



2018 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR, PRESENTED BY HENRY EQUESTRIAN: JILL BARTON



The Volunteer of the Year Award was created in 1998 to recognize the tireless volunteers who have selflessly contributed to the advancement of equine and equestrian interests in Canada. This award is an acknowledgement of the hard work and dedication of individuals who so generously give their time in order to support the goals and vision of Equestrian Canada (EC).

Jill Barton of Odessa, ON has devoted more than 40 years to volunteering in the equestrian community in Canada.

First becoming an EC Certified Official in 1979, Jill holds cards in a wide range of roles and disciplines from Arabian, Morgan and Welsh Judge to Endurance Technical Delegate to FEI Level 2 Jumping Steward. And despite her busy calendar as an official, she still dedicates countless volunteer hours within a variety of organizations.

Jill is a long-time member and supporter of the Arabian Horse Association of Eastern Canada (AHAEC), having served as treasurer for over 40 years. She has also served as a delegate for the Arabian Horse Association (AHA) for more than 20 years and spends many weeks per year on the road to conventions and horse shows to carry out her volunteer responsibilities. She has also been instrumental in organizing competitions and events for AHA Region 18 for many years.



In addition, Jill has dedicated over 20 years to volunteer positions on a broad range of committees, including the AHA Sport Horse Show Commission and Judges & Stewards Selection committees, and the EC National Breed Sports Committee. Plus, she is a current Category C Voting Member of EC, advocating on behalf of the breed sport community and representing the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry.

Jill has been an invaluable EC volunteer for decades, never hesitating to make herself available to contribute expert knowledge to committees and working groups on a wide range of topics. She is highly respected for her vast, collective knowledge that she shares openly and generously, as well as her ability to see beyond any one individual discipline and work to better equestrian sport as a whole.

Highly regarded by her peers and throughout the Canadian equestrian community, Jill is well known for her open mind, collaborative approach to changing the sport for the better, and steadfast willingness to not only share her knowledge, but jump in and lend a helping hand.

EC is immensely grateful for Jill's vast and longstanding contributions to equestrian sport and industry in Canada, and proud to recognize her incredible philanthropic contributions with the 2018 Volunteer of the Year Award.