
CHAPTER 23: AHA AWARD AND RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

All AHA programs and events deadlines must be met as specified, whether submitted by postal service, fax, e-mail, internet or other electronic means.

PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR RECOGNITION AWARDS

ARTICLE 2301. EARL E. HURLBUTT PRESIDENT'S AWARD

This award is given in honor of E. E. Hurlbutt, a founding member and the first President (1950-1955) of the Arabian Horse Association. An original Edwin Bugouki bronze sculpture, commissioned by Mr. Hurlbutt's home Region 2 to honor Mr. Hurlbutt and all recipients of this award, resides in the AHA offices.

1. Purpose. This award is given to an individual for outstanding contributions made to the Arabian breed, the Arabian Horse Association and to our members
2. Procedure. The President of AHA selects the recipient of this award.
3. Description. The recipient award is a cast bronze piece of art, not a trophy.

ARTICLE 2302. DIRECTOR'S AWARD.

1. Purpose. This award recognizes those members of AHA who have made contributions worthy of special recognition. This contribution can be in any of the copious activities that AHA encompasses.
2. Procedure. The directors and officers of AHA select the recipient of this award. To receive the award, a nominee must receive 18 votes from the Board of Directors. Previous recipients are not eligible for subsequent awards.
3. Description. A finely crafted gold horse designed as a brooch for women and a belt buckle for men.

EQUINE RECOGNITION AWARDS

ARTICLE 2303. AMBASSADOR AWARD. (BOD 8/04)

1. Purpose. This award is to recognize the Arabian, Half-Arabian or Anglo-Arabian Horse(s) for outstanding achievement in representing the Arabian Horse community to the general public. To be eligible the horse must have achieved a unique accomplishment(s) that showcase(s) our breed. (BOD 5/05)
2. Persons who wish to have their horse considered for this award or persons who know of an outstanding horse to be considered for this award must prepare a letter of particulars along with recommendation letters from a minimum of three (3) AHA members, including their AHA member numbers and submit it to the AHA office by September 1. All applications will be reviewed by the Awards Committee at each Annual Convention. The Committee recommendations will be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval at their next meeting. As this is a special, significant recognition award there may be years when there are no recipients or years when there are multiple recipients.
3. A suitable trophy will be presented to each recipient. When the rider or handler of the horse is not the owner, a duplicate award will be presented to both the owner and the rider or handler. (BOD 8/04) Maximum effort will be made to publicize the award recipients through all appropriate horse related periodicals.

ARTICLE 2304. DISTANCE HORSE OF THE YEAR AWARD (BOD 2/04)

1. Purpose. This award is to recognize the significant accomplishment of an Arabian, Half-Arabian or Anglo-Arabian Horse in the distance sports. As this is a special, significant recognition award there may be years when there is not a recipient.
2. Procedure.
 - a. The owner of the nominated horse must be a current member of AHA in the nomination year.
 - b. A nominated horse must be registered with the Arabian Horse Association, Canadian Arabian Horse Registry or the Canadian Partbred Arabian Registry.
 - c. Any AHA member can nominate a horse by completing the official nomination form available on the AHA website or the AHA office.
 - d. A member's horse may be nominated more than once, but may be selected for the award only once.
 - e. Nomination deadline is September 1st of each calendar year.
 - f. The Award Sub-Committee (Awards, Competitive Trail Ride and Endurance Ride Chairs plus one at-large from CTR and ER each for a total of 5 members) will make the selection at the annual AHA Convention.
 - g. The owner of the chosen horse agrees to allow AHA to use a picture of the horse and his winning criteria both within AHA publications (magazine, website & brochures) as well as publications outside AHA.
3. Description. A bronze sculpture, designed by Joe Staheli, with a wooden base that includes plates for the engraving of the annual winners was purchased by AHOF and will be displayed in the AHA office. The award for each annual winner will be a plaque with a facsimile of the bronze sculpture.

MEMBER RECOGNITION

ARTICLE 2305. CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION.

These certificates are used by AHA Committees who wish to give a formal "Thank You" to other than AHA members.

ARTICLE 2306. VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD.

