



ANNUAL AWARDS POLICY
Equestrian Western Australia Incorporated
ABN: 5359 1481 584

Amended:	Annual Awards Policy
Policy Area:	Member Policies
Date Approved:	20 September 2023
Replaces Policy Dated:	30 August 2021
Review Date:	September 2025

The annual Equestrian Western Australia (EWA) Awards are presented to recognise and reward the achievements of members of the EWA community. The Awards are presented at the EWA Awards Night as an opportunity for members and supporters to gather in celebration of outstanding achievement.

GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATIONS

EWA encourages all committees, clubs, and members to participate by considering *potential* nominations. Factors to consider when completing a nomination include:

- The awards criteria
- The Nominee's achievements or contributions during the nomination period
- The level of the Nominee's achievements (i.e. regional, state, national or international)
- The significance of the Nominee's contributions to the sport
- Nominators/Nominees must be EWA Members except for those being nominating/nominated for the lifetime service to sport award. Club of the Year must also be an EWA affiliate.

SELECTION PANEL

The selection panel will be appointed as outlined in the Honours and Awards Selection Panel Terms of Reference.

The Honours and Awards (H&A) Selection Panel will provide Equestrian WA with consistent and transparent framework for the evaluation of nominations to recognise and promote outstanding achievements of our member's participation and service to the sport of equestrian in Western Australia (WA).

The role of the selection panel is to make recommendations for determination by the Board.

AWARDS PROCESS

Club of the Year | Coach of the Year - Performance | Coach of the Year – Community Club | Event of the Year | Lifetime Services to Sport | Official of the Year | Volunteer of the Year | Breeder of the Year | Health & Welfare Award |

- Nominations for the above categories will open three (3) months before the date of the EWA Awards Night., and will stay open for three (3) weeks. All nominations must meet the award criteria to be considered.
- Nominated Members will receive confirmation of nomination
- Honours and Awards (H&A) Selection Panel sit to determine shortlist and winners of the relevant award; winners to be put forward to the EWA board for endorsement

Horse of the Year - Dressage | Pony Dressage | Eventing | Jumping | Show Horse | Show Pony | Para | Vaulting |

Sports Athlete of the Year - Dressage | Eventing | Jumping | Show Horse | Para | Vaulting |

Junior Sports Athlete | Dressage | Eventing | Jumping | Show Horse | Para | Vaulting | Interschools

Off the Track Horse of the Year

- No nominations are required.
- Results at local, state, national and international events will be the Selection Panel's primary consideration for this award
- Level of competition will be considered.
- Honours and Awards (H&A) Selection Panel sit to determine shortlist and winners of the relevant award; winners to be put forward to the EWA board for endorsement

AWARD CATEGORIES & CRITERIA

SPORTS STAR – RIDER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises an athlete who has achieved exceptional performances in domestic or international competition during the defined period.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Current financial EWA Member
- 18 years of age and above, as of 1 January, during the defined period
- Must have not represented another state at any level of competition during the defined period
- Outstanding performances at international, national, state and local events
- Demonstrate significant talent, dedication and commitment and;
- Are an ambassador for the sport

There will be a winner in each Sport – **Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, Show Horse, Para, and Vaulting** with an Overall winner determined as 'Rider of the Year'

SPORTS STAR – JUNIOR RIDER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises an up-and-coming athlete who has achieved exceptional performances in domestic or international competition during the defined period.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Current financial EWA Member
- 17 years of age and under, as of 1 January, during the defined period (*if you turn 18 on 1 January, you will be considered a 'junior' and eligible for an award*)
- Must have not represented another state at any level of competition during the defined period
- Outstanding performances at international, national, state and local events
- Demonstrate significant talent, dedication and commitment and;
- Are an ambassador for the sport

There will be a winner in each Sport – **Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, Show Horse, Para, Vaulting, and Interschools** with an Overall winner determined as 'Junior Rider of the Year'.

HORSE OF THE YEAR

This award recognises a horse that has achieved exceptional performances in domestic or international competition during the defined period.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Horse Registered with EWA
- Owner is a current financial EWA member
- Outstanding performances at international, national, state and local events

There will be a winner in each Sport – **Eventing, Jumping, Show Horse – Horse (Over 14h), Show Horse – Pony (14h & under), Dressage Horse, Dressage Pony, Para and Vaulting** with an Overall winner determined as 'Horse of the Year'

OTTWA HORSE OF THE YEAR

This is an award through the partnership of Off the Track WA and Equestrian WA that rewards the Off the Track horse that has achieved exceptional performances in domestic or international competition during the defined period.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Horse Registered with EWA
- Horse has OTTWA passport
- Owner is a current financial EWA member
- Outstanding performances at international, national, state and local events

Award will be presented 1st to 3rd place.

OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

This award recognises an EA accredited official who has attained a level of excellence in the field of officiating at any level (i.e., Course Building / Technical Delegate / Judging, Measuring, etc), and whose performance sets them apart from their peers.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Current financial EWA Member
- Contribution to the sport of Officials in WA;
- Conducts themselves with a high degree of decorum and professionalism
- Contribution to the development of WA Officials
 - Officiating achievements attained over the defined period at different levels of competition
 - Ambassador for the sport of equestrian
 - Alignment with Equestrian WA values

Nominations will be presented to the H&A Selection Panel with the top five finalists being shortlisted for the overall award winner.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises the outstanding dedication and achievement of an individual who has given their skills and time to the running of an equestrian sport, clubs, or events in Western Australia.

