

15 August 2014

Dear USHJA Youth Sportman's Award Selection Committee,

I believe that Lizzy Traband should be the nominee from USHJA to the USEF for the Youth Sportman's Award. I cannot think of a junior member of our association that would be a better representative of the USHJA for this award.

The dedication to our sport exhibited by Lizzy is gratifying to see, and needs to be more prevalent in our industry. While anyone involved at regional or national level competitions in our industry is obviously privileged, Lizzy has accomplished a great deal without the financial banking provided to many of her peers. Her commitment to training young horses and bringing them along to competition shows patience and maturity beyond her years.

The sportsmanship exhibited by Lizzy is truly amazing. Having known Lizzy all her life, I can say that I have *never* seen Lizzy use her disability as an excuse. She was reluctant to compete in Para-Dressage, because she has always completed as an able-bodied athlete. Only the opportunity to expand her riding base by training in dressage at a high level both in able-bodied and Para provided the motivation to compete in this discipline. Many people have referred to Lizzy as being inspirational. Yes, she truly is inspirational, but not because she deals with a so-called disability, but because she is simply an amazingly dedicated, positive, and talented young equestrian.

Our sport needs positive role models like Lizzy, and I am confident that, should she be selected as the USHJA nominee, the USEF selection committee will be equally impressed

Sincerely

Elizabeth Solter
Amberley Farm