (for example, Young Horse, High Point for the Year, Best Video Presentation).

Year-end awards – automatically calculated by the Awards Committee

The year-end awards are given to the top 3 horse/rider combinations in each dressage level (Introductory through 4th level to FEI tests) in each of the 6 dressage circuits, divided where possible into Junior, Adult Amateur (AA) and Open (O) divisions. These awards are automatically calculated by the Awards Committee; you do not have to apply for them.

Technical tests, including freestyles

Awards are presented to the Champion (highest total), Reserve (2nd highest total), and 3rd place riders:

- ✓ For the Virtual and Schooling circuits, Medallions for Champion, Reserve and 3rd place
- ✓ For ESD, Silver, and Gold circuits (including FEI awards for FEI classes at Gold or CDI shows):
 - Champion: Trophy and stall plaque
 - Reserve: Stall plaque
 - 3rd place: Medallion

Merit Medallions

Merit medallions are awarded to horse/rider combinations who achieve 3 scores of 65% or higher in the same level (technical classes only; freestyle, equitation and 4/5/6-year-old young horse classes are not eligible).

These medallions represent a high level of achievement. They are awarded in the ESD, Silver, Gold and FEI circuits to Junior, Adult Amateur and Open competitors.

“Top 3” Special Cash Awards

The year-end “top 3” special cash awards are presented to the competitor achieving the highest 3 qualifying scores in their respective circuits:

- a) ESD: Junior, Adult Amateur and Open
- b) Silver: Junior, Adult Amateur and Open
- c) Gold: Junior, Adult Amateur and Open
- d) FEI: Adult Amateur and Open
- e) FEI: Junior, FEI Pony, FEI Children, Young Rider (YR), and Under 25 (U25)

Only scores from technical classes are eligible. Scores from freestyle, equitation and 4/5/6-year-old young horse classes are not eligible.

A competitor who is 19 years or older may be eligible for either the FEI AA or Open award in point d), or the U25 classes in point e), but not both. In such a case, the higher “top 3” score determines their award.

If there is only one eligible competitor, a minimum average of 60% must be achieved to win this year-end award.

Special Recognition Awards (available by application)

The OADG Awards Committee presents a number of year-end awards that provide special recognition for our members. Teams, peewees, para-dressage, senior rider, and CDI achievements are all celebrated, along with horse owner of the year and the Madison Crich memorial award.

For all of these awards, the rider, owner, or sponsor must submit a nomination form (available on the OADG website) to the Awards Committee. The Awards Committee calculates the total of the 3 highest scores per nominated competitor to determine Champion, Reserve, and 3rd place. For non-scored special recognition awards, the OADG Board of Directors votes for the recipient of each non-scored award.

For each special recognition award, the form must be submitted by the date posted on the OADG website.

CDI Achievement Award

The CDI Achievement Award highlights the achievements of our members who compete at the highest levels of dressage – the CDI classes (FEI tests) on the “small tour” and the “big tour”.

There is one award to celebrate the combined results of the nominated riders – that is, all groupings compete for the single award. Champion, Reserve, and 3rd place is based on the cumulative total score of each nominated rider, no matter which level of tests the horse/rider combination competed at.

The eligible classes are FEI Children, FEI Pony, FEI Jr, FEI YR, FEI U25, Small Tour (PSG and I1), Medium Tour (IA and IB), and Big Tour (I2, GP and GPS). For this award, Freestyle and Young Horse classes are not eligible.

Team Challenge

One Team award is offered in each of the following show circuits: Virtual, ESD, Silver, and Gold/FEI.

Note that the team must declare early in the season that they are competing as a team. The Team Challenge form must be submitted by April 1st (for example, when the members get or renew their memberships) to identify the team members. If the form is submitted after April 1st, only scores from competitions after the submission will be accepted. The scores are submitted at the end of the season, by submitting the updated form.