Volunteers foster positive difference in the lives of others through support and encouragement, often with self-sacrifice and without personal gain.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Have performed applicable duties/roles in a fully unpaid capacity (Note: reimbursement does not constitute payment)
- Contribution at Club, Regional and State Level
- Overall contribution to sport of Equestrian in WA
- Alignment with Equestrian WA values
- Coaches and officials are not eligible to enter this category.

Nominations will be presented to the H&A Selection Panel with the top five finalists being shortlisted for the overall award winner.

CLUB OF THE YEAR – METROPOLITAN AND REGIONAL

This award recognises an EWA affiliated Club who has displayed an outstanding level of engagement within the community across multiple levels.

The following criteria for Club of the Year to be considered for the award:

- EWA affiliated Club
- Metro: based within Perth metropolitan region
- Regional: based outside of Perth metropolitan region

- Contribution to sport of Equestrian in WA
 - Development – program, coaching, grassroots
 - Performance
 - Club governance
 - Strategic Partnerships
 - Profile
 - Events
 - Culture
 - Finance

EWA affiliated Clubs are required to submit a nomination for their Club.

Nominations will be presented to the H&A Selection Panel with the top three metro and regional clubs being shortlisted with an overall award winner determined for both.

LIFETIME SERVICES TO THE SPORT

This Award recognises the outstanding dedication and achievements of individuals who have provided valuable services and significant contributions to the equestrian community/sport and EWA members.

This award is not restricted to a nomination period and is based on the overall contributions of the nominated individual throughout their lifetime.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Contribution to the growth and success of equestrian sport in Western Australia.
- Must have been an EWA member at some stage
- Ambassador for the sport of equestrian
- Winners of the award can only be awarded this award once in their lifetime

Nominations will be presented to the H&A Selection Panel with the top three finalists being shortlisted for the overall award recipient.

COACH OF THE YEAR - PERFORMANCE

This award recognises a coach whose dedication and skill has positively influenced both human and equine athletes during the year and has contributed to the success of individuals or teams to assist them in achieving outstanding results at the highest level of senior or junior competition.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Current EWA financial Member
- Holds applicable EA Accreditation (displayed via <https://www.equestrian.org.au/members/search/coach>)
- Permanent resident of WA
- Contribution to the wider coaching community within their sport – mentoring, etc.
- Results and performance of athletes/teams coached by the nominee (must have coached athletes for min. six (6) months)
- Level of competition – state, national and/or international

There will be a winner from each of the Sports which include **Jumping, Eventing, Show Horse, Dressage and Para-Equestrian, and Vaulting** with an Overall winner determined as 'Coach of the year'.

COACH OF THE YEAR - COMMUNITY CLUB

This award recognises a coach whose dedication and skill has positively influenced both human and equine during the year and has contributed to the development of riders at Clubs throughout WA.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Current EWA financial Member
- Holds applicable EA Accreditation (displayed via <https://www.equestrian.org.au/members/search/coach>)
- Permanent resident of WA
- Contribution to the wider coaching community within their sport – mentoring, etc.
- Contribution to the development of riders at 'club-land' in WA

EWA affiliated Clubs are required to submit a nomination for the Community Club Coach Award.

Nominations will be presented to the H&A Selection Panel with the top five finalists being shortlisted for the overall award recipient.

EVENT OF THE YEAR - CLUB

This award recognises a EWA sanctioned event held by an EWA affiliated Club that can truly be considered to have achieved a standard of excellence greater than that of other equestrian events.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Must be run by an EWA Affiliated Club
- Event may involve local, regional, state, national or international competitors
- Nominations to outline;
 - How the organising committee conducted a significant and successful event and how the success of the event was measured.
 - Significance of the event as a showcase of the sport to the public e.g promotion, communication, media exposure.
 - The type of event including state/national, number of competitors, officials and spectators
- Monies (levies) not owing to EWA

EWA affiliated Clubs are required to submit a nomination for the Club Event of the Year Award.

There will be a winner from each of the Sports which include **Jumping, Eventing, Show Horse, Dressage, Adult Riders, and Vaulting** with an Overall winner determined as 'event of the year'.

EVENT OF THE YEAR – SPECIAL EVENTS

This award recognises an EWA sanctioned event held by an EWA committee, affiliated sport or commercial affiliate that can truly be considered to have achieved a standard of excellence greater than that of other equestrian events.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Must be run by either an EWA Sport Committee, EWA Sport Affiliate, or EWA Commercial Affiliate
- Event may involve local, regional, state, national or international competitors
- Nominations to outline;
 - How the organising committee conducted a significant and successful event and how the success of the event was measured.
 - Significance of the event as a showcase of the sport to the public e.g promotion, communication, media exposure.
 - The type of event including state/national, number of competitors, officials and spectators
- Monies (levies) not owing to EWA

Nominations will be presented to the H&A Selection Panel with the top five finalists being shortlisted for the overall award recipient.

BREEDER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises the breeders who has contributed to the success of equestrian sport by breeding horses of the highest quality to riders within the various equestrian disciplines. These horses have generally competed to an exceptional level during the year either on the State, National, or International stage.

The following criteria to be considered for the award:

- Breeder based in WA
- Horse must be EWA registered
- Current owners must be a current EWA financial member
- Successes and achievements the breeders' horses have had over the defined period.
- Contribution to the development of the sport.
- A positive, encouraging attitude that has inspired, guided and influenced progression of their horses and support of riders.

Nominations will be presented to the H&A Selection Panel with the top three finalists being shortlisted for the overall award recipient.

PATRON'S AWARD

The Patron's Award is an annual award designed to recognise outstanding personal achievement and/or contribution by one member. Winners determined by EWA Sports Committees.

CHAIRS AWARD

This award is presented to the Equestrian WA member who has contributed to the sport of Equestrian and is at the discretion of the Equestrian WA Chair.