

REGULATIONS

on the International Award in the Field of Veterinary Medicine for Small Companion Animals “Vettoria”

Organizer	Lintega Media Group (Veterinary Medicine and Life publication), Lintega LLC
General Partner	NITA-FARM (NITA-FARM LLC)
Award Period	August 2026 - April 2027

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1. General Provisions

1.1. These Regulations define the goals, objectives, organization procedure and rules for conducting the International Award in the Field of Veterinary Medicine for Small Companion Animals “Vettoria” (hereinafter referred to as the “Award” or the “Competition”).

1.2. The Organizer of the Award is Lintega Media Group, represented by the editorial team of the industry publication Veterinary Medicine and Life (hereinafter referred to as the “Organizer”). The General Partner of the Award is NITA- FARM.

1.3. The Award is established as an annual award and is held starting in 2026.

1.4. Full official name: “International Award in the Field of Veterinary Medicine for Small Companion Animals ‘Vettoria’.”

1