



International Andalusian & Lusitano Horse Association

Lifetime Merit Award Program

The IALHA Lifetime Merit Award Program is designed to establish competition goals to work towards, recognize members for their hard work, and encourage fun through exhibition by celebrating the accomplishments of a horse's show career.

AWARDS Two different awards may be earned:

El Premio de Merito is awarded to a horse who earns the 200 points using the Points table below.

The suffix "*with distinction in [discipline]*" will be added to the award name when a horse earns at least 85%

(170) of the required 200 points in ONE discipline. (for example: "El Premio de Merito, with distinction in Working Equitation")

El Premio de Oro is designed to highlight versatility and awarded to a horse who earns the required 200 points in *more than two* (at least three) different disciplines, with *no more than 75%* (150) of the total points earned in just one. For example, if a horse has competed and earned points in Working Equitation, Western Dressage and Western pleasure USEF classes, or English Pleasure, Western Pleasure, and Halter, etc. See "Divisions and Classes" below for guidelines.

HORSE & OWNER ELIGIBILITY

- Horses registered with the IALHA (Purebred or Half-bred) and owned by an IALHA member are eligible for enrollment.
- Points are earned by the horse, regardless of rider/handler/owner. Horses and riders of any age may earn points.
- The owner's IALHA membership must be maintained throughout the duration of program participation. Only points earned while the horse's owner is a member of IALHA count toward accumulated totals unless "prior years" are purchased (see "Recording and Reporting Points" below)

PROGRAM YEAR

The program year is December 1 through November 30th of each year.

CLASS DEFINITIONS

- IALHA Lifetime Merit points may be earned by placing in any class at shows sanctioned by an organization recognized as being responsible for the governance of equestrian competitions, a sport, discipline, or breed. Examples include *but are not limited to*: USEF, USDF, WDAA, USAWE, AERC, USHJA, USEA, etc.
 - Applicants may request approval of other types of competitions that do not fall under the Eligible Classes described above. Approval will be determined by the IALHA Show Committee; decisions are final.
- Clinics, schooling shows, non-sanctioned shows and exhibitions are NOT eligible, and placings do not count toward Lifetime Merit award point accumulation.
- See the Disciplines and Divisions definition table for guidance in determining percentages for El Premio de Merito *with Distinction* or El Premio De Oro.



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Lifetime Merit Award Program

EARNING POINTS Points are calculated using the following scale:

# Horses in Class	Points for:				
	1 st place	2 nd place	3 rd place	4 th place	5 th place
1	2				
2	3	1			
3	4	2	1		
4	5	3	2	1	
5-8	6	4	3	2	1
9-15	8	6	5	4	3
16+	10	8	7	6	5

* Two (2) additional points are earned (add to the points earned using the scale above) when placing in any eligible show that is Open to All Breeds.

ENROLLMENT FORM and FEES

- Complete and send *Lifetime Merit Award Program Enrollment Form* to enroll. Nomination fees are due in full at the time that the enrollment is submitted.
- The one-time fee per horse of \$100 is due when Entry is submitted.
- To submit forms and fees, either:
 - E-mail form to info@ialha.org and call 205.995.8900 to request a PayPal invoice or pay by credit card, or
 - Mail form and check, to IALHA Attn: Lifetime Merit Award Program

RECORDING and REPORTING POINTS

 Attach all supporting documentation:

- Print out and submit official horse show results reports from a governing organization (USEF, USDF, etc.). This report must contain the Show name, Show Date, Horse's placing and number of horses in the class. Participants should run the report in accordance with the IALHA award program year. Please note that some organizations (e.g. USEF) may drop earlier years from their online show result reports as new ones are added. It is recommended that you print out horse result reports at the end of each program year.
- For points accumulated for which a results report is not available, submit a *Competition Points Report*, completed in its entirety and signed by the Show Secretary (often required for shows sanctioned by the USPRE or ANCCE).
- A tracking spreadsheet is available for use in tallying and tracking points. Type in the information, or print the sheet and write legibly. If this spreadsheet is not used, results must be provided in a clear, logical, and legible format.



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Lifetime Merit Award Program

- Points from years prior to enrollment date are accepted if the nominee was an IALHA member (at least Associate level) and proper documentation is supplied. If the nominee was not an active member, the "Prior Year" maybe purchased for \$50/year (in addition to the Lifetime Merit enrollment fee).
 - Prior years may be purchased at any time during participation in the awards program.
 - Prior Years do **not** have to be consecutive
- IALHA's volunteer Lifetime Merit Awards Program Coordinator verifies participant's points accumulation.

RECOGNITION

Lifetime Merit Award winners will receive an award and be recognized on the IALHA website and social media channels. Winners will be requested to complete an Awards Information Form along with photos and/or short a video if desired, (up to 3 minutes). IALHA may edit any copy that is provided and guidelines are subject to change.

Recognition is intended to celebrate the horse's achievements during its competition career rather than to be used for promotional purposes including (but not limited to): horse sales, stud service, boarding, training, etc.

Please contact the volunteer Lifetime Merit Awards Program coordinator regarding submission of materials (contact information below). Guidelines:

- Winners are invited to share their horse's story and encouraged to describe their journey to achieve it!
- If use of a video in the recognition is desired, supply a video file or a link to YouTube. Maximum video presentation play time is 3 minutes.
- Describe all disciplines the horse competed in, along with highlighting its record, such as National Championships, Regional honors, All-Breed awards, etc.
- Future plans and goals may be included.
- May mention other registries the horse is registered with and the name of horse's breeder, rider(s) & trainer(s).
- Please give credit to photographers of images supplied.
- Mention of the horse as for sale will not be included.
- If a Stallion, may state the horse is standing at stud and where, however specifics (stud fees, breeding info, contact info etc.) will not be included.
- May include a horse's collective number of offspring who have won show honors, e.g. "...has sired/produced 10 National Champions, 4 Reserve National Champions..." etc. However, exhaustive specific lists or details of the horse's offspring will not be included.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

IALHA's volunteer Lifetime Merit Awards Program Coordinator assists participants or potential participants by encouraging participation, answering questions and/or verifying points. Contact information may be found on the website – <https://ialha.org/programs-awards/>