AWARDS PROGRAM

Competition is Fierce - Know the Rules!



Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc.

GDCTA
Georgia Dressage & Combined Training Association

The current version of this Awards Programs manual is available on the GDCTA website Awards page (gdcta.org).

While every effort has been made to avoid mistakes in this publication, the Georgia Dressage & Combined Training Association assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

Questions and comments should be directed to the GDCTA President: admin@gdcta.org

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Peri Lambros Memorial Trophy and Ribbon

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Contents

Chapter 1. General Information 6

A. Introduction 6

Description 6

Purpose 6

Awards Gala 6

About This Manual 6

B. GDCTA Membership 7

Chapter 2. Awards 8

A. Special Awards 8

1. President's Award 8

2. Liz Faso Memorial Volunteer of the Year 8

3. Donald & Elizabeth Faso Perpetual Trophy 9

4. Peaches & Perfect Circles Club (*Dressage*) 9

5. Gallop & Glory Award (*Eventing & CT*) 10

1. Horse Show Awards 11

Pam Kimble Memorial Trophy 11

CA Solant Perpetual Trophy 11

The GDCTA Ico Ila Pony Awards *sponsored by Janie Pride* 11

Collegiate Best Score Award 12

Peri Lambros Memorial FEI High Point Award 13

Vintage Adult High Point Award (50+) *Sponsored by the Harbin Agency* 13

The Harbin Agency High Point Award 13

B. Summer Finals Championships Awards 13

Rider Eligibility 13

1. Adult Amateur Medal Summary 13

Adult Amateur Medal Final Champion and Reserve Champion 13

Eligibility for Adult Amateur Medal Program 14

2. Youth Program Dressage Seat Equitation Medal Summary 14

Requirements 14

C. Year-End Awards 14

1. Recognized Awards 14

A. USDF/USEF Recognized Dressage 14
B. USEA/USEF Recognized Eventing 16
C. GDCTA Recognized Horse of the Year 18
2. GDCTA-Recognized Schooling Show Awards 20
A. Dressage 21
B. Combined Training (Eventing) 22
3. Youth Program 23
C. Rider Awards (Schooling Shows Only) - Dressage 23
D. Rider Awards (Schooling Shows Only) – Combined Training/Eventing 24
E. Rider Awards (Schooling Shows Only) – Special Needs – Dressage 25
F. Rider Awards (Schooling Shows Only) – Special Needs – Combined Training/Eventing 26
12 and Under Excellence Award 28
Letterman Jacket Programs 28
Purpose 28
A. Recognized Program 29
Categories 29
B. Schooling Show Program 30
Categories 30
Chapter 3. Organization 31
A. Related Committees 31
B. Committee Chairs 31
Awards Committee 31
Awards Gala Committee 32
Awards Gala Chair 32
Awards Gala Silent Auction and Barn Basket Coordinators 33
Chapter 4. Show Information 34
A. General Information 34
GDCTA supports two types of shows and competitions 34
B. Show Recognition Approval 34
C. Post-Show Reporting Requirements 34
Chapter 5. Insurance 35
A. Insurance Procedures 35
Procedures for Obtaining Certificates of Insurance for GDCTA-Sponsored Events 35

Procedures 35
B. Certificate of Liability Insurance (Sample Copy) 36
Chapter 6. Schooling Show Recognition 37
A. Schooling Show Recognition Summary 37
B. Adult Amateur Medal Summary 38
Adult Amateur Medal Final Champion and Reserve Champion 38
Eligibility for Adult Amateur Medal Program 39
Awards 39
Rider Eligibility 39
Owner & Horse Eligibility 39
C. Adult Amateur Medal Class Invitation 39
Benefits to Your Competition 39
Requirements of Competition Management 40
Join GDCTA to participate in this exciting Awards Program 41

Chapter 1. General Information

A. Introduction

Description

GDCTA offers a robust awards program to reward members participating in GDCTA recognized shows and schooling shows. There are separate award categories for USEF/USDF/USEA licensed shows and GDCTA schooling shows. Points are tallied throughout the year, and rosettes and other prizes are presented at the annual year-end awards banquet.

Additionally, a number of special awards are given annually to recognize outstanding contributions to GDCTA and to dressage and combined training in general.

Beginning in the 2021 show season, all scores earned at GDCTA-hosted shows will count twice toward year-end awards!

Purpose

The purpose of the Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc., is to further the art of classical dressage and combined training. Dressage as an equitation art is intended to create an athletic horse, calm, supple, and keen, and in a state of perfect understanding with the rider. Dressage and Combined Training encourage the total development of the equine athlete, on the flat and over fences. The annual awards program is our way to recognize all the *years* of hard work members have dedicated to their riding.

Awards Gala

An annual celebration of the year's award winners and GDCTA's largest fundraising event, GDCTA holds a gala to honor GDCTA dressage and combined training competition winners. It begins with a cash bar reception, followed by dinner and an awards ceremony. Additionally, attendees have a chance to take a chance in the Barn Basket Raffle and to bid on fabulous items in a silent auction. The annual Awards Gala is GDCTA's major fundraising event with proceeds earmarked for clinics, shows, forums, and more. The Awards Gala is a great way for members to show their support for the dressage and eventing community in Georgia.

About This Manual

This manual is designed to provide current and prospective members with complete information about the organization's Awards programs. The manual is organized into chapters, each relating to separate subjects. Likewise, each chapter is divided into topics to aid the reader in locating specific information.

B. GDCTA Membership

To qualify for any of the Awards Programs, you must be a GDCTA member at the time of earning the scores and you must have checked the "Recognized" or "Schooling Show" Awards Program participation on your membership application.

The awards year will run from October 1st through September 30th of the following year. The GDCTA membership year runs from December 1st through November 30th.

GDCTA is an organization of members. Membership is composed of the following four (4) classes:

Senior Members	Senior members must be at least eighteen (18) years of age as of December 1 of the current membership year. Senior Members have one (1) voting right.
Junior Members	Junior members are those who have not reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current membership year. Junior members do not have voting rights.
Family Members	Family members include parents and/or guardians and those children living at home. Family Members have two (2) voting rights.
Lifetime Members	Honorary Life Membership is bestowed at the discretion of the Board of Directors. These memberships are reserved for individuals who have been members of the United States Equestrian Team, the United States Olympic Team, or who have contributed outstanding service to GDCTA while members. Lifetime Members have one (1) voting right.

Note: Senior, Junior, and Family memberships expire on November 30. They are each available on a one-year or an annual renewal basis. Current membership fees are posted on the GDCTA website (www.gdcta.org).

Chapter 2. Awards

A. Special Awards

1. President's Award

Awarded at the President's discretion.

2. Liz Faso Memorial Volunteer of the Year

In honor of Liz Faso's many years of dedicated service to GDCTA, especially as Volunteer Coordinator, the GDCTA Volunteer of the Year Program will now proudly be known as the **Liz Faso Memorial Volunteer of the Year**.

Eligibility & Participation

- Must be a GDCTA member to participate.
- Volunteer hours must be completed at GDCTA-hosted events or at schooling shows that have opted in to this program.
- Opt-in shows will be noted in the GDCTA calendar with the wording like: *"This show participates in the Liz Faso Volunteer of the Year Program. GDCTA members who volunteer at this show will have their hours count toward the GDCTA year-end volunteer awards. Contact show management to participate!"*

New Rule Beginning January 1, 2025

- A family member may volunteer on behalf of their GDCTA Junior, and the child will receive the credit.
- This applies to both GDCTA-hosted events and schooling shows that have opted in.

Awards

1. **$1000** – GDCTA member with the most volunteer hours at GDCTA events and participating shows.
2. **$750** – GDCTA member with the 2nd highest number of hours.
3. **$500** – GDCTA member with the 3rd highest number of hours.
4. **$250 Raffle** – Every GDCTA member volunteer who records **24 hours or more** in the calendar year will be entered.

Program Timeline

- Runs January 1 – December 31 each year.
- Awards are presented at the GDCTA Awards Gala.
- A person may only win this award three times.

3. Donald & Elizabeth Faso Perpetual Trophy

The Donald & Elizabeth Faso Perpetual Trophy is awarded for distinguished service to Georgia Dressage & Combined Training Association and service to equestrian sport. Nominations along with a brief reason why the GDCTA member nominee is deserving of the award should be emailed to admin@gdcta.org by November 30th each year. After the cutoff date for nominations closes, the nominees will be reviewed by the committee to determine who will be presented with the award at the Awards Gala.

