



## Winner's Circle

### Austin Dressage Unlimited

### Annual Awards Program

**PURPOSE:** Welcome to the Winner's Circle! The purpose of the Austin Dressage Unlimited (ADU) Annual Awards Program is to acknowledge:

- 1) Members who have participated in or achieved individual riding goals in their continued pursuit of dressage excellence and,
- 2) Riders and non-riders who support ADU education goals through participation in dressage events, recruitment of new members, and volunteering at ADU and USDF dressage sponsored events.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Current members of ADU are eligible for one or more of the annual awards during the current GMO year (November 1 – October 31)

**OVERVIEW:** The basis for the ADU Awards Program is found in the ADU Mission Statement:

“To promote education in the dressage community  
while encouraging advancement towards goals  
through mutual support among friends.”

Points are earned for activities in four categories of achievement. Categories of achievement are:

- 1) Rider Achievement,
- 2) Membership Recruitment,
- 3) Participation, and
- 4) Volunteering

Total individual points earned in each of the Categories (Rider Achievement, Membership Recruitment, Participation, and Volunteer) will be grouped into Gold, Silver, or Bronze status. Cut-points defining each award group will be determined after review of all points. For example: In the Rider Achievement Category, if five people have the top number of total points, let's say between 75-100, they would be grouped into the Gold Awards; if 15 people have total points between 35-74, they would be grouped into the Silver Awards; and, if 10 people have total points between 1-34, they would be grouped into the Bronze Awards.

As of October 10, 2015

Accumulation and documentation of points, description of categories of achievement and procedures for submitting documentation is presented below.

Members accumulate points for various levels of participation in ADU throughout the current membership year.

- Documenting: ADU Members are responsible for tracking points throughout the year and documenting on the ADU Awards Program Point Documentation Form. Unless otherwise noted, ADU Awards Program Coordinator will verify points where possible.
- Awards Program Point Documentation Form: This form is used to document eligible achievement, participation, and volunteer activities. Currently, this form can be found on the ADU website and must be downloaded to your computer or printed by the ADU member.
- Submission of Awards Program Point Documentation Form: Please see the Documentation Form for detailed instructions on completing and submitting the form. We encourage ADU members to email the pertinent pages of the documentation form to the Awards Program Coordinator, Barbara Bradshaw at [02gyspsy@att.net](mailto:02gyspsy@att.net) after each event. The deadline date for submitting points for the year is October 15. Please contact the Awards Program Coordinator if there is an event that occurs between October 15 and October 31 for which you would like to submit points.
- All awards will be presented at the ADU End of Year Celebration.

Number of points and verification: The number of points that can be earned in each of the categories of achievement are listed below along with required verification documentation.

#### **CATEGORIES OF ACHIEVEMENT:**

**I. Rider Achievement Award** - The Rider Achievement Award recognizes individuals who have devoted time, talent, treasures and have demonstrated, through riding in recognized shows, their desire to promote the art of dressage. Riders accrue points through the attainment of the following:

a) Compete in recognized shows *3points/show day*

Example: for a two-day show, possible number of points = 6

*Required Documentation:* For all recognized shows, please include the following information on the documentation form: Date of the show, Name of show, Name of horse competing in the show and, Number of Horse. The Awards Program Coordinator will use this information to verify your points.

b) Achieve scores for Introductory level through Grand Prix and Freestyle at three recognized shows in any division (Open, Adult Amateur, Junior) as follows: *5 points/per horse*

- Introductory 68% or higher, any test
- Training level 68% or higher, any test
- First level 66% or higher, any test
- Second level 64% or higher, any test
- Third level 62% or higher, any test
- Fourth level 62% or higher, any test
- PSG – GP 60% or higher, any test
- Freestyle 63% or higher, any test

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*Required Documentation:* For all recognized shows, please include the following information on the documentation form: Date of the show, Name of show, Name of horse competing in the show and, Number of Horse. The Awards Program Coordinator will use this information to verify your score and points. NOTE: If you ride in a recognized show, you receive points as described in "1 a" above AND, you can claim additional points in this category if you achieve scores described above in "1b" at the same show.

