

## ***How to Win a STRIDE Year End Award***

For every ridden or driven dressage award, you must do a few things:

- 1) Be sure you are a member at the time of the show. Memberships are due each September. If you pay your membership fee at the show be sure that you have filled out the membership application. We need your address and liability signature.
- 2) Enter at least three shows in your level and division. Introductory through First Level riders must show in at least 6 classes. Training and Preliminary level drivers must show in at least 6 classes. Second Level and above, musical freestyles, pas de deux's, and quadrilles only need three classes. Intermediate or Advanced Drivers only need three classes. There is no "double jeopardy". If you enter more than 3 shows and/or have more than the required number of tests, only the top 6 scores (three for higher levels) are taken. They must still include two scores from the top test in your level.
- 3) For ridden dressage, be sure to show the top test in your level at least twice (i.e., in First Level you must show First Level Test 4 twice during the show season.) For driven dressage, you must show at least two different tests within the level. Driven awards are divided into horse, pony and VSE (Very Small Equine 38" and under, as measured to the most distal hair in the mane).
- 4) Stay in your division—Open, Junior, or Adult Amateur. Cross-entering during the year may not give you the minimum required number of tests to be eligible.

Championships are awarded at each level and division based on the average of the highest required scores. Once you have won a Championship at a level, you are no longer eligible to win that award with the same horse/rider or horse/driver combination. You may still compete at individual shows and win the individual show championship for that level. If you have won the award as a junior or amateur, you may still compete for the open year end award at the same level by entering and competing in the Open classes. If you have won a Championship at a level in the Open classes you are not eligible to win as a junior or an amateur at the same level.

High Point Awards are given for the horse rider/driver combination achieving the highest score at any single show in the following divisions: Ridden dressage open, ridden dressage amateur, ridden dressage junior, driving dressage open, driving dressage amateur, driving dressage junior, intro horse and intro rider.

The Most Improved Performance Award applies to riders/drivers in the Training and above levels. This award will be determined by the largest chronological increase in scores. A separate award will be given to the Most Improved Rider and Most Improved Driver.

Three versatility awards are given; Ridden Dressage, Driven Dressage, Intro Division (walk/trot). For the Versatility Championship you must have three scores from either driven dressage or ridden dressage at Training level or above as a base, you also must have three scores in at least two different versatility classes. The classes are Dressage Equitation (WT), STRIDE Medal, Trail, Prix Caprilli, Dressage by the Letters, and Driven Cones. If you use driven dressage as your base you may use a ridden dressage score as a one of your versatility scores. If you use ridden dressage as your base you may use a driven dressage score as one of your versatility scores. Your three highest ridden or driven dressage tests (Your Base) are added to the points won in the three best versatility finishes, the highest score is the winner. Points are awarded by placings. First— 6, Second— 5, Third— 4. Fourth -3, Fifth- 2, Sixth and below, including unplaced entries are awarded 1 points. Bonus points are awarded for each different versatility class entered over the calendar year. For example, 3 versatility scores in 2 different versatility events will earn 2 bonus points, whereas 4 versatility scores earned in 3 different versatility events will earn 3 bonus points. The same horse and rider/driver combination cannot win more than one versatility award in a given year. In classes for Intro versatility, canter will be penalized. Intro Versatility candidates must enter the corresponding walk/trot versatility class.