4. Peaches & Perfect Circles Club (*Dressage*)

A fresh new GDCTA honor celebrating the artistry and precision of dressage excellence.

Riders who score 70% or higher in any dressage test earn a coveted spot in this exclusive club—a true mark of mastery in the arena.

This recognition isn't just about ribbons; it's about celebrating the grace, grit, and dedication it takes to ride those sweet, round 10-meter circles to perfection.

Join the ranks of Georgia's finest—because earning 70% or higher is *no small feat*, and we think that deserves a peach of a celebration!

Rules for Eligibility

To be inducted into the **Peaches & Perfect Circles** Club, riders must:

- Be a *current GDCTA member* in good standing
- Opt into the GDCTA Awards Program before earning scores (via membership form or email to Membership Chairperson)
- Earn a *score of 70.000% or higher* in any *USEF/USDF-recognized dressage show* or at any *GDCTA-recognized schooling show*
- Scores must be earned between *October 1 and September 30* of the awards year

Bonus: Multiple scores at or above 70%? You'll receive a special "Multi-Medal" notation on your certificate!

The Award

Recipients will be honored in the slide show at the **GDCTA Annual Awards Gala**. Each inductee receives:

- A **custom certificate** recognizing your achievement
- Recognition in the GDCTA newsletter ("Collected Remarks")
- Optional social media spotlight on GDCTA channels

5. Gallop & Glory Award (*Eventing & CT*)

A bold new GDCTA honor celebrating eventing excellence and the thrill of top performance.

This award recognizes riders who finish with scores in the 20s at USEA-recognized horse trials or GDCTA-recognized schooling shows — a true mark of mastery across all three phases.

Eventing is a test of courage, precision, and partnership, and the Gallop & Glory Award salutes those who tackle it all with grit, grace, and undeniable glory.

Rules for Eligibility

To be eligible for the **Gallop & Glory Award**, riders must:

- Be a *current GDCTA member* in good standing
- Opt into the GDCTA Awards Program before earning scores (via membership form or email to Membership Chairperson)
- Complete a *USEA-recognized horse trial* or *GDCTA-recognized schooling show*
- Finish with a score in the *20s*
- Events must occur between *October 1 and September 30* of the awards year

Bonus: Multiple 20% finishes? You'll receive a "Multi-Medal" notation on your certificate!

The Award

Inductees will be noted in the slide show at the **GDCTA Annual Awards Gala**. Each receives:

- A **custom certificate** recognizing your achievement
- Recognition in the GDCTA newsletter ("Collected Remarks")
- Optional social media spotlight on GDCTA channels

Beginning with the 2021 show season, all scores earned at GDCTA-hosted shows will count twice toward year-end awards!

1. Horse Show Awards

Pam Kimble Memorial Trophy

Awarded to the highest Average Score, excluding scores from Musical Freestyle and Dressage Seat Equitation, for a JR/YR from all USDF shows. To qualify: you must be a GDCTA member at the time of earning the scores and you must have checked the "Recognized Awards Program" participation on your membership application.

CA Solant Perpetual Trophy

Awarded to the highest Average Score for an Adult Amateur for the **GDCTA-hosted USDF dressage** shows. Presented at the GDCTA Awards Gala, January. To qualify: you must be a GDCTA member at the time of earning the scores and you must have checked the "Recognized Awards Program" participation on your membership application.

The GDCTA Ico Ila Pony Awards *sponsored by Janie Pride*

Awarded to high score ponies in keeping with the guidance from USDF. To qualify: you must be a GDCTA member at the time the scores are earned, you need a pony card, and you must notify Janie Pride (janiepride@yahoo.com) that you are competing for The GDCTA Pony Awards.

- All awards will be based on a Pony/Rider combination meeting these eligibility requirements at USEF/USDF shows. ALL Pony and regular classes will be used for this award!
- At the beginning of the competition year when joining GDCTA, riders must notify Janie Pride (janiepride@yahoo.com) that they want to be entered into the PONY division.
- You must be a member of GDCTA and have indicated that you want to be eligible for PONY awards AT THE TIME SCORES ARE EARNED.
- A list of members participating in the PONY division of the awards program will be kept by Janie Pride. It is the competitor's responsibility to check frequently to make sure that his/her name/pony are in the program. Contact Janie Pride (janiepride@yahoo.com) for this. She will keep up with scores, but your name MUST be on the list.
- A Pony/Rider combination showing at more than two levels during the competition year will only be eligible for awards at the two highest levels shown. This is still in effect even if the minimum requirements for the higher level are not met. For example, a Pony/Rider (showing at Training, First, and Second Levels during the year) failing to meet the eligibility requirements for Second Level, is still only eligible for First Level awards.
- The awards year will run from October 1st through September 30th of the following year. As the GDCTA membership runs from December 1st through November 30th of the following year, members are encouraged to join/rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.
- There will be an award for the top pony/rider in Open, AA, JR/YR and Musical Freestyle divisions.
- Awards are based on percentage scores and not placings. Scores will be weighted as shown below.
- No changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15 of the current competition year.

- Awards will be presented at the GDCTA Awards Gala.
- Qualification Requirements: You can earn all of your scores at ONE show and in front of the same judge.
  - For Introductory – Fourth Levels, Freestyle Open:
    - 3 scores greater than 55% earned at USDF/USEF shows, 2 of the scores must be from the highest test of the level and above 55%. An average of the top three scores will be used to determine the final qualification score.
  - For FEI (PSG, I-1, I-2, Grand Prix):
    - 3 scores greater than 53%. An average of the top three scores will be used to determine the final qualification score.

Scores weighted based on National Dressage Pony Cup scale:

- Training Level: 2 points added to final averaged score.
- First Level: 4 points added to final averaged score.
- Second Level: 6 points added to final averaged score.
- Third Level: 8 points added to final averaged score.
- Fourth Level: 10 points added to final averaged score.
- FEI (PSG, I-1, 1-2 and GP): 12 points added to final averaged score.

Collegiate Best Score Award

Under this program, year-end awards are presented to the best scoring collegiate rider in dressage and combined training at GDCTA sanctioned schooling shows.

Rider Eligibility

GDCTA members who are full- or part-time college students at two- or four-year accredited institutions at the time of the competition in which the score is earned are eligible to receive the award.

For scores from competitions taking place during the summer months to count, riders must have been an enrolled college student in the preceding spring semester or be an enrolled college student in the immediately following fall semester.

How to Submit Scores

- Check the “collegiate” box on your GDCTA membership application
- If you have already joined GDCTA and you did not check the collegiate box, email collegiate chair Amanda Garner at the email address below and ask to be enrolled in the program.

If you have any questions or would like to enroll in the collegiate best score award program, please send an email to: Amanda Garner GDCTAcollegiateprogram@gmail.com

Peri Lambros Memorial FEI High Point Award

Awarded in each show. Atlanta Fall National Dressage will be awarded for Saturday's Classes only. High Point ribbon plus name plate on perpetual trophy.

Vintage Adult High Point Award (50+) *Sponsored by the Harbin Agency*

High Point ribbon and award each show to one Adult Amateur rider and one Open rider aged 50 or over as of the show date. *Materiale, Opportunity, MFS, and DSE classes not eligible.* The awards will be presented at: Greater Atlanta Dressage Southern I & II (2 shows); Labor Day Classic I & II (2 shows)

The Harbin Agency High Point Award

High Point ribbon awarded for AA, Jr/Yr, and Open for Training Level through Fourth Level. One award for FEI levels, inclusive. Awarded in Saturday's Classes.

B. Summer Finals Championships Awards

Awarded at the Summer Finals Schooling Show competition.

Rider Eligibility

- Rider must have a current GDCTA membership and be a member in good standing of GDCTA when the scores are earned and at the Summer Finals Schooling Show.
- AA Rider must be an adult amateur in accordance with Article GR1306 of the USEF Rules when the scores are earned.
- No membership required for the owner of the horse.

1. Adult Amateur Medal Summary

The Adult Amateur Medal Program is designed to specifically recognize and encourage adult amateurs riding at Training Level.

The Adult Amateur Medal will be awarded to the highest scoring adult amateur who meets the eligibility requirements and has obtained a score of at least 60 percent in the designated class, Training Level, Test 3.

