

OHHA Recognizes June Outstanding Groom Award Winners

Mario Zito received the June Outstanding Groom Award for Northfield Park. Mario is 14 years old and grooms for Lisa Zgodzinski. “I never have to worry about him not showing up. He is very responsible and a hard worker. He displays proper behavior and is willing to work both day and night. He also has a great personality,” shared Zgodzinski.

The Scioto Downs groom winner for June was Eileen Washington, from Clarksburg, Ohio. Dan Ater is her trainer and shared, “She is responsible for eight horses as well as other team entries on race day. She also fills in as shipper as she is needed.” Eileen has been a groom since 2005 and started because of her love for horses. When Eileen isn’t with the horse she is a taxi driver for her children, getting them to their various activities such as softball, baseball, cheer and anywhere else they need to go. In her limited spare time, Washington likes to go horseback riding.

Congratulations to both of these grooms and thank you for the hard work you do taking care of your horses and helping the stable run smoothly.

Trainers / Owners, don’t forget to see your OHHA track representative to nominate your groom by filling out the 2018 Outstanding groom award application. Applications can also be found on the OHHA website under For Horsemen - Ohio Groom Appreciation Award (<https://www.ohha.com/for-horsemen.html>)



Mario Zito, Photo by Amy Hollar



Eileen Washington is the winner of the 1st 2018 Outstanding Groom award at Eldorado Gaming Scioto Downs, coincidentally she also grooms the People’s Horse, Lucky Lime. Photo by Brett Merkle