



FEI™ UPDATE

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION

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FEI AWARDS 2019 – VOTING IS NOW OPEN!

An impressive billing of equestrian athletes, individuals and projects have been shortlisted across the five Awards categories following the FEI's call to action for nominations from the global equestrian community. Flying the flag for 15 nations on five continents, the 22 shortlisted nominees have been selected for their outstanding achievements on the field of play, inspirational outlook and unparalleled dedication.

Check out the amazing back **stories** of all the nominees in the five categories: Peden Bloodstock FEI Best Athlete, Longines FEI Rising Star, Cavalor FEI Best Groom, FEI Against All Odds and FEI Solidarity.

The public now has 12 days (25 September to 7 October) to cast votes for their heroes. Make sure you have your say and vote **here!**

... and the Nominees are

Peden Bloodstock FEI Best Athlete

- Steve Guerdat (SUI), Jumping

- Martin Fuchs (SUI), Jumping
- Ingrid Klimke (GER), Eventing
- Bram Chardon (NED), Driving
- Sanne Voets (NED), Para Dressage

Cavalor FEI Best Groom

- Tim Varlec (SLO), groom for Irish Para Dressage athlete Tamsin Addison
- Madeleine Broek (NED), groom for Dutch Jumping star Marc Houtzager
- Yann Devanne (FRA), groom for French Olympic Eventing team gold medallist Thibaut Vallette
- Ann-Christin De Boer (GER), groom for Olympic Dressage golden girl Helen Langehanenberg

Longines FEI Rising Star

- Max Wachman (IRL), 15, Jumping
- Juan Martin Clavijo (COL), 19, Vaulting
- Semmieke Rothenberger (GER), 20, Dressage
- Costanza Laliscia (ITA), 20, Endurance

FEI Against All Odds

- Marie Vonderheyden (USA), Para Dressage
- Eric Lamaze (CAN), Jumping
- Tobias Thorning Jørgensen (DEN), Para Dressage
- Zhenqiang Li (CHN), Jumping

FEI Solidarity

- DSA LEAD Programme (RSA)
- Uno Yxklinten (SWE), farriery training programme in Zambia
- The Wheatland Farm Equestrian Center, Virginia (USA)
- The Jack Dodd Foundation (IRL)
- The Urban Equestrian Academy (GBR)

The winners will be decided through a voting system in which 50% of the public's vote and 50% of the judges' vote will be combined to give the final result.

The **nine expert judges** for the 2019 edition are as follows:

- Ingmar De Vos (BEL), FEI President
- Matthieu Baumgartner (SUI), Longines Vice President of Marketing
- Marina Sechina (RUS), President of the Russian Equestrian Federation and member of the FEI Solidarity Committee
- Simone Blum (GER), Jumping athlete and winner of the FEI Best Athlete Award 2018

- Peter Bollen (BEL), Founder and chief nutritionist of Cavalor
- Martin Atock (IRL), Managing Director of Peden Bloodstock
- Robin Parsky (USA), Vice Chairman of the Jumping Owners Club (JOC)
- Harald Link (THA), President Thailand Equestrian Federation
- Eve Van Den Bol (CAY), President Cayman Islands Equestrian Federation (CIEF) and member of the FEI Solidarity Committee

The 2019 Awards winners will then be announced and celebrated at a star-studded ceremony at the State Kremlin Palace in Moscow (RUS) on 19 November

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