Winners of the Adult Amateur Medal will receive a medal with neck ribbon for each of the Adult Amateur Medal classes they win during the competition year at the show.

Adult Amateur Medal Final Champion and Reserve Champion

- All AA Medal Award winners are eligible to show in the GDCTA Summer Finals Schooling Show in August at Wills Park, Alpharetta, Georgia.
- The Adult Amateur Medal Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded to the riders with the highest and second highest score at the GDCTA Summer Finals in the Adult Amateur Medal championship class.

- The Adult Amateur Medal Final Champion will receive a trophy, saddle pad, and a ribbon.
- The Adult Amateur Medal Final Reserve Champion will receive a trophy and a ribbon.

Eligibility for Adult Amateur Medal Program

- Rider must be a current GDCTA member at the time the medal is awarded.
- No membership required for the owner of the horse.

2. Youth Program Dressage Seat Equitation Medal Summary

Dressage Seat Equitation Medal is a group Dressage Seat Equitation Class, broken into two age divisions, ages 13 & under and 14-18. The championship classes will be held at the GDCTA Summer Finals Schooling Show.

This Division is modeled after Regionals Semi-Finals and National Finals. Our purpose is to educate local schooling show hosts on how to offer and successfully run these classes thereby increasing awareness for the Regionals Semi-Finals and National Finals youth opportunities.

Requirements

- Earn 2 Qualifying Scores in the Dressage Seat Medal Classes at a GDCTA-recognized Schooling Shows - Minimum Score 70% - before the Summer Finals GDCTA Schooling Show.
- Qualify with 2 scores of 64% or higher in Intro C, 63% or higher in Training Level, 62% or higher in First Level, 61% or higher in Second level - before the Summer Finals GDCTA Schooling Show.
- Must be a GDCTA member when score is earned and also at the time of the Summer Finals GDCTA Schooling Show.

C. Year-End Awards

1. Recognized Awards

Each Awards year runs from October 1 – September 30th of the following year.

You must be a GDCTA member ***before*** any scores can count! Members must opt-in to the "Recognized" awards program on the membership form or email Awards Chair Caren Caverly ccaverly@comcast.net before scores are earned, participation is not automatic.

A. USDF/USEF Recognized Dressage

1. All awards will be based on a horse/rider combination meeting these eligibility requirements.
    a. To be eligible a Horse/Rider Combination must receive at least seven USEF scores, two from the highest of the level from two different judges at two different shows.

Each score must be at least 55%. To be eligible, a FEI Horse/Rider Combination must receive at least five FEI scores. Each of these scores must be at least 55%.

b. For GDCTA members who are USDF Participating Members competing at Training Level and above, scores no longer must be submitted to GDCTA to count but will be based on the official show and score results posted at USDF.org. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program **AT THE TIME SCORES ARE EARNED.** You must register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chairperson.

c. A list of members participating in the awards program will be on the website at the end of the show season. It is the **competitor's responsibility** to check to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Recognized Awards Chairperson if it is not.

d. A Horse/Rider combination showing at more than two levels during the competition year will only be eligible for awards at the two highest levels shown. This is still in effect even if the minimum requirements as listed in section 5 below are not met at the highest level shown. For example, a Horse/Rider Combination (showing at Training, First, and Second Level during the year], who fail to meet the eligibility requirements for Second Level, is still only eligible for First Level awards.

e. At the beginning of the Awards year Adult Amateur riders must choose to ride either Open or Adult Amateur. To be eligible for an Adult Amateur award you must qualify for the Amateur status under the US Equestrian Federation. Simultaneous competition in both divisions is not allowed.

f. A Horse/Rider Combination that has won a year-end Championship for a particular level will no longer be eligible for awards at that level or any lower level. The exceptions to this rule are Grand Prix, Junior FEI and Young Rider FEI levels. A Horse/Rider combination that has WON a year-end Championship award in the Freestyle/Pas De Deux division or the Young Horse Division may compete in those divisions again but at a higher level.

g. Once a Horse/Rider Combination has qualified for a Recognized Show Award, the Horse/Rider combination cannot qualify for a schooling show award at that level or any level below.

h. Restricted classes which are not open to all competitors, such as breed, pony, and championship, are not eligible to count toward year-end awards.

i. The awards year will run from October 1st through September 30th of the following year. Since the GDCTA membership year runs from December 1st through November 30th, members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.

2. Awards will be presented in the following categories: Open, Adult Amateur, and Junior/Young Rider.
3. Awards will be offered at USEF Training through Fourth Levels, Prix St. Georges, Intermediate I, Intermediate II, Grand Prix, FEI Junior, FEI Young Rider, FEI Children and Young Horse Division (see A below]. As well as awards for Musical Freestyles in one "open" category at each level.

    A. Young Horse Division Award for 4-5-6 year olds: To be eligible a Horse/Rider Combination must have at least three scores; for 5 and 6 year-olds two must be from the "Final" test of the level from two different judges at two different shows. A minimum score of 6.0 or higher is needed to qualify.

Scores do not have to come from a Markel/USEF Designated Qualifying Competition; however, all scores must be from a test judged by an S-judge.

B. Calculations for Freestyle/Pas de Deux (both FEI and the new USDF/USEF) awards are different from all other awards: only 3 scores of 63% or above are needed to qualify. The 3 best scores earned will be averaged to arrive at the percentage used to determine winners in each class.

4. Scores from all USEF and USDF Recognized dressage events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program regardless of region. The only exception to this is that scores from Regional Championship classes and National Championship classes will NOT be counted as these are "restricted" classes. (See 1. h.)
5. Dressage Awards are based on percentage scores and not placing in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the top qualifying scores depending on level.

Category	Qualification Requirements	Award Calculation
Non-FEI Training – Fourth Level	7 scores > 55% earned at USEF show; 2 of the scores must be from the highest test of the level and earned at 2 different shows from 2 different judges	Average of top 5 scores
FEI PSG, I1, I2, Grand Prix	5 scores > 55% earned at USEF shows	Average of top 3 scores
Freestyle & Pas de Deux	3 scores > 63% earned at USEF shows	Average pf top 3 scores
Young Horse Division	3 scores > 6.0 2 of the 3 scores must be from the final test of the level from 2 different judges at 2 different shows	Average of top 3 scores

6. No changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15th of the current competition year.

7. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.

B. USEA/USEF Recognized Eventing

1. All awards will be based on a Horse/Rider combination meeting these eligibility requirements.
    a. To be eligible, a Horse/Rider Combination must complete at least three USEA Endorsed/Recognized competitions. ONE dressage score must be 43 or fewer penalty points. (Preliminary level and above need one dressage score of 45 or better) Through Training Level, TWO must have a Clear XC (no jump penalties). Preliminary and above must have ONE clear XC (no jump penalties). Horse and Rider must complete the event. No scores will be awarded if they were eliminated, retired, or withdrew.

b. Scores will be based on the official show and score results posted at useventing.com. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program AT THE TIME SCORES ARE EARNED. You may register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chair. Riders must have been a member at the time scores were earned.
c. A list of members participating in the awards program will be on the website at the end of the show season. It is the **competitor's responsibility** to check to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Recognized Awards Chairperson if it is not.
d. A Horse/Rider combination showing at more than two levels during a competition year will only be eligible for awards at the two highest levels shown. This is still in effect even if the minimum requirements as listed above are not met at the highest level shown. For example, a Horse/Rider combination showing at Novice, Training, and Modified who fail to meet the eligibility requirements for Modified are still only eligible for Training Level awards.
e. At the beginning of the Awards year Adult Amateur riders must choose to compete for either Open or Adult Amateur. To be eligible for an Adult Amateur award you must qualify for the Amateur status under the US Equestrian Federation. You are not required to hold an Adult Amateur card. Junior riders compete under Junior classification.
f. A Horse/Rider Combination that has WON a year-end Championship in a Junior or Adult Amateur division will no longer be able to submit scores for that division. You may submit scores in the OPEN Division in ANY future year. Once a Horse/Rider combination has WON an Open Recognized award, they are no longer eligible for an award at that level, or lower.
g. Once a Horse/Rider Combination has qualified for a Recognized Show Award, the Horse/Rider combination cannot qualify for a schooling show award at that level or any level below.
h. The awards year will run from October 1st through September 30th of the following year. Shows starting on September 30th will count towards the current year's awards. Since the GDCTA membership year runs from December 1st through November 30th, members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.