On the Team Challenge form, the team must declare which circuit they are competing in. If the same team is competing on 2 circuits, they must submit 2 declarations (one for each show circuit).

For the teams:

- ✓ A team can consist of 3 or 4 “team members”, where a “team member” is a horse/rider combination. A team member can only participate on one team per circuit.
- ✓ The horse with a different rider, or the rider with a different horse, can compete on a different team on the same circuit. However, one horse cannot be ridden by all 3 or 4 riders (maximum 2 riders per horse).

- ✓ One rider with 2 different horses may compete on the same team, but the team must include at least one other rider. One rider on 3 or 4 different horses is prohibited from forming a team; the maximum allowed is 1 rider on 2 different horses.
- ✓ Team riders can be a mix of Junior, Adult Amateur or Open (except for ESD teams where only Junior and Adult Amateur riders are eligible)

One member of the team must submit the Team Challenge form in the spring (to identify the team members) and again at the end of the season (before the date posted on the website) to submit the scores.

- ✓ When submitting final scores, the top 9 scores from all team members will be accepted.
- ✓ Each team member must have 3 qualifying scores of 50% or higher from 3 different shows, 2 locations, and 2 different judges (the same as for other OADG awards)
- ✓ Freestyle, equitation, and Young Horse classes are not eligible for team awards.

Riders who have results from different levels within the same circuit should let the Awards Committee know, so the highest qualifying scores are applied for their team challenge.

Horse Owner of the Year Award

Do you wish to recognize the owner of the horse that you are competing on? This award is to nominate a unique and supportive horse owner – who, through their ownership of the horse, has demonstrated a commitment to the sport of dressage and furthering another equestrian's skills, without any benefit to themselves.

The nominator must submit the Horse Owner of the Year Award form and a short essay. The OADG Board's vote decides the winner.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Do you wish to recognize someone for their volunteer efforts? OADG members may nominate an OADG member who is an outstanding volunteer within the OADG community.

The nominator must submit the Volunteer of the Year Award form and a short essay. The OADG Board's vote decides the winner.

Senior Rider of the Year Award

Are you a rider who is 60 years of age or older? Open to both Adult Amateur and Open riders, this award celebrates your continued success in the show ring with your horse!

The nominator must submit the Senior Rider of the Year Award form, along with 3 qualifying scores of 50% or higher from 3 different shows, 2 locations, and 2 different judges (the same as for other OADG awards). Masters' Test of Choice scores are eligible for this award, but freestyle and equitation classes are not eligible. The scores must all be from the same circuit.

Young Horse Award

Are you competing this year on a horse 6 years of age or younger? We offer one combined Champion award for all eligible circuits (ESD, Silver, Gold and FEI).

The nominator must submit the Young Horse Award form along with 3 qualifying scores of 50% or higher from 3 different shows, 2 locations, and 2 different judges (the same as for other OADG awards). The scores must be from technical tests; freestyle, equitation, and Young Horse (FEI 4, 5, 6 Year Old) classes are not eligible.

- ✓ A young horse is any horse that is 4, 5, or 6 years old as per the Equestrian Canada rulebook.
- ✓ A young horse may have different riders.
- ✓ Qualifying scores must be from the same circuit – ESD, Silver, or Gold/FEI – but can be from any level.

Madison Crich Memorial Adult Amateur Award

The Madison Crich Memorial Adult Amateur Award was created to honour the memory of a local and well respected young adult who passed away in early 2015. Madison had many friends and admirers in the dressage community and is remembered for her love of the sport and wonderful horsemanship.

This award is presented to a current AA member of the OADG who is nominated by an OADG member and voted on by the OADG Board.

The nominator must submit the Madison Crich Memorial Adult Amateur Award form and a short essay. The criteria for this award include:

- ✓ This person demonstrates positive horsemanship, good sportsmanship and overall love of the horse and the sport.
- ✓ This person strives to make the dressage community a more positive place

Para-Equestrian Rider of the Year Award

Are you a declared Equestrian Canada para-equestrian member? If so, you can be awarded the Para-Equestrian Rider of the Year award.

