



GENERAL POLICY

NO.

# Member Recogniton and Awards

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Record of Amendments			
Version	Date	Details of Changes	Comments



## Preamble

Apart from awarding EFA Honorary Life Membership, the EFA has not had a system at the National level to recognise achievements and contributions of EFA members and EFA affiliates. Some Branches have had award systems at their level, including the awarding of EFA Honorary Life Membership for their respective Branch or recommendations for National Board approval. This policy establishes a National recognition and award system for EFA members who have made a significant contribution to EFA activities.

## POLICY

The EFA provides for the recognition of individual and organisational achievement in, or contribution towards Equestrian sport with the following award system:

### The EFA Order of Merit

This award is the highest level of honour awarded by the EFA.

The Order of Merit is to be awarded for an outstanding contribution to the Federation and to Equestrian sport, either at the National or International level. Achievements and contributions at the State level may be considered where they have national relevance.

Sporting achievements may be considered but are on their own not sufficient to qualify a member for this award.

There are no other specific criteria for this award.

The EFA Order of Merit is not necessarily awarded annually. Its presentation is made on significant occasions like the EFA National Forum or other major national functions.

An award certificate and a pin are issued.

### EFA Special Services Award

This award may be given to persons who have worked **over a longer period** or contributed through a number of extraordinary single efforts, for the horse, its breeding, its "keeping", for the sport or generally in the horse industry. Long membership or engagement in equestrian organisations by itself does not fulfil the requirements for this award.

An award certificate and a pin are issued. Awards are presented at the Annual National Forum or other major national functions, and Branch Award Nights.

## **EFA Annual National Sport Achievement Awards**

These awards may be given to members to recognise an outstanding achievement in, or contribution to, the Federation or Equestrian sport **during the year** before close of nominations. In other words, this award applies to services and achievements in the year for which the award is made. Previous services and achievements are not considered in the judging of this category. Individuals or organisations that have contributed over a number of years and deserve recognition should be nominated for other awards, such as the EFA Special Services Award.

### **Presentation of Awards**

Award certificates are issued. Awards are presented at the Annual National Forum or other major national functions. The EFA will cover accommodation and meals for those award recipients who are attending the National Forum, but not their travelling expenses. This also applies to one (1) club representative for the "Club of the Year" award category.

Categories are:

#### ▪ ***EFA Event Volunteer of the Year***

Nominees must be volunteers who have given their services to the running of Equestrian events and have received no remuneration for their services (apart from reimbursement for expenses incurred). Their dedication and achievements as volunteers must be outstanding.

- Judging considerations:
- level of contribution to sport as a volunteer over the period
  - special achievements over the period
  - significance of these achievements

#### ▪ ***EFA Official of the Year (Judges, Technical Delegates, Course Designers, etc.)***

Nominees must have contributed to the sport as officials at a high level of excellence. Their dedication and performance must set them apart from their peers.

- Judging considerations:
- level of officiating, i.e. state, national or international
  - other contributions to officiating (rule review and development etc.)
  - special achievements over the period
  - significance of these achievements

#### ▪ ***EFA Equestrian Athlete of the Year***

Nominated athletes must have had one or more exceptional performances during the year.

- Judging considerations:
- level of event (national, international, rating [e.g. 3-star, etc])
  - number of competitors.
  - quality of competing horses and riders
  - level of experience and accreditation of the Judging Panel (where appropriate)

#### ▪ ***EFA Horse of the Year***

Nominated horses must have had one or more exceptional performances during the year.

- Judging considerations:
- level of event (national, international, rating [e.g. 3-star, etc])
  - number of competitors
  - quality of competing horses and riders
  - level of experience and accreditation of the Judging Panel (where appropriate)

▪ ***EFA Coach of the Year***

Nominees must be EFA NCAS-registered coaches coaching in a paid or unpaid capacity whose athlete(s) or teams have achieved outstanding results whilst competing at the highest level in competition at senior or junior level during the nomination period, and where the contribution of the coach is thought to be significant.

- Judging considerations:
- outstanding performances by athletes during the period
  - presentation of a positive image of coaching and the role of the coach
  - standard of conduct towards officials, competitors, etc.
  - demonstrated concern for the development of equestrian athletes within and outside the sporting environment

▪ ***EFA Equestrian Event of the Year***

Nominated events must have achieved a standard of excellence greater than that of other equestrian sporting events during the same period. Events must have been EFA-sanctioned and must have been run by an EFA Committee or an EFA-affiliated Club or Show Society.

- Judging considerations:
- level and complexity of event i.e. regional, state, national or international
  - number of competitors, officials, spectators, etc.
  - quality of competing horses and riders
  - significance of the event as a showcase of the sport to the public

▪ ***EFA Club of the Year***

Nominated clubs must have achieved a high standard of performance in governance, member development and event management.

- Judging considerations:
- level of service to members
  - quality of governance, planning and management
  - new development opportunities for members and volunteers
  - number and size of Equestrian events conducted
  - significance to local, regional or state communities

▪ ***EFA Administrator of the Year***

Nominees must be volunteer administrators who have given their services to the EFA, Equestrian clubs or events and have received no remuneration for their services (apart from reimbursement for expenses incurred). Their dedication and achievements as volunteers must be outstanding.

This award applies to services in the year for which the award is made. Previous service is not considered in the judging of this category. Individuals who have contributed over a number of years should be nominated for other awards, such as the EFA Special Services Award.

- Judging considerations:
- level of contribution to sport or the club over the period
  - special achievements over the period
  - significance of these achievements

## **PROCEDURE**

Nominations for the EFA Special Services Award may be made before 31 August each year by any EFA member. For the EFA Annual Sport Achievement Awards, nominations for National awards are usually due in mid-September of each year, to enable the National Board to elect winners from these nominations at its September meeting.

Nomination forms are published each year, usually before the end of June when nominations will be called.