1. Selection Guidelines for Member Organization, Regional and/or National level awards. These selection guidelines may be used for each level and adjusted appropriately. The member:
 - a. Contributed significant service,
 - b. Has made significant contribution,
 - c. Promoted the breeds in some manner,
 - d. Promoted the Member Organization, the Region and/or AHA by volunteering their time, expertise, or resources,
 - e. Made a unique or creative contribution.

MEMBER ORGANIZATION LEVEL AWARDS

If a Member Organization or Region already has a guideline for selecting recipients, the Member Organization or Region is encouraged to continue to use that guideline.

2. The yearly nomination form will be available to Member Organizations in July. This form is to be filled out by anyone in the Member Organization who would like to nominate a member for recognition at the Member Organization level. Before the form can be passed out to the members to be filled out, the Member Organization should decide the following:
 - a. The deadline for returning the form for selection of the recipients (which should then be put on the form in the space allotted).
 - b. The manner in which the Member Organization will select the recipients (i.e., executive decision, selection committee, etc.). These decisions are entirely up to the Member Organization.
3. The number of awards per Member Organization depends on the number of adult AHA members in that Member Organization.
 - a. If a Member Organization has 100 or fewer, then the Member Organization may select one recipient.
 - b. Should the Member Organization have more than 100, the Member Organization may select up to two recipients.

After selection of Member Organization level recipients, the Member Organization will forward the winning nomination form for each recipient to AHA, either postmarked/electronic transaction dated or faxed by September 15.

AHA will distribute letters of congratulations, award certificates, and lapel pins to the winners. The certificate will state the Member Organization name as well as the name of the recipient.
4. Each Member Organization should select two nominations to send to the Regional Director for the Regional level.
 - a. These two need not include those of the recipients at the Member Organization level, but may include them if deemed appropriate.
 - b. At the point of nominating a member for the Regional level, the Member Organization president (or whoever has been appointed to handle nominations) should check the box on the nomination form to indicate a nomination for the Regional level. Nomination forms may be obtained from AHA.
 - c. The deadline to forward Regional level nominations from Member Organizations to the Regional Director is August 31.

REGIONAL LEVEL AWARDS

Regions are allowed two Regional level recipients.

5. Regional Directors, prior to receipt of nominations from Member Organizations, will need to decide how the selection of the two Regional recipients will be made (i.e., executive decision, selection committee).
 - a. The person(s) in charge of handling this program for each Region will need to notify the AHA office of the two Regional recipients, postmarked/electronic transaction dated or faxed by October 31.
 - b. The certificates will state both the Region's number and the recipient's name.
 - c. Letters of congratulations, award certificates and lapel pins will be given out during a ceremony at the AHA Annual Convention.

NATIONAL LEVEL AWARDS

6. National level nominations must be postmarked/electronic transaction dated or faxed to the AHA office by October 15.
 - a. The National Level Award nominations must be generated from:
 - 1) Member Organizations, or
 - 2) Regional recipients, or
 - 3) Original nominations suggested by the Regional Director, or
 - 4) Appointed person.
 - 5) President or Executive Board of AHA

7. The designated person(s) from each Region may forward up to three nominations. The box at the bottom of all nomination forms designating that the nomination is for the National level must be checked.
8. The President of AHA (or any designated person(s)), upon receipt of the nomination forms will make a selection of National level recipients to be awarded at the AHA Annual Convention.
 - a. The number of National recipients will be approximately 25. This allows at least one recipient per Region, plus any additional individuals that the President or Executive Board of AHA feel are deserving.
 - b. The National recipients will receive a brass and wood plaque and lapel pin at the AHA Annual Convention.

ANNUAL AWARD LEVEL DEADLINES

August 31, Regional Level Volunteer Service Award nominations from Member Organizations due to Regional Directors.

September 15, Member Organization Level Volunteer Service Award recipient names from Member Organizations due to AHA.

October 15, National Level Volunteer Service Awards nominations from Regions due to Executive Committee.

October 31, Regional Level Volunteer Service Award recipient names from Regions due to AHA.

ANNUAL AWARD LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS

Member Organization: The Member Organization level recipients receive a letter of congratulations, an award certificate and lapel pin with the stylized AHA logo. To denote recipients at the Member Organization level, the certificate and the pin contain a single horse head from the stylized AHA logo.