- ✓ The rider or nominator must submit the Para-Equestrian Award form and the sum of 3 qualifying scores of 50% and above, as per the OADG awards criteria
- ✓ The scores must be for Para-Equestrian tests, where possible. However, non-para test scores (regular tests) will count when Para tests are not offered at a show.
- ✓ Scores are to be from the same circuit (Virtual, Schooling, ESD, Silver, Gold or FEI).
- ✓ Freestyles and Young Horse (FEI 4, 5, 6 Year Old) tests are not eligible.

PeeWee Awards

If you are turning 12 years old this year, or are younger, you qualify for the PeeWee Award. A rider is considered a PeeWee until the end of the calendar year in which they turn 12 years of age.

- ✓ Only applies to riders competing in the Virtual, Schooling, and ESD show circuits; one award per circuit
- ✓ The rider or nominator must submit the PeeWee Award form and the sum of 3 qualifying scores of 50% or higher, as per the OADG awards criteria

OADG Special Year-End Award

This award is not always granted. By discretion of the OADG Board of Directors, an outstanding or noteworthy achievement may be recognized at the Awards Banquet. To nominate an individual, please submit a letter to the Awards Committee by the deadline for other awards posted on the OADG website.

Virtual Series Awards

Note: For 2026, the actual awards will depend on number of entries – the Awards Committee will consider the best distribution of medallions at the end of the circuit.

- ✓ Minimum awards will be OADG Medallions for Champion, Reserve and 3rd place (all levels combined).
- ✓ If enough entries are submitted, the organizing committee will split the divisions by level (walk/trot, Intro, First Level, Second Level, Third/Fourth combined, Freestyle, and Other).
- ✓ If possible, the awards will be split into Junior, Adult Amateur and Open per division.
- ✓ One “special award” may be presented, dependent on overall results (for example, Young Horse, or High Point for the Year, or Best Video Presentation).

Schooling Series Awards

| Award | Level | Category |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| OADG Medallion | W/T Rider | JR/AA |
| | Equitation W/T | JR/AA |
| | Equitation WTC | JR/AA |
| | Training | JR/AA |
| PeeWee plaque | All levels combined | PeeWee (12 yrs & under) |

ESD (Equestrian Skills Development) Series Awards

| Award | Level | Category |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| OADG | W/T Horse | JR/AA/O |
| | W/T Rider | JR/AA |
| | Equitation W/T | JR/AA |
| | Equitation W/T/C | JR/AA |
| | Training | JR/AA/O |
| | First | JR/AA/O |
| | Freestyle | All categories combined |
| PeeWee | All levels combined | PeeWee (12 yrs & under) |
| Young Horse (6 years & under) | All levels combined (excludes Freestyles and equitation) | All categories combined |
| Team Challenge | All levels combined (excludes Freestyles, equitation, and Young Horse classes) | All categories combined |
| Merit | W/T Horse | JR/AA/O |
| | W/T Rider | JR/AA/O |
| | Training | JR/AA/O |
| | First | JR/AA/O |

Silver Series Awards

For this show circuit:

- ✓ Qualifying scores from the Eastern Silver Championships may be used.
- ✓ Qualifying scores from the Western Silver Championship may be used but must be submitted as an external score.