2. Awards will be offered at Starter, BN, N, T, M, P, and I/A (Intermediate and/or Advanced). Starter, BN, N, and T will be split into Adult Amateur, Junior Rider, and Open Divisions. M and P will be split into Open and Junior Rider divisions. I/A will have only one Open Division.
3. Scores from all USEA Recognized events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program regardless of Area.
4. Eventing awards are based on penalty points and not the placing in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the 3 lowest total penalty points. All scores earned at a *star competition will be counted as two scores at two separate competitions. Area Championships will count as 1 score at 1 event and American Eventing Championship scores will count as 2 scores at 2 events.
5. **No changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15th of the current competition year.**

6. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.

C. GDCTA Recognized Horse of the Year

Recognized Eventing:

1. **HORSE**: Horse must be registered with USEA and GDCTA and competing at Recognized Horse Trials.
2. **RIDER:** Must be registered with USEA and GDCTA and competing at Recognized Horse Trials.
3. **COMPETITION YEAR:** October 1 to September 30.
4. **STANDINGS DEADLINE:** Final corrections to year-end standings close by 5:00 PM EST on October 31st.
5. **AUTOMATIC TRACKING:** Scores are compiled automatically, but owners and horses must hold the correct active registrations and memberships when scores are earned.
6. **POINTS:** Awarded based on the current competition year (Oct 1 – Sept 30). **Only the top 6 scores** for each horse/rider from one level count towards the final standings.

Minimum Eligibility Requirement

- Dressage (National & FEI) - $\leq$ 45 penalty points
- Cross Country – No jumping penalties; $\leq$ 30 time penalties

Tracking and Understanding Your Points

- Ensure that you have a current GDCTA membership
- Review your event performance
    i. MER Compliance: Verify that your ride meets the Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER)
    ii. Placing: Note your placing at the event.
- Track your Top 6 Scores
    i. Identify the best 6 scores at one level for the division range in question. Only these scores will count toward your leaderboard standing.
- Assess Division Eligibility
    i. Has your horse competed more than twice at a level outside of the award range. If so then points will count up to the date of over qualification.
- Tie Breaking
    i. Ties broken by averaging top six final scores (not point values). If still tied, the tie stands.

Award Designations

- "Lower-Level Horse of the Year" – Starter thru Training Level
- "Upper-Level Horse of the Year" – Modified thru Advanced
- Once a horse/rider combination has qualified at an Upper Level, they are no longer eligible for the Lower-Level award that year.

Point System Overview

Place	Start – Train	BN/N/T 3D	Mod – Adv	1* - 4*	AEC
1st	7	8	8	14	12
2nd	6	7	7	12	10
3rd	5	6	6	10	8
4th	4	5	5	8	6
5th	3	4	4	6	6
6th	2	3	3	5	5
7th	2	2	2	4	4
8th	2	2	2	3	3
9th	1	2	2	2	2
10th	1	2	1	1	1

Recognized Dressage:

1. **HORSE:** Must be registered with USDF/USEF and GDCTA and compete at Recognized Dressage Shows.
2. **RIDER:** Must be registered with USDF/USEF and GDCTA and compete at Recognized Dressage Shows.
3. **COMPETITION YEAR:** October 1 to September 30.

4. **STANDINGS DEADLINE:** Final corrections to year-end standings close by 5:00 PM EST on October 31st.
5. **AUTOMATIC TRACKING:** Scores are compiled automatically, but owners and horses must hold the correct active registrations and memberships when scores are earned.
6. **SCORE:** Awarded based on the current competition year (Oct 1 – Sept 30). Derived from a median score calculation of eligible test scores from one level.
7. **TIES**: Broken by the median score calculation of the two highest scores of the highest tests of the level.

Minimum Eligibility Requirement

LOWER-LEVEL HORSE OF THE YEAR (Training, First, Second, Third, or Fourth Levels)

- Must have a minimum of eight scores at the same level
- From four different judges
- From four different USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions
- Including two at 60% or higher from the highest test of the level
- Median score of 60% or higher to qualify for award

UPPER-LEVEL HORSE OF THE YEAR (Prix St. Georges, Intermediate I, Intermediate II, or Grand Prix)

- Must have a minimum of four scores at the same level
- From four different judges
- From four different USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions
- Median score of 60% or higher to qualify for award
- Once a horse/rider combination has qualified at an Upper Level, they are no longer eligible for the Lower-Level award that year.

2. GDCTA-Recognized Schooling Show Awards

All scores received at any GDCTA-recognized schooling show are eligible for inclusion in our Awards Program. *Eligible scores earned during **GDCTA-hosted** schooling shows will count twice toward GDCTA year-end awards!*

You must be a GDCTA member ***before*** any scores can count! Members must opt-in to the "Schooling Show" awards program on the membership form or email Awards Chair before scores are earned, participation is not automatic.

GDCTA members can earn credit (or credit for their Junior member) toward the Liz Faso Memorial Volunteer of the Year incentive program by volunteering at GDCTA-recognized schooling shows that have opted into the program.

A. Dressage

1. All awards will be based on a horse/rider combination meeting these eligibility requirements.
   a. To be eligible a Horse/Rider Combination must have at least seven scores, two from the highest test of the level from two different judges at two different shows. Each score must be at least 55%.
   b. Scores will be based on the official show results posted by each show. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program **AT THE TIME THE SCORES ARE EARNED.** You may register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chairperson.
   c. A list of members participating in the awards program will be kept on the website. It is the **competitor's responsibility** to check frequently to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Schooling Awards Chairperson if it is not.
   d. A Horse/Rider combination showing at more than two levels during the competition year will only be eligible for awards at the two highest levels shown. If the minimum requirements as listed in 1(A) above are not met at the highest level, eligibility for the lowest level is still lost. For example, a Horse/Rider Combination competing at Introductory, Training, and First Level failing to meet eligibility requirements for First Level is still only eligible for Training Level awards.
   e. A Horse/Rider Combination qualifying at any given level in the USDF Recognized Show Program is not eligible for that level or lower for the GDCTA Schooling Show Awards Program. However, you may ride and qualify at a higher level in the schooling awards program. For instance, if you have seven scores for GDCTA Dressage Schooling Show Awards at First Level and have seven scores for the Training Level USDF Recognized Show Awards Program, you are eligible for both awards.
   f. A Horse/Rider Combination that has WON a Year-End Championship for a particular level will no longer be eligible for awards at that level or below. A Horse/Rider combination that has WON a year-end Championship award in the Freestyle/Pas De Deux division may compete in that division again but at a higher level.
2. Awards will be presented in the following categories: Professional, Adult and Junior/YR. A professional is defined as anyone who engages in the activities described in USEF rule GR1306.
3. Awards will be offered at USDF Introductory Level, USEF Training through Second Levels only. Freestyle/Pas De Deux awards will be offered as "test of Choice" (i.e., riders can show training (pdd only), first or second level but will all compete for one award) in Senior and Junior categories.
4. Scores from all GDCTA Recognized events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program. Please note that a horse/rider combination riding more than once in any class during any given show may only count the score of the first ride to count toward GDCTA year-end awards. All subsequent rides are not eligible for counting by GDCTA. Please note that only

the first ride may be counted by GDCTA for year-end awards even if it has a higher score than subsequent rides in the same class at the same show.

5. **Restricted classes which are not open to all competitors, such as breed, pony, and championship, are not eligible to count toward year-end awards.**
6. Dressage awards are based on percentage scores and not placings in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the top 5 scores.
7. The awards year will run from October 1st of the previous year to September 30th of the current competition year. Since the GDCTA membership year runs December 1st through November 30th, members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.
8. No Changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15 of the current competition year.
9. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.