Regional: The Regional level recipients receive a letter of congratulations, an award certificate and lapel pin with the stylized AHA logo. To denote recipients at the Regional level, the certificate and pin contain a double horse head from the stylized AHA logo.

National: The National level recipients receive a brass and wood plaque and lapel pin, both with the triple horse head from the stylized AHA logo.

MEMBER ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

ARTICLE 2307. AHA CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD PROGRAM.

1. Award Categories.
 - a. Breed Promotion/Community Involvement.
Breed Promotion/Community Involvement category may include any outreach activity that goes beyond the Arabian Horse Community. Examples: farm tours, demonstrations at all-breed events, clinics for 4-H, FFA, Boy Scouts, Parades, Mini-Seminars.
 - b. Membership Recruitment or Retention.
Membership Recruitment or Retention category may include membership recruitment and retention campaigns. There are many ways to measure success: by saving money, recruited more members, lost fewer members, or increased member participation.
 - c. Communication.
Communication category may include any type of communication (newsletters, directories, websites, videos, speakers) that were targeted to Members, Non-members and/or the public.
 - d. Club Projects.
Club Projects category includes projects that are specific to that individual club and its members. Examples: trail ride, fun class at the horse show, stallion service auction.
2. Rules.
 - a. All entries must be postmarked/electronic transaction dated by August 15 of the current year.
 - b. The only programs eligible for entry are those produced and implemented between August 1 of the preceding year and August 1 of the current year. Club entry must include the final results of the program or project.
 - c. Clubs may submit more than one entry in each category, as long as each entry represents a separate and distinct program or project. Clubs may also enter any number of award categories.
 - d. Entry form and program worksheet are required. Entries that do not include all required information will not be judged.
 - e. Complete a separate entry form for each award entry. Label all components of each entry with your club name, contact name and entry category.
 - f. Send one copy of each entry.
 - g. Entries become the property of AHA and will not be returned. AHA has the right to display your entry at any AHA Event or reprint the text in any AHA publications.

- h. Visual information (photos, videos, etc.) is optional for any entry.
3. Judging.
 - a. Profit motive is not necessarily a judging criteria.
 - b. A panel of three judges selected by the Membership Committee will select the winners.
 - c. All decisions of the judges are final.
 - d. Awards might not be given in each category.
 - e. AHA will notify all entrants by October 1.
 4. Awards.
 - a. All entrants will receive a certificate of participation.
 - b. All awards will be presented at the AHA Membership Convention.
 - c. First place will be named in each category and awarded a certificate.
 - d. Club of the Year will be given a special award. The Club of the Year award will be selected from the first place winners in each category. All first place winners are eligible for Club of the Year.

MEMBER AWARD PROGRAMS

ARTICLE 2308. DISTANCE HORSE PROGRAM. (BOD 8/01)

GENERAL RULES

1. The horse must be registered with either the Arabian Horse Association, the Canadian Arabian Registry or the Canadian Partbred Arabian Register.
2. All horses must be enrolled by the current recorded owner. The owner and rider must have Competition level AHA membership.
3. The ride must be sanctioned by an AHA Approved ride organization of no fewer than 25 miles.
4. The horse must finish the ride and fulfill all requirements of the ride; i.e., time, veterinarian parameters, etc.
5. The AHA Open Qualifying Ride Results Form signed by the Ride Manager, or, Ride Secretary, must be submitted to the AHA office and postmarked/electronic transaction dated within (90) days of the ride date or the Official AERC Horse Record must be submitted along with the AHA Open Qualifying Ride Results form to AHA by January 31 for AERC Sanctioned Endurance Rides completed the prior year. (see Article 1612) (Res. 7-93) (BOD 5/02)
6. The Award will be given at 500 miles. Additional recognition is given at every increment of 500 miles, thereafter (1000, 1500, 2000) based on the actual number of miles completed in competitive and/or endurance rides.
7. Miles completed in the Novice Division will count.
8. When an AHA Regional Championship Competitive Trail ride is held with an 'Approved Ride Organization' Open ride, both rides are eligible for the Distance Award program. Refer to AHA Article 1517. for procedures for Competitive Trail Ride results reporting. (BOD 11/02)
9. When an AHA National or Regional Championship Endurance Ride is held with an AERC/FEI Open ride, both rides are eligible for the Distance Award program. Refer to AHA Article 1612 for procedures for Endurance Ride results reporting. (BOD 11/02)

