

HRNZ Awards Criteria

To be eligible for any of these awards the horse must be trained in New Zealand

Voting Panel

- TAB representatives e.g bookmakers, presenters, commentators
- Media representatives
- Major club representatives
- Peoples Choice vote - 1

Plus the Awards Sub Committee (part of the voting panel)

- NZ Bloodstock
- Sires Stakes
- GM Racing, HRNZ
- Handicapper, HRNZ
- CEO, HRNZ
- Media and Communications, HRNZ
- Owner/Trainer Liaison
- Trainers/Driver Association
- Standardbred Breeders Association

(If a conflict of interest arises the person with the conflict will be unable to vote on that category).

Voting Panel to vote on all age group awards as well as

Trotter of the Year, Pacer of the Year and Horse of the Year

The nominees for these awards are based on data collected by HRNZ and then sent out to the voting panel to vote along with all the relevant information. The winner is decided by the horse who gets the most votes.

The Sub Committee (only, above) will vote on the below awards

Committee will be provided with 4 contenders based on data collected by HRNZ and the following in red:

Trotting Broodmare of The Year **Must have at least 3 racing progeny**

Pacing Broodmare of The Year **Must have at least 3 racing progeny**

Trotting Stallion of The Year **Minimum of 50 starters, at least 10% win to start ratio or at least 1 feature win**

Pacing Stallion of The Year **Minimum of 50 starters, at least 10% win to start ratio, minimum of at least 2**

feature wins (One extra criteria from the trotters because of volume of pacers)

Breeder of The Year **Minimum of 30 starts, at least 10% win to start ratio, at least 1 feature win or 20% win percentage**

Owner of The Year **Minimum of 30 starts, at least 10% win to start ratio, at least 1 feature win or 20% win percentage**

Other awards

Leading Junior Driver - decided by premiership

URD Junior Driver sponsored by the Cruickshank Family

Leading Driver - decided by premiership

Leading Trainer - decided by premiership

Outstanding Contribution to Life After Racing - decided by Life After Racing team, HRNZ

Best Moment of the Season - people's choice award.

Outstanding Contribution to Harness Racing

To only be awarded if someone fits into this category – it does not need to be awarded every year.

The award is based on a continued contribution to Harness over several years which is over and above what most people will do.

New Awards

Newcomer to training Award

- eligibility a licensed trainer who has trained for no more than 5 years
- they will be assessed on number of starters, number of winners, number of feature winners plus starters to winner's ratio. This will ensure its overall performance as a trainer rather than just training one good horse
- the award can only be won once
- Will be decided by the Sub Committee - who will be given 4 contenders.

Stablehand of the year

- Nominated by trainers with reasons why.
- they will be assessed on work attitude, going the extra mile, having the horse's best interest at heart and overall performance
- All nominations will go to the subcommittee for decision.

Unsung Heroes Award

- This award is to recognize the contribution to racing by either a horse or person who continually contribute to our sport. They are not the big winners of major races but the people or horses who keep our industry going. They are not necessarily paid for what they do or get the acknowledgement they deserve. From a horse perspective it is those horses that are not legends but consistently perform and help generate income for our sport. They are quietly competing behind the scenes.

Legends of our sport

- These are those persons or horses that have showcased harness racing at its best over the years and excelled in what they do.
- A horse or a person
 - 2 to 5 inductees each year

It is envisaged that a plaque recognising the Unsung Heroes and the Legends of our sport would be hung at HRNZ offices in recognition just like a Hall of Fame.