B. Combined Training (Eventing)

1. All awards will be based on a horse/rider combination meeting these eligibility requirements.
    a. To be eligible, a Horse/Rider Combination must have at least three scores from GDCTA Recognized shows. ONE dressage score must be 45 or fewer penalty points. TWO clear jumping rounds must be submitted. These jump rounds can be in either XC or stadium, or both. You can earn BOTH clear rounds at one three-phase with no XC or Stadium jump penalties. Horse and Rider must complete with a score NOT a letter.
    b. Scores will be based on the official show results posted by each show. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program **AT THE TIME THE SCORES ARE EARNED.** You may register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chairperson.
    c. A list of members participating in the awards program will be kept on the website. It is the **competitor's responsibility** to check frequently to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Schooling Awards Chairperson if it is not.
    d. A Horse/Rider combination showing at more than two levels during the competition year will only be eligible for awards at the two highest levels shown. If the minimum requirements as listed in 1(A) above are not met at the highest level, eligibility for the lowest level is still lost. For example, a Horse/Rider Combination competing at Starter, Beginner Novice, and Novice failing to meet eligibility requirements for Novice is still only eligible for Beginner Novice awards.
    e. A Horse/Rider Combination qualifying at any given level in the USEA-recognized Program is not eligible for the GDCTA Schooling Show Awards Program at that level or below. Riding in USDF Recognized dressage and GDCTA-Recognized Schooling Show Eventing IS permitted, as IS riding in USEA Recognized Eventing and GDCTA-Recognized Schooling Show

dressage. If riding USEA-recognized Eventing and GDCTA- Recognized Schooling Eventing, the Schooling Eventing MUST be at a higher level than the USEA-recognized Eventing level.

f. A Horse/Rider Combination that has WON a Year-End Championship for a particular level will no longer be eligible for awards at that level or below.

2. Awards will be presented in the following categories: Professional, Adult and Junior. A professional is defined as anyone who engages in the activities described in USEF rule GR1306.
3. Awards will be offered at **Amoeba, Starter, Beginner Novice, Novice, and Training.**
4. Scores from all GDCTA-Recognized events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program. If a Horse/Rider Combination competes more than once in any class (CT and/or 3 Phase) during any given show, only the best score will count.
5. **Restricted classes which are not open to all competitors, such as breed, pony, and championship, are not eligible to count toward year-end awards.**
6. Eventing/CT awards are based on total penalty points and not the placing in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the 3 lowest total penalty points.
7. The awards year will run from October 1st of the previous year to September 30th of the current competition year. Since the GDCTA membership year runs December 1st through November 30th, members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.
8. **No Changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15th of the current competition year.**
9. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.

3. Youth Program

C. Rider Awards (Schooling Shows Only) - Dressage

1. All awards will be **based on a Rider only** meeting these eligibility requirements that does not own or lease a horse or pony.
    a. To be eligible a Rider must have at least seven scores, two from the highest test of the level from two different judges at two different shows. Each score must be at least 55%.
    b. Scores will be based on the official show results posted by each show. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program **AT THE TIME THE SCORES ARE EARNED.** You may register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chairperson.
    c. A list of members participating in the awards program will be kept on the website. It is the **competitor's responsibility** to check frequently to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Schooling Awards Chairperson if it is not.

   d. A Rider qualifying at any given level in the USDF Recognized Show Program is not eligible.
   e. A Rider that has WON a Year-End Championship for a particular level will no longer be eligible for awards at that level or below.
2. Awards will be presented to Juniors only.
3. Awards will be offered at USDF Introductory Level and USEF Training only.
4. Scores from all GDCTA Recognized events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program. Please note that a Rider riding more than once in any class during any given show may only count the score of the first ride to count toward GDCTA year-end awards. All subsequent rides are not eligible for counting by GDCTA. Please note that only the first ride may be counted by GDCTA for year-end awards even if it has a higher score than subsequent rides in the same class at the same show.
5. **Restricted classes which are not open to all competitors, such as breed, pony and championship are not eligible to count toward year-end awards.**
6. Dressage awards are based on percentage scores and not placings in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the top 5 scores.
7. The awards year will run from October 1st of the previous year to September 30th of the current competition year. Since the GDCTA membership year runs December 1st through November 30th, members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.
8. No changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15th of the current competition year.
9. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.

D. Rider Awards (Schooling Shows Only) – Combined Training/Eventing

1. All awards will be based on a Rider only meeting these eligibility requirements that does not own or lease a horse or pony.
   a. To be eligible a Rider must have at least three scores from GDCTA Recognized shows. ONE dressage score must be 45 or fewer penalty points. TWO clear jumping rounds must be submitted. These jump rounds can be in either XC or stadium, or both. You can earn BOTH clear rounds at one three-phase with no XC or Stadium jump penalties. Rider must complete with a score NOT a letter.
   b. Scores will be based on the official show results posted by each show. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program **AT THE TIME THE SCORES ARE EARNED.** You may register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chairperson.
   c. A list of members participating in the awards program will be kept on the website. It is the **competitor's responsibility** to check frequently to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Schooling Awards Chairperson if it is not.

   d. A Rider qualifying at any given level in the USEA Recognized Program is not eligible.
   e. A Rider that has WON a Year-End Championship for a particular level will no longer be eligible for awards at that level or below.
2. Awards will be presented to Juniors only.
3. Awards will be offered at Amoeba and Starter only.
4. Scores from all GDCTA Recognized events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program. If a Rider competes more than once in any class (CT and/or 3-Phase) during any given show, only the best score will count.
5. **Restricted classes which are not open to all competitors, such as breed, pony, and championship, are not eligible to count toward year-end awards.**
6. Eventing/CT awards are based on total penalty points and not the placing in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the 3 lowest total penalty points.
7. The awards year will run from October 1st of the previous year to September 30th of the current competition year. Since the GDCTA membership year runs December 1st through November 30th, members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.
8. **No Changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15th of the current competition year.**
9. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.

E. Rider Awards (Schooling Shows Only) – Special Needs – Dressage

1. All awards will be based on a horse/rider combination meeting these eligibility requirements.
   a. To be eligible a Horse/Rider Combination must have at least seven scores, from two different judges at two different shows. 50% Base Score required.
   b. Scores will be based on the official show results posted by each show. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program AT THE TIME THE SCORES ARE EARNED. You may register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chairperson.
   c. A list of members participating in the awards program will be kept on the website. It is the competitor's responsibility to check frequently to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Schooling Awards Chairperson if it is not.
   d. A Horse/Rider combination showing at more than two levels during the competition year will only be eligible for awards at the two highest levels shown. If the minimum requirements as listed in 1(A) above are not met at the highest level, eligibility for the lowest level is still lost. For example, a Horse/Rider Combination competing at Introductory, Training, and First

Level failing to meet eligibility requirements for First Level is still only eligible for Training Level awards.

e. A Horse/Rider Combination qualifying at any given level in the USDF Recognized Show Program is not eligible for that level or lower for the GDCTA Schooling Show Awards Program. However, you may ride and qualify at a higher level in the schooling awards program. For instance, if you have seven scores for GDCTA Dressage Schooling Show Awards at First Level and have seven scores for the Training Level USDF Recognized Show Awards Program, you are eligible for both awards.

f. A Horse/Rider Combination that has WON a Year-End Championship for a particular level WILL be eligible for each year Awards for that level or below.

2. Alternative Equipment may be used (depending on rider needs) including bitless bridles, special saddles, etc.
3. Awards will be presented in the following category: SPECIAL NEEDS.
4. Awards will be offered at USDF Introductory Level and USEF Training Levels only.
5. Scores from all GDCTA Recognized events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program. Please note that a horse/rider combination riding more than once in any class during any given show may only count the score of the first ride to count toward GDCTA year-end awards. All subsequent rides are not eligible for counting by GDCTA. Please note that only the first ride may be counted by GDCTA for year-end awards even if it has a higher score than subsequent rides in the same class at the same show.
6. Restricted classes which are not open to all competitors, such as breed, pony and championship, are not eligible to count toward year-end awards.
7. Dressage awards are based on percentage scores and not placings in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the top 5 scores.
8. The awards year will run from October 1st of the previous year to September 30th of the current competition year. Since the GDCTA membership year runs December 1st through November 30th, members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.
9. No Changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15th of the current competition year.
10. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.
11. Coaches are allowed to Coach from the sidelines as special needs riders are not fully capable of reacting in situations during riding tests for safety reasons only.