ENROLLMENT AND RENEWAL FEES

10. A \$35 enrollment fee for each horse must be postmarked/electronic transaction dated for initial enrollment prior to the first show or event of the year. (BOD 11-04)
11. After initial enrollment, each horse owner shall pay a \$30 renewal fee annually before the horse's first ride each year to remain current in the program. This renewal is the sole responsibility of the horse owner. (BOD 11/04)
12. Nomination is transferable upon change of ownership.

BACK MILEAGE FEE AND REQUIREMENTS

13. A \$75 retroactive fee must be paid for each year to pick up mileage that was earned prior to the horse being enrolled in the program or the annual renewal fee being received by the AHA office. Miles are earned (verified and recorded), based on these dates. Anything prior to said dates necessitates the retroactive fee. (BOD 11/04)
14. Credit for back mileage will only be accepted from AHA Approved ride organizations.
15. Mileage from any prior years will be accepted only if it can be verified.
16. Mileage must be documented and signed by an official of the ride sanction association or for AERC Sanctioned Endurance Rides; the Official AERC Horse Record may be submitted along with the AHA Open Qualifying Ride Results form as proof without a signature. (BOD 5/02)
17. The person applying for back mileage shall be responsible for obtaining all necessary documents and reports needed to verify the horse's back mileage.
18. To be retroactive and immediate to all past and present participants in the Distance Program. (Res. 22-92)

ARTICLE 2309. COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDE AWARDS.

AHA offers annual year-end awards (not to exceed \$1500 for each Fiscal Year) to distance riding organizations for the High Point Arabian and the High Point Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Competitive Trail Horses within that organization.

The following distance ride organizations may apply for an AHA High Point Competitive Trail Ride Breed Award:

- 1) Arabian Horse Distance Riding Association
- 2) Biltmore Estate Equestrian Center
- 3) Eastern Competitive Trail Ride Association (ECTRA)
- 4) Great Lakes Distance Riding Association
- 5) Hooves & Company Distance Riders
- 6) Indiana Arabian Horse Club Distance Program
- 7) Manitoba Trail Riding Club
- 8) Middle of the Trail Distance Riding Association (MOTDRA)
- 9) North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC)
- 10) Ohio Arabian and All Breed Trail Society (OAATS)
- 11) Ontario Competitive Trail Riding Association (OCTRA)
- 12) Saskatchewan Long Riders
- 13) South Eastern Distance Riders Association (SEDRA)
- 14) Upper Midwest Endurance & Competitive Riders Association (UMECRA)

The above organizations may apply for an AHA High Point Competitive Trail Ride Breed Award in accordance with the following: (BOD 8/06)

1. The organization may request year-end highpoint awards for one or both of the following divisions: High Point Arabian, High Point Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian
2. Only one set of awards per organization per year will be presented.
3. The organization must approve/sanction a minimum of five competitive trail rides each year at a minimum of 25 miles in length.
4. The organization must have its own year-end high point system in place and must supply AHA the list of top three competitive trail horses in each division, including registered name of horse, registry of horse, name and address of owner and rider at the time of application.
5. To be considered for a year-end high point award, the horse must have completed a minimum of five Competitive Trail Rides sanctioned by this organization. Only competitive trail rides/miles may be counted. (BOD 8/01)
6. The winning horse must meet the registry and ownership requirements, be registered with AHA, CAHR or CPAR and be owned by a member of AHA.
7. Each organization approved for Highpoint awards will receive like awards for that year not to exceed \$150 per each organization. (BOD 8/01)
8. The Organization must submit the application form at least 45 days prior to the presentation date for the award. The application must be complete and accurate and submitted to AHA Competitive Trail Ride Committee. The Competitive Trail Ride Chair and the Awards Committee Chair will approve all awards to be given after verifying that the organization and the winners meet all requirements.
9. Completion in one ride season (January 1 to December 31), of any and all AHA Regional Championship Competitive Trail Rides as well as the AHA National Championship Competitive Trail Ride shall earn bonus points at the rate of one point per mile, to be added to the Point score calculated from each organizations own scoring system. (BOD 8/01)

