



Awards Criteria – Gibby, Lifetime and Merit

(Revised 1/25/2026)

Document owner: Merit Awards chair

Contact info: The nomination along with any supporting information and the required signatures should be emailed to the Awards Committee Chair Becky Porter at meritawards@ohconline.com. Call or text Becky at (937) 597-3708.

The Merit Award Committee gives out several awards each year. The criteria and deadlines for each award are:

Gibby Award - The 'Gibby Award' is an honor given to an individual or couple who has made an outstanding effort to improve the trail system on public lands. The nomination must be submitted to the Merit Award Chairperson **by August 1** and must be signed by four (4) OHC members, each belonging to a different county. No more than one honoree will be selected each year. This award may be given upon the recommendation of the Merit Award Committee and approval by the OHC Executive Cabinet. The award will be announced at the November state membership meeting each year.

Lifetime Membership Award - The Lifetime Membership nominations must be submitted to the Merit Award Chairperson by September 30. The nomination must state the reasons this person is deserving of OHC's highest award, and also it must have signatures of four other OHC members (each from a different county) who endorse the nomination. Lifetime membership may be awarded upon the recommendation of the Merit Awards Committee by standard procedure for any Merit Award and approval of the Executive Council. The award is given at the November state membership meeting each year.

Requirements:

- Must be a member of the OHC in good standing for at least five years.
- Must have rendered important service towards meeting the goals of OHC.
- Must have held a position at State Level (officer, committee chair, or committee member for at least two years.

Merit - Any OHC member may make a nomination by simply naming and describing why they feel the person deserves the award along with an endorsement of the nomination by another OHC member.

Requirements:

An OHC member who has put forth special efforts to promote the goals of OHC.

- An outstanding accomplishment in a horse-related field by an outstanding OHC individual, adult or youth member.
- A non-OHC member who has demonstrated interest in and put forth special efforts to promote the goals of OHC.
- An Associate group that has supported OHC activities and goals.

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Becky Porter at meritawards@ohconline.com. Call or text Becky at (937) 597-3708.