F. Rider Awards (Schooling Shows Only) – Special Needs – Combined Training/Eventing

1. All awards will be based on a horse/rider combination meeting these eligibility requirements.
   a. To be eligible a Horse/Rider Combination must have at least three scores from GDCTA Recognized shows. NO Base score needed. TWO clear jumping rounds must be submitted. These jump rounds can be in either XC or stadium, or both. You can earn BOTH clear rounds at one three phase with no XC or Stadium jump

penalties. Horse and Rider must complete with a score NOT a letter. Per the Show Office, jumps may be set at a different height with no penalty.

b. Scores will be based on the official show results posted by each show. However, you must be a GDCTA member and have indicated that you wish to participate in the awards program AT THE TIME THE SCORES ARE EARNED. You may register your intent to participate by checking the appropriate box on the membership form when you join or by contacting the Membership Chairperson.
c. A list of members participating in the awards program will be kept on the website. It is the competitor's responsibility to check frequently to make sure that their name is on the list and to contact the Schooling Awards Chairperson if it is not.
d. A Horse/Rider combination showing at more than two levels during the competition year will only be eligible for awards at the two highest levels shown. If the minimum requirements as listed in 1(A) above are not met at the highest level, eligibility for the lowest level is still lost. For example, a Horse/Rider Combination competing at Starter, Beginner Novice and Novice failing to meet eligibility requirements for Novice is still only eligible for Beginner Novice awards.
e. A Horse/Rider Combination qualifying at any given level in the USEA Recognized Program is not eligible for the GDCTA Schooling Show Awards Program at that level or below. Riding in USDF Recognized dressage and GDCTA Recognized Schooling Eventing IS permitted, as IS riding in USEA Recognized Eventing and GDCTA Recognized Schooling dressage. If riding USEA recognized Eventing and GDCTA Recognized Schooling Eventing, the Schooling Eventing MUST be at a higher level than the USEA Recognized Eventing level.
f. A Horse/Rider Combination that has WON a Year-End Championship for a particular level WILL be eligible for awards at that level or below.

2. Alternative Equipment may be used (depending on rider needs) including bitless bridles, special saddles, etc.
3. Awards will be presented in the following categories: Special Needs
4. Awards will be offered at Amoeba, Starter.
5. Scores from all GDCTA Recognized events conducted in the continental United States will be eligible for inclusion in this Awards program. If a Horse/Rider Combination competes more than once in any class (CT and/or 3 Phase) during any given show, only the best score will count.
6. Restricted classes which are not open to all competitors, such as breed, pony and championship, are not eligible to count toward year-end awards.
7. Eventing awards are based on total penalty points and not placing in a class. Award results will be tabulated by taking the average of the 3 lowest total penalty points.
8. The awards year will run from October 1st of the previous year to September 30th of the current competition year. Since the GDCTA membership year runs December 1st through November 30th, members are encouraged to rejoin early to avoid problems with eligibility.

9. No Changes to the awards standings can be made after November 15th of the current competition year.
10. The GDCTA Board of Directors reserves the right to divide or combine divisions or categories as it sees fit during the competition year.
11. Coaches are allowed to Coach from the sidelines as special needs riders are not fully capable of reacting in situations during riding tests and jumping for safety reasons only.

12 and Under Excellence Award

In reference to world stage in equestrian sport, especially in the year of the Olympics, the comparison is always made between the US and European nations, noting that the US is lagging. The difference is kids start much earlier there in their riding endeavors and excel earlier. To highlight the importance of this matter, we have created a Best Score Excellence Award for 12 and Under. This award recognizes both Eventing *(Starter through Intermediate)* and Dressage *(Training through Grand Prix)* and in both Schooling and Recognized. Age is determined by following USEF age rules - Individuals are eligible for "12 and under" until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 12.

This award is not awarded to overall combined score but rather one single score – highest or lowest depending on dressage or combined training/eventing. Musical Freestyle and Dressage Seat Equitation scores do not count.

Winners of this award receive their trophies at the annual Awards Gala.

Letterman Jacket Programs

Purpose

To award the student enrolled in school that is an equestrian athlete for their perseverance in their riding endeavors, this program wishes to acknowledge these youth riders' hard work and achievement throughout the levels.

Qualifications:

- Applicant must be a current GDCTA Member in good standing in the year which scores are earned.
- Applicant is a Youth Rider **age of 22 or under** as of December 31, the year scores are earned.
- Applicant is concurrently enrolled in school/college with a **minimum of B or 3.0 average.** Proof of enrollment in school and student achievement is required (i.e., report cards).
- Applicant must volunteer at least 8 hours with GDCTA or any non-profit, horse show, etc. Note that hours volunteered at GDCTA-hosted events will count for double hours. Applicant must submit a signed **Volunteer Credit Form.**

  Letterman applications are on the website and are due November 1, and **YES** you must APPLY.

Scores will be collected through the GDCTA show season which runs from October 1 through September 30 each year. *Scores may be earned in the year **ALL** requirements were met. This is a lifetime achievement award.*

There are two programs and an applicant can apply for both with qualifying scores.

A. Recognized Program

Scores from USEF/USDF/USEA shows

Categories

a. **Recognized DRESSAGE**: Introductory through Grand Prix
b. **Recognized EVENTING:** Starter through Advanced

DRESSAGE requirements:

c. **Four** qualifying scores achieved *at **two*** or more USEF/USDF **Recognized** Dressage Shows, **AND**
d. **Dressage Seat Equitation** (for riders third level or above, Equitation requirement is waived).

Qualifying Scores:

- Introductory Level: minimum score 66%
- Training Level: minimum score 65 %
- First Level: minimum score 64%
- Second Level/FEI Children: minimum score 63%
- Third/FEI Junior: minimum score 62%
- Fourth/FEI Young Rider: minimum score 61%
- Above 4th Level: minimum score 60%

EVENTING Requirements:

e. **Two scores** achieved from two USEA Recognized Horse Trials
f. Completed Event with **no** Eliminations, Retirements, MRs, etc.
g. Finished scores are with **Zero Cross-Country Jump Faults** (Time Faults or Stadium Rails allowed)

Qualifying Scores:

- Starter: Maximum score 35
- Beginner Novice: maximum score 35
- Novice: maximum score 36
- Training: maximum score 42
- Modified: maximum score 44
- Preliminary/CCI1* through CCI4**: maximum score 47

B. Schooling Show Program

Scores from GDCTA-recognized schooling shows

Categories

a. Schooling Show Dressage: Introductory Level through Second Level
b. Schooling Show Combined Training: Amoeba through Training
c. Schooling Show Eventing: Amoeba through Training

DRESSAGE Requirements:

- **Four** Scores achieved at any **two** GDCTA-recognized schooling shows from two **different** judges.

Qualifying Scores:

- Introductory Level: Minimum scores of 65%
- Training Level: Minimum scores of 65%
- First Level: Minimum scores of 64%
- Second Level: Minimum scores of 63%

CT/EVENTING Requirements:

- **Two** Scores achieved at any **two** GDCTA-recognized schooling shows.

Qualifying Scores:

- Completed event with no Eliminations, Retirements, MRs, etc.
- Amoeba: Maximum score 34
- Starter: Maximum score 34
- Beginner Novice: Maximum score 35
- Novice: Maximum score 36
- Training: Maximum score 42

Chapter 3. Organization

A. Related Committees

Awards Committee	The Awards Committee oversees and is responsible for: • Schooling Show Awards • Recognized Show Awards • Special Awards • Sport Horse Awards • Awards Gala • Scholarships/Grants
Communication Committee	The Communication Committee oversees and is responsible for: • *Collected Remarks* newsletter • GDCTA.org website • Emails to membership • Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Youtube) • Membership
Competitions Committee	The Competitions Committee plans and oversees: • Open shows organized and hosted by GDCTA • Schooling Shows organized and hosted by GDCTA • The USDF Regional Championship shows when hosted by GDCTA
Youth Programs Committee	The Youth Programs Committee is responsible for: • Managing the collegiate program • Managing the Letterman Jacket program • Managing the Junior and Young Rider events • Managing outreach to other organizations of youth programs such as 4-H and Pony club

B. Committee Chairs

Awards Committee

The Awards Committee develops GDCTA Awards and award criteria for approval by the Board of Directors. The Committee has overall responsibility for Competitor Awards, Special Awards, and the Awards Banquet. Full descriptions of awards, associated requirements, and eligibility criteria are posted on the GDCTA website.

The Awards Committee solicits volunteers to act as award coordinators for GDCTA Schooling Shows and GDCTA Licensed Shows. Volunteers compile horse and rider scores and determine eligibility for horse/rider awards. Through the GDCTA Office, the scores are posted on the GDCTA website and then notifies members to check posting for accuracy.

For purposes of annual awards, the awards/show year shall be defined as October 1 to September 30.

Year-end Competitor Awards

Awards are given to competitors in places 1-10 in all (USEF or GDCTA) recognized competition categories and at all dressage and eventing/combined training levels **listed in the Rules**.

Special Awards

The Awards Committee appoints the Chair of the Special Awards Sub-Committee to manage the Special Awards Program. The Chair of Special Awards may select committees to assist with the award selections. Special Awards may be granted to a GDCTA member for exemplary achievement, such as winning a national championship in dressage or eventing, earning a spot on a USEF international team in dressage or eventing, or breeding a horse that earns a spot on a USEF international team in dressage or eventing.

Awards Gala Committee

The Awards Committee selects the Chair of the Annual Awards Gala and Silent Auction Sub-committees and provides overall guidance and assistance for the Awards Banquet.

The Gala Subcommittee selects the date, location, and menu for the Gala in consultation with the President.

The Silent Auction subcommittee solicits donations for the silent auction, ensures donations are delivered to the Gala site, manages the auction online and in person.

The Barn Basket Raffle subcommittee solicits up to 12 basket donations for the Raffle, ensures the Baskets are delivered to the Gala site, manages the Raffle online and in person.

The Chair ensures that Tax Deductible receipt forms are provided to the donors as required. The Gala and Silent Auction/Barn Basket Raffle are considered to be a single event for the purposes of planning and finances. Proceeds from the Auction and Raffle may help offset costs of the banquet.

Awards Gala Chair

The Awards Banquet Chair has the following responsibilities:

Organization

- Organizes and acts as executive director of GDCTA Awards Banquet
- Recruits key volunteers and assigns roles
- Develops banquet program, including determining banquet menu, cost of tickets, etc.
- Determines how reservations are to be made (via form, e-mail, web, and/or phone) and how tickets are to be distributed
- Organizes logistics for banquet set-up, including decorating tables, etc. (Note: The banquet facility should be able to provide assistance.)
- Manages table decorations and obtains table goodies

Financial

- Obtains quotes and contracts with facility after GDCTA Board approval
- Determines ticket prices and makes recommendations to GDCTA Board for approval
- Prepares budget for submission to the Board for its approval

- Collects funds and transfers to the GDCTA Treasurer
- Ensures all vendors are paid in a timely fashion

Communication and Publicity

- Conducts advertising/marketing campaign
- Acts as liaison between GDCTA and banquet facility and is point of contact for GDCTA members/GDCTA board
- Communicates with GDCTA Office and GDCTA Treasurer for needs and special requirements
- Distributes pertinent information regarding the banquet in a timely manner
- Sends a written thank-you note to the facility management and staff no more than seven (7) days after the banquet
- Provides updates for GDCTA website

Miscellaneous Roles

- Acts as Banquet Host/Hostess
- Delivers opening welcome speech
- Helps oversee Silent Auction and Raffle
- Ensures Banquet is closed out properly at end of night

Awards Gala Silent Auction and Barn Basket Coordinators

The Awards Banquet Silent Auction or Barn Basket Coordinator has the following responsibilities:

- Coordinates acquisition and donation of auction/Raffle items
- Provides description and values for each item
- Works with Awards Banquet Chair and other key Banquet volunteers to ensure a smooth and well-run auction/Raffle
- Sends thank-you notes and tax donation receipts to all donors
- Provides updates for GDCTA website

Chapter 4. Show Information

A. General Information

GDCTA supports two types of shows and competitions

- Schooling shows (non-USEF/USDF/USEA licensed shows) are intended to introduce the rider and horse to various dressage and combined training competition tests and to allow show management to train judges, scribes, test scorers, show secretaries, show managers, gate stewards, stable management, etc. Schooling shows can be recognized by GDCTA to have members' scores count towards year-end GDCTA Schooling Show Awards.
- USEF/USDF/USEA-licensed shows, hosted by GDCTA or others, are top tier competitions with scores and qualifications towards USEF/USDF/USEA horse and rider award programs, championships and awards, as well as year-end GDCTA Recognized Awards.

GDCTA follows the United States Equestrian Federation's ("USEF") Safe Sport Policy and Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies as well as the Ineligibility List.

B. Show Recognition Approval

GDCTA approval ("recognition") is required for GDCTA schooling shows when results are to be included in the GDCTA year-end awards and/or establishing eligibility for year-end awards.

Show approval applications should be made well in advance. Requests for approval must be made on current Show Recognition Application form online and should be submitted at least six (6) weeks prior to the show.

The judges' names should be included on the application whenever possible. The judge must be approved by GDCTA, USDF, USEF or FEI depending on the level of the show. If the judge must be initially listed as TBA (to be announced), show management is required to notify GDCTA at least two (2) weeks prior to the show.

Proof of Liability Insurance with GDCTA named as Additional Insured is required to be provided to GDCTA at least two (2) weeks prior to the show.

Refer to the GDCTA website for the most current detailed information regarding the Show Recognition Application, guidelines, submission deadlines, and fees.

GDCTA will notify the applicant of approval.

C. Post-Show Reporting Requirements

Schooling Shows: A report of award results must be submitted to GDCTA within 14 days of the show's completion.

Chapter 5. Insurance

A. Insurance Procedures

Procedures for Obtaining Certificates of Insurance for GDCTA-Sponsored Events

It is the responsibility of GDCTA-sponsored event managers to determine the type of insurance certificate(s) required for their event and ensure that it (they) is (are) provided to the appropriate Land/Facility Owner(s) prior to a sponsored event.

Sponsored events include Kudzu Klinics, Adult Camp, Symposium, CT clinics, Dressage clinics, Schooling shows, USA Equestrian recognized shows. NOTE: **A GDCTA-recognized schooling show IS NOT a GDCTA-hosted event and our insurance does not apply.**

Type of certificate required varies with each event: Most Land/Facility owners maintain their own insurance and only require proof that GDCTA's liability coverage be in-force during the event **("Proof of Coverage Only**"). Occasionally, Land/Facility owners require that they be named as an additional insured on the GDCTA liability policy for the event **("Add Additional Insured").** The US Equestrian Federation (USEF) and the US Dressage Federation (USDF) require additional Competition Liability and Accident Insurance for their recognized shows.

Our insurance agent provides Proof of Coverage Only certificates at no charge. They charge for each Add Additional Insured. Normal processing time is 3-5 working days and payments should accompany each request.

Procedures

- As early as possible in the event planning process, determine with the Land/Facility owner the type of insurance certificate needed (if any) and their "need no later than" date.
- Complete a Request for Certificate of Insurance and forward to the GDCTA Insurance POC. The GDCTA Insurance POC will forward (mail/fax) requests to Insurer. He/she will forward requests for Add Additional Insured to the GDCTA Treasurer for inclusion of the payment check and forwarding (mail). In an emergency, contact the GDCTA Insurance POC for guidance.
- It is generally "never too early" to request your certificate of insurance. Requests for Proof of Coverage Only should be in the GDCTA Insurance POC's hands not later than 2 weeks prior to the "need no later than" date. Requests for Add Additional Insured should be in the GDCTA Insurance POC's hands not later than 4 weeks prior to the "need no later than" date.
- The GDCTA Insurance POC works directly with the USEF/USDF-recognized show Manager/Secretary and the GDCTA Treasurer to prepare and forward requests for USEF/USDF Competition Liability and Accident Insurance.

B. Certificate of Liability Insurance (Sample Copy)

ACORD®

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY) 3/26/19

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER	CONTACT NAME:
50228/Annaleise Seger Lisa Seger c/o Lisa Seger Insurance AGENT; Lisa Seger 3030 E Palo Verde Dr Phoenix, Az 85016	PHONE (A/C, No, Ext): FAX (A/C, No): E-MAIL ADDRESS:

INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE	NAIC #
INSURER A : MARKEL INSURANCE COMPANY	38970
INSURER B :	
INSURER C :	
INSURER D :	
INSURER E :	
INSURER F :	

INSURED
Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association
c/o Caren Caverly
6370 Spinnaker Lane
Alpharetta, GA 30005

COVERAGES **CERTIFICATE NUMBER:** **REVISION NUMBER:**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS	
X	COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY						EACH OCCURRENCE	$ 1,000,000
	CLAIMS-MADE X OCCUR	X		8502AG295003-12	02-21-2019	02-21-2020	DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence)	$ 100,000
							MED EXP (Any one person)	$ 5,000
							PERSONAL & ADV INJURY	$ 1,000,000
	GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER:						GENERAL AGGREGATE	$ 3,000,000
	POLICY PRO-JECT LOC						PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG	$ 1,000,000
	OTHER:							$
	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY						COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident)	$
	ANY AUTO						BODILY INJURY (Per person)	$
	ALL OWNED AUTOS / SCHEDULED AUTOS						BODILY INJURY (Per accident)	$
	HIRED AUTOS / NON-OWNED AUTOS						PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident)	$
								$
	UMBRELLA LIAB OCCUR						EACH OCCURRENCE	$
	EXCESS LIAB CLAIMS-MADE						AGGREGATE	$
	DED RETENTION $							$
	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY Y / N						PER STATUTE / OTH-ER	
	ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? N / A (Mandatory in NH)						E.L. EACH ACCIDENT	$
	If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below						E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE	$
							E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT	$

Sample

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

Certificate Holder is added as additional insured to the above captioned policy for negligence arising from the named insured's event:
Name of Event : GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE GROUP/UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION REGION 3 DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS LICENSED BY UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION INC. & ATLANTA NATIONAL FALL DRESSAGE
Date of Event: 10/11/2019 - 10/13/2019
Comp# : 3941

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

USEF Equestrian
4047 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, KY 40511

CANCELLATION

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
Lisa Seger

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ACORD 25 (2014/01) 9/13/2020

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36

Chapter 6. Schooling Show Recognition

A. Schooling Show Recognition Summary

GDCTA recognizes non-USEF/USDF/USEA -sanctioned competitions in order for their results to apply toward GDCTA year-end awards.

- Results from USEF, USDF and/or USEA sanctioned (recognized) horse trials, shows, etc. are accepted towards GDCTA year-end awards. There is no requirement for these competitions to request GDCTA recognition (i.e., no application or fee is required for results to count).
- Non-sanctioned Combined Training horse trials, Dressage schooling shows, etc., may request GDCTA recognition prior to the competition. Events meeting the GDCTA standards and for which recognition fees have been paid are classed as "GDCTA-Recognized".

For non-sanctioned competitions to be GDCTA-Recognized the following must be provided by the GDCTA member contact/secretary to the GDCTA Show Recognition POC prior to the event:

1. Completed GDCTA Show Recognition Application online
2. A fee for each show (not per day) is paid
3. The name(s) of the GDCTA-recognized judge(s) scheduled for the event. The event must use GDCTA-recognized judges ("L" graduate or above; past or present judge; see list in USDF calendar of competitions for current judges)
4. Proof of Liability Insurance Coverage for the event ($1,000,000.00 specific limits).
5. The Event Prize list and/or Program with the GDCTA Membership Application included or link to GDCTA Membership page
6. The Event Entry form or link with the GDCTA Hold Harmless Clause included
7. **Optional:** The Liz Faso Memorial Volunteer of the Year volunteer incentive program fee paid

Upon receipt of all or some of above items (minimum is an application and payment), the GDCTA Show Recognition POC returns a GDCTA Show Recognition Checklist to the requestor certifying the event as **GDCTA-Recognized** (all items provided) or **GDCTA-Recognition Pending** (application and payment have been received, but not all items provided). He/she also forwards the basic event information to the GDCTA Newsletter Editor and Webmaster for inclusion in our Calendar of Events.

GDCTA-Recognition Pending events are reclassified as GDCTA-Recognized immediately upon receipt by the GDCTA Show Recognition POC of all "missing" items, provided they are received prior to the event. GDCTA-Recognition Pending events that do not provide all of the "missing" items prior to the event are reclassified Non-recognized.

Events may advertise themselves as GDCTA-Recognized upon receipt of the signed GDCTA Show Recognition Checklist whether classed as GDCTA-Recognized or GDCTA-Recognition Pending. GDCTA understands that it is not always possible to complete all requirements prior to the application and strives to be accommodating and reasonable.

Therefore, the Prize list, Entry form and/or Program may advertise the event as "GDCTA-Recognized" even though the event cannot meet all requirements until after one or more of those items are printed and received by the GDCTA Show Recognition POC.

During the show, the competition manager agrees to: (1) adhere to and enforce GDCTA policies and USEF rules (as reasonable in a schooling show environment); (2) maintain a copy of the GDCTA policies and USDF rules in the show office and have available GDCTA Schooling Horseshow Evaluation forms for participants.

The GDCTA Show Recognition POC does not "approve" show dates, nor ensure that shows on the same date are greater than some distance apart.

The person requesting recognition does need to be a GDCTA member.

The GDCTA reserves the right to send a representative to your show without notice to ensure contractual compliance.

GDCTA Show Recognition POC can be found on the website.

B. Adult Amateur Medal Summary

The Adult Amateur Medal Program is designed to specifically recognize and encourage adult amateurs riding at Training Level.

All GDCTA Schooling competitions are invited to participate. There is no cost to the competition to host the Adult Amateur Medal Program and no additional class to add. Competitions check the Adult Amateur Medal Class box on the Schooling Recognition Application and designate the required Training Level Test Three as the Adult Amateur Medal class in the prize list.

The Adult Medal will be awarded to the highest scoring adult amateur who meets the eligibility requirements and has obtained a score of at least 60 percent in the designated class.

Winners of the Adult Amateur Medal will receive a medal with neck ribbon for each of the Adult Amateur Medal classes they win during the competition year at the respective show. GDCTA will supply the medals to the show hosts.

Adult Amateur Medal Final Champion and Reserve Champion

- All Adult Amateur Medal Award winners are eligible to show in the GDCTA Summer Finals Schooling Show in August at Wills Park, Alpharetta, Georgia.
- The Adult Amateur Medal Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded to the riders with the highest and second highest score at the GDCTA Summer Finals Schooling Show in the Adult Amateur Medal championship class.

- The Adult Amateur Medal Final Champion will receive a Trophy, Saddle Pad, and a Ribbon.
- The Adult Amateur Medal Final Reserve Champion will receive a Trophy and a Ribbon.

Eligibility for Adult Amateur Medal Program

- Rider must be a current GDCTA member at the time the medal is awarded.
- No membership required for the owner of the horse.

Awards

1. Adult Amateur Medal Recipient
   The eligible rider with the highest score of 60 percent or better in the designated Training Level Test Three class Adult Amateur Medal class at a participating competition will receive a medal and neck ribbon.
2. Year-End Awards
   The Adult Amateur Medal Final Champion and Reserve Champion are determined at the GDCTA Summer Finals Schooling Show in August at Wills Park. The champion receives a Trophy, Saddle Pad and Ribbon and the reserve champion receives a Trophy and Ribbon.

Rider Eligibility

1. Rider must be a current GDCTA member in good standing when the scores are earned.
2. Rider must be an adult amateur in accordance with Article GR1306 of the USEF Rules when the scores are earned.

Owner & Horse Eligibility

1. Horse and owner must meet minimum competition eligibility requirements at the time scores are earned.

For additional information and an updated list of competitions offering the Adult Amateur Medal Program, please visit the website calendar.

C. Adult Amateur Medal Class Invitation

Dear Competition Contact:

This is your official invitation to host the Adult Amateur Medal Program at your competition(s). This class is designed for Training Level adult amateurs and is growing in popularity and visibility.

Benefits to Your Competition

- No cost to your competition to participate.

- You do not have to add a class. Simply designate an existing Training Level Test Three class.
- The Adult Amateur Medal class is being sought out by many adult amateurs.
- Limited paperwork: simply return the Official Record of Winner Form to GDCTA.

Requirements of Competition Management

- Check the Medal box on the GDCTA Schooling Show Recognition Application or email admin@gdcta.org**.** Designate and list the Training Level Test Three class the Adult Amateur Medal class in your prize list.
- Award the Medal packet according to the published requirements to the winner at the competition.
- Return your Official Record of Winner Form to GDCTA.

There are great prizes for the Training Level Adult Amateur:

- A Medal.
- Year-end awards: The AA Medal Finals Champion and Reserve Champion are determined at the GDCTA Summer Finals Schooling Show in August at Wills Park. The champion receives a Trophy, Saddle Pad and Ribbon and the reserve champion receives a trophy and ribbon.

If you have chosen to host AA Medal classes, you will receive a packet containing the medal(s) to be presented at your competition. For your convenience, a prize list insert may be found on the GDCTA website under the awards page.

Please contact me if you have any further questions. Thank you for your ongoing support of the adult amateur competitor.

Sincerely,

Caren Caverly, GDCTA President

Join GDCTA to participate in this exciting Awards Program