ARTICLE 2310. ENDURANCE RIDE AWARDS (AERC)

The Arabian Horse Association offers annual year end awards to the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) highpoint Arabian and to the highpoint Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian in the middle distance category of 50-99 miles in addition to highpoint awards given to the 100 mile highpoint Arabian and highpoint Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian. The awards are given to the horses with the most points at the end of the AERC ride season (December 1 – November 30). The points are calculated from AERC Sanctioned ride of 50 or more miles but fewer than 100 miles in one day. (Clarification: if the rider enters a multi-day 100 mile event, that ride will count for the middle-distance awards. Only one-day 100 mile events do not count). A bonus of one point per mile will count for all AHA Regional Rides of a distance of 50 miles or more, but fewer than 100 miles. If the Regional ride were a one-day 100 mile ride, then the distance would be counted in the highpoint 100 mile award.

1. The highpoint horses must be registered with AHA, CAHR or CPAR and be owned by a current member of AHA.
2. The owner must apply to AHA on the official AHA form in order to be eligible for these awards. Along with the form, the owner must submit a copy of the horse's AERC record showing the rides claimed on the AHA form. The form must be submitted to AHA's office no later than December 30.
3. The points are calculated using AERC's point formula plus any bonus points for AHA Regional Rides of 50 miles or more but fewer than 100 miles in one day.
4. Any ties at the end of the year will be broken first by the number of Best Condition awards earned and second by the least number of rides ridden to earn the points.

ARTICLE 2311. DRESSAGE RIDER AWARD PROGRAM.

1. The Dressage Rider Award is presented to those riders that satisfy the following requirements:
 - a. The one-time rider nomination fee is \$35 for each level of competition. No scores will be recorded before the nomination form and fee are received by AHA. The nomination forms and fees may be sent to AHA along with the first scores if they are included in the same envelope. (BOD 11/04)
 - b. Riders must receive two scores of 60% or better at each level to qualify. The scores must be from two different judges for two different rides. If there are two or more judges per ride, the average scores will count. These scores are accumulative and do not have to be earned in one year. The rider must be a current member of AHA.
 - c. Riders must compete on horses registered in the Arabian Horse Association Registry the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry or the Canadian Partbred Arabian Register.
 - d. All Open Qualifying Show/Event Results Forms must be signed by the Show Secretary, Show Manager, or technical Delegate and postmarked/electronic transaction dated within 30 days of the competition. Effective January 1, 1993, recordings for AHA Recognized competitions will no longer require a show report form but will be automatic. (Res. 7-93)
2. Certificates and Lapel Pins to be awarded as follows:
 - a. Training level, certificate only.
 - b. First level, pin and certificate.
 - c. Second level, pin and certificate.
 - d. Third level, pin and certificate.
 - e. Fourth level, pin and certificate.

These awards will be a one time only per level presentation.

ARTICLE 2312. AHA/USDF ALL BREED DRESSAGE AWARD PROGRAM

AHA/United States Dressage Federation (USDF) All Breed Award Program. The owner of the horse must be a current member of AHA. To participate in the AHA/USDF All Breed Awards program horses with scores earned through AHA Recognized Shows or USEF/EC Open Shows must enroll with AHA and pay a \$20 enrollment fee before October 1 of each year. (Contact USDF for any additional requirements.)

If the fee is postmarked/electronic transaction dated after 30 days of the date of the competition, the fee is \$30. (BOD 11/04)

ARTICLE 2313. HIGH-POINT HORSE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Awarded to the horse with the highest points accumulated from January 1 through December 31 each year.

Horse must be enrolled in the Horse Achievement Award Program. For rules and requirements, refer to Chapter 21. Previous High-Point Horse Achievement Award winners are not eligible to participate.

ARTICLE 2314. HIGH-POINT AMATEUR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Awarded to the amateur with the highest points accumulated from January 1 through December 31 each year.

Amateurs must be enrolled in the Amateur Achievement Award Program. For rules and requirements, refer to Chapter 22. Previous High-Point Amateur Achievement Award winners are not eligible to participate.