- Qualifying for National Championship *10 points*
- Riding in National Championship *30 points*
- ADU Medallion Club for achievement of bronze, silver, or gold medal *20 points*
- Ride in an ADU-sponsored workshop or practice show *2 point/day*
- Riding in the ADU Freestyle Gala *3 points/ride*

**II. Membership Recruitment Award:** Having a large, strong membership in ADU is critical to the success of the organization and provides benefits for riders and non-riders. Detailed description of the benefits of ADU membership can be found on the ADU website at: [www.austindressageunlimited.org](http://www.austindressageunlimited.org)

Points for the Membership Recruitment Award are earned based on the number of new members who join ADU based on the individual ADU member referral.

- For each new member up to 4 members: *1 point per new member recruited*
- For 5-9 new members: *10 points (1 point per each new members 1-4, then, 10 points for each new member 5-9. Example: if you recruit a total of six new members, you will have earned a total of 4+20 = 24 points )*
- For 10 or more new members: *25 points*

*Required Documentation:* Complete the ADU Awards Program Point Documentation Form listing the name of the new member(s) you recruited. The new member must provide your name on the ADU Membership Application form as the person who referred them to ADU.

**III. Participation Award:** This award recognizes dressage enthusiasts in both rider and non-rider roles. Points are earned in the following categories:

**1. Hosting an Event**

Hosting:

- ADU-sponsored Event
  - DVD night *5 points*

*Required Documentation:* Include date and title of the DVD night and your role as host on the ADU Awards Program Documentation Form.

- Workshop, symposium, or practice show *15 points*

*Required Documentation:* Include date and title of the workshop, symposium, or practice show and your role as host on the ADU Awards Program Documentation Form.

## 2. Attending an Event

Attending:

- ADU DVD night: *1 point*  
*Required Documentation:* You must sign the attendance sheet and complete an evaluation form at the DVD night event. In addition, you must include the date and title of the DVD night on the ADU Awards Program Documentation Form.
- ADU sponsored workshop, symposium or practice show 5 points/day  
*Required Documentation:* Members attending the ADU sponsored workshop symposium or practice show must sign the waiver form and sign –in on the day of the event. Document on ADU Awards Program Point Documentation Form
- USDF Recognized Show: 3 points/day  
*Required Documentation:* Include the following information on the ADU Awards Program Point Documentation Form: Date and name of the recognized show.

## 3. Special Events/Activities

Attending:

- ADU End of year celebration *10 points*
- ADU Annual Judging Seminar: 10 points/day
- ADU Freestyle Gala: 5 points

Participating in:

- ADU Freestyle Gala Tailgate Tent Entry 10 points
- Completing ADU University 20 points
- Mentoring a student who completes ADU University 10 points
- Any other USDF-University approved event not listed above: 2 points/day

## IV. Volunteer Award

Volunteers are critical to the success of dressage events. This award acknowledges individuals who have donated time and talent as a volunteer in support of ADU and USDF-recognized dressage education and competition. Points for volunteer efforts are awarded as follows:

- Recognized shows: *2 points per 1-4 hours*
  - *For example: if you volunteer at a recognized show for 8 hours, = 4 points*
- ADU Workshop, symposium, or practice shows: *2 points per 1-4 hours*

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- Annual Judging Seminar: *2 points per 1-4 hours*
- End of Year Celebration: *5 points per 1-4 hours*

### **Austin Dressage Unlimited Bleeps and Bloopers**

In addition to the four achievement awards listed above, members are encouraged to submit pictures and videos for the Austin Dressage Funniest Pictures and/or Videos Award. Attendees at the End of Year Celebration will vote for the video/picture they think most deserving.

This award gives ADU members the opportunity to share laughs and bloopers they have enjoyed with horses throughout the year with the ADU membership at large at the End of Year Celebration.

Members will send pictures and/or videos of those laughable moments they have enjoyed during the year for presentation at the End of Year Celebration to [austindressage@outlook.com](mailto:austindressage@outlook.com). Please be sure to include in the title of the email, "Bleeps and Bloopers." Pictures and videos must be related to dressage, dressage activities, and/or horses and can be sent/posted anytime during the year.

The pictures/videos will be displayed at the End of Year Celebration and attendees will vote on those they consider the best submissions.

*Thanks* for participating in the "Winner's Circle." Please send your comments, suggestions, recommendation for improving the ADU Awards Program to Jen Illingworth, Awards Program Coordinator at [jeillingworth@aol.com](mailto:jeillingworth@aol.com)