

I would like to nominate **Wallabee** for the 2015 Horse of the Year award (competitive).

Wallabee is a grey Canadian Warmblood gelding who was bred and foaled by Karen Erickson of Courtenay BC in 1998. His sire, Wallenstein and dam, Freya were both owned by Karen as well (see copy of registration papers, attached). Wallabee has been owned and ridden by Jolene Benham from Duncan BC since he was a 4 year old.

This handsome, talented gelding with an exceptional temperament has been a consistent winner in hunter, jumper and equitation classes throughout the Pacific Northwest. His show record speaks for itself. Most recently, Wallabee took his young junior rider (Kassidy Keith) to wins at the Royal West in Calgary, a very respectable placing in the prestigious ASPCA Maclay medal finals in Lexington and wins in the Jump Canada and CET medal finals at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

At 17, the versatile Wallabee continues to be a stronger contender at Gold level events.

PS:

Unfortunately, I don't have any photos of Wallabee as I am submitting this nomination as a surprise to Jolene, but there are many recent photos of him on Kassidy's Facebook page as well as many equestrian publications.

Thank you for considering Wallabee for this award.

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