

# Jole Birdsell Memorial Judge or Steward Scholarship

## **Purpose:**

This scholarship was created in memory of Jole Birdsell, a Judge and Steward, who mentored many of us in Washington State Horsemen over the last sixty years. Jole was passionate about education and the knowledge of the rules. She was a virtual encyclopedia and an incredible source of Information and history. This scholarship is to aid others in their desire to become a Judge or Steward. It is to be a true aid for those needing assistance to obtain a lifelong goal.

The Licensed Officials Committee (LOC) created a scholarship fund to help aspiring Judges or Stewards in the program with some of the expenses involved in the certification process. This scholarship honors Jole Birdsell's lifelong commitment to education, the horse industry and Washington State Horsemen. Jole loved horses and passionately supported her colleagues.

## **Scholarship Award Maximum:**

The maximum scholarship awarded to an applicant is \$500.00.

Scholarships may be awarded to more than one applicant IF sufficient funds are available.

## **Eligibility:**

This scholarship is for persons 20 years old and older, who are interested in becoming a Washington State Horsemen Licensed Official (Judge or Steward).

- Applicants must have experience with horses and showing.
- Applicants must be a current member of WSH.

The LOC Advisory Board/s will review all applications and essays.

The LOC Advisory Boards will use a points system to grade applications.

Winner of the scholarship award/s will be based upon total point accumulation.

Scholarship recipient/s must complete Learner program within 2 years of award of scholarship.

## **Assistance Available:**

1. Assistance is available to either Judge or Steward.
2. The applicant can be currently in the learner program or wishing to enter the learner program.
3. Assistance could consist of:
  - a) Possible waiving of the \$100.00 Learner fee application.
  - b) Aid with the cost of gas for long distance mileage to horse shows once in the program.
  - c) Aid with a portion of Lodging for learner shows that require a hotel stay.
  - d) Aid in the form of possible waiving of certain required clinic fees.

**Approval Process:**

1. For **NEW** Learners--Application into the learner program must be submitted with the scholarship application to the LOC Chair. For **EXISTING** Learners-the application must be submitted to the LOC Chair.
2. The LOC Advisory board/s will determine whether applicant is to be admitted to learner program AND/OR determine IF any scholarship can be awarded and the amount to be awarded.
3. Within 60 days of receipt of application/s and following the determination of the LOC Advisory Board, the LOC Chair will advise IF:
  - a. Applicant is approved only for the Learner program and NOT for scholarship assistance.
  - b. Applicant is approved for BOTH the Learner program AND scholarship assistance.
  - c. Applicant is NOT approved for EITHER the Learner program OR the scholarship.
  - d. EXISTING Learner is approved or not for scholarship assistance.
4. Once approved for the scholarship the applicant shall notify the LOC Chair in writing with a detailed plan of their intentions to fulfill the requirements of the program and a budget of how the scholarship funds will be requested. This must be approved by the LOC Chair and Advisory board prior to requesting reimbursement.
5. Once the applicant has attended a learner commitment they can then submit their receipts to the LOC Chair for prior approved reimbursements.
6. Failure to participate in any of the submitted plans can be grounds for suspension of the scholarship.
7. If the participant doesn't complete the learner program then any scholarship funds expended must be refunded to the LOC Jole Birdsell Scholarship program.

**Application for Scholarship:**

1. Date of Application\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name\_\_\_\_\_
3. Email\_\_\_\_\_
4. Address\_\_\_\_\_
5. Phone\_\_\_\_\_
6. WSH membership #\_\_\_\_\_
7. Other Equine Organization Membership\_\_\_\_\_
8. **APPLICATION MUST BE ATTACHED FOR NEW LEARNER**  
NEW LEARNER Judge \_\_\_\_\_ NEW LEARNER Steward\_\_\_\_\_
- EXISTING LEARNER Judge \_\_\_\_\_ EXISTING LEARNER Steward \_\_\_\_\_

**YOU MAY USE ADDITIONAL PAPER AS NEEDED TO RESPOND TO ESSAY QUESTIONS**

9. A short autobiography describing your interests, hobbies, show experiences, future goals, and why you believe you qualify for this scholarship. (20 Points).

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10. Describe your participation with horse shows and any equine activities. (20 points).

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11. A short essay describing your background with horses. (20 points).

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12. Describe some ways, you as a WSH member can help to promote WSH. (20 points)

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13. In the space below, please explain why you wish to become a Steward or Judge for WSH and how this scholarship can help you achieve your goals including the basis for the need for financial assistance: (20 points)

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- ***All scholarship forms, answers to the above questions, essays, and photocopies, must be sent via mail to: LOC Chairman, Sherri Williams, 7503 Lyons Lane, Yakima, WA 98903.***
- Sherri’s contact for questions via email [swluvs2trot@yahoo.com](mailto:swluvs2trot@yahoo.com) phone/text (509) 949-0291.
- Applicants will receive a confirmation verifying receipt of application form via email.
- Scholarship recipients will be notified no later than 60 days from date of receipt of application.
- Scholarship funds may only be used for the approved expenses designated by the LOC Advisory Board/s and LOC Chair.
- Reimbursement for mileage/travel costs or other expenses will be reimbursed to the scholarship recipient upon receipt of verification of approved expenses.
- The scholarship must be used within 2 years of the date of presentation or recipient will forfeit claim to the funds.
- If the participant doesn’t complete the learner program then any scholarship funds expended must be refunded to the LOC Jole Birdsell Scholarship program.

**Checklist:**

**Incomplete applications will NOT be considered.**

\_\_\_ Copy of WSH Membership

\_\_\_ \$100.00 entrance fee and application into the Learner program FOR NEW LEARNERS

\_\_\_ Contact information

**FOR BOTH APPLICANT AND THOSE SUBMITTING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FOR NEW LEARNER APPLICANTS**

\_\_\_ Answers to ALL questions