

Hawkesbury Dressage Club



2024 HORSE OF THE YEAR RULES

1. Both the owner and the rider(s) of the horse must be financial members of the club at the time of competing – tests results will not be considered retrospectively.
2. Competition runs through the Hawkesbury Dressage Club Year (between two consecutive AGMs)
3. The following HOTY's will be awarded:
 - Preliminary¹
 - Novice¹
 - Elementary¹
 - Medium¹
 - Advanced¹
 - FEI¹
 - Supreme¹
 - Pony of the Year
 - Closed Unrestricted Horse of the Year
 - Off the Track Horse of the Year²
 - Amateur Owner/Rider Horse of the Year²
 - Junior/Young Rider Horse of the Year²
 - Open Horse of the Year²
4. The Closed Unrestricted HOTY award will be a combination of both Preliminary and Novice. All other levels will be awarded for combinations in Official Competitive classes.
5. Previous HOTY winners are not eligible to compete for HOTY at the same level in subsequent years (FEI, Supreme and division HOTY awards are an exception to this rule).
6. A horse must be entered in four tests at the Hawkesbury Dressage Festival to be eligible.
7. The 4 highest results for each horse will be used – including Freestyles.
8. HC (Hors Concours) scores are not considered.
9. One result must be taken from a Championship competition. This will be the best result available from the Championship competition.
10. Eligible riders **must** contribute one four hour block (consecutive) of time to 'volunteer' roles at the Festival such as pencilling, paper collecting, freestyle music/announcing, committee duties, or other roles required by the committee, available on SignUp. Another person may complete this volunteering on the rider's behalf, such as owner or groom. Volunteers must declare at the Festival Office when they are commencing their volunteer shift towards their HOTY eligibility.

¹ Results for these awards are taken across all divisions, from Official Competitions.

² These awards do not receive perpetual trophies. If a perpetual trophy is added, names will be updated retrospectively.

11. Attendance at a training day (not a Familiarisation Day as part of the Dressage Festival) = +1 attendance point.

12a.

The maximum number of points is determined by the number of horses in a class. I.e. a 20 horse class, the first place getter would receive 20 points, second would receive 19, and so on. In a 6 horse class, first place would receive 6 points, second place 5 points and so on. See appendix.

12b. Where divisions are judged together, (*i.e. Open/Pony/AOR/JR; O/P/A; P/A/J; O/A/J; O/P; P/A and all other combinations*), points will be allocated according to the overall placing in the class, against overall numbers in the class. I.e. if there are 22 competitors in an O/P/J class, the highest point will be 22. If a Junior rider wins overall, they will receive 22 points, regardless of how many Juniors rode under those judges.

13. Equal placings receive equal points.

14. If there are two horses on equal points at the end of the festival for an award, the horse with the highest average score will receive the award.

15. Horses competing across two levels will only be permitted to receive one HOTY award (the higher of the two). The second highest point scorer in the lower level would then receive the award. *i.e. a top point scorer in both Preliminary and Novice will be awarded the Novice HOTY award only.*

16. Supreme HOTY is awarded to the horse or pony that has the most points from the top 4 highest scores across all levels (excl. Prep). This may be a combination of scores at two levels.

17. HOTY awards will be presented at the Hawkesbury Dressage Club's 2024 Annual General Meeting.

18. The committee's decision will be final when awarding HOTY winners.