| Award | Level | Category |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| OADG | Introductory | JR/AA/O |
| | Training | JR/AA/O |
| | First | JR/AA/O |
| | Second | JR/AA/O |
| | Third | JR/AA/O |
| | Fourth | JR/AA/O |
| | FEI Children, JR Pony & Young Rider | JR & Young Rider |
| | FEI Prix St George | All categories combined |
| | Training Freestyle | All categories combined |
| | First Freestyle | All categories combined |
| | Second Freestyle (incl. FEI Pony & Children Freestyle) | All categories combined |
| | Third Freestyle (incl. FEI JR Freestyle) | All categories combined |
| | Fourth Freestyle (incl. FEI YR Freestyle) | All categories combined |
| Eastern Ontario Silver Freestyle Championship | Two technical classes plus freestyle class | All categories combined. |
| Young Horse (6 years & under) | All levels combined (excludes Freestyles, equitation and FEI Young Horse (4, 5, 6 Year Old) classes) | All categories combined |
| Team Challenge | All levels combined (excludes Freestyles, equitation, and Young Horse classes) | All categories combined |
| Merit | Introductory | JR/AA/O |
| | Training | JR/AA/O |
| | First | JR/AA/O |
| | Second | JR/AA/O |
| | Third | JR/AA/O |
| | Fourth | JR/AA/O |

Gold Series Awards

| Award | Level | Category |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| OADG | Introductory | JR/AA/O |
| | Training | JR/AA/O |
| | First | JR/AA/O |
| | Second | JR/AA/O |
| | Third | JR/AA/O |
| | Fourth | JR/AA/O |
| | First Level Freestyle | All categories combined |
| | Second Level Freestyle | All categories combined |
| | Third Level Freestyle | All categories combined |
| | Fourth Level Freestyle | All categories combined |
| Young Horse (6 years & under) | All levels combined (excludes Freestyles, equitation and FEI Young Horse (4, 5, 6 Year Old) classes) | All categories combined |
| Team Challenge | All levels combined (excludes Freestyles, equitation, and FEI 4, 5, 6 Young Horse classes) | All categories combined |
| Merit | Introductory | JR/AA/O |
| | Training | JR/AA/O |
| | First | JR/AA/O |
| | Second | JR/AA/O |
| | Third | JR/AA/O |
| | Fourth | JR/AA/O |

OADG FEI Awards for FEI classes at Gold or CDI shows

| Award | Level | Category |
|-------|---|-------------------------|
| OADG | FEI Pony Individual & Team | JR |
| | FEI Pony Freestyle | JR |
| | FEI Children Individual & Team | JR |
| | FEI Junior Individual & Team | JR |
| | FEI Junior Freestyle | JR |
| | FEI Young Riders Individual & Team | Young Rider |
| | FEI Young Rider Freestyle | Young Rider |
| | Prix St. George (JR) | JR |
| | Prix St. George (AA) | AA |
| | Prix St. George (O) | O |
| | Intermediate I | All categories combined |
| | Intermediate A, B | All categories combined |
| | Intermediate II | All categories combined |
| | Intermediate Freestyle | All categories combined |
| | Grand Prix & Grand Prix Special U25 | U25 |
| | Grand Prix & Grand Prix Special | All categories combined |
| | Grand Prix Freestyle | All categories combined |
| | FEI 4 Year Old | All categories combined |
| | FEI 5 Year Old | All categories combined |
| | FEI 6 Year Old | All categories combined |
| Merit | All Levels noted above (excludes freestyle and FEI 4/5/6 Year Old classes) | JR/AA/O/YR/U25 |

OADG CDI Achievement Award

The rider or nominator must submit the CDI Achievement Award form (available from the OADG website) showing the sum of the qualifying scores and including copies of the tests.

| Award | Level | Category |
|-------|--|--------------------------------------|
| OADG | <p>One award (for all levels combined).</p> <p>Requires 3 qualifying scores from 3 shows, within or outside of Canada, at 2 different locations and 2 different judges.</p> <p>Competitors apply in their respective levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ FEI Children, FEI Pony, FEI JR, FEI YR, FEI U25 ✓ Small Tour (PSG & I1) ✓ Medium Tour (IA & IB) ✓ Big Tour (I2, GP & GPS) <p>(excluding Freestyle and FEI 4/5/6 Year Old classes).</p> | As applicable for the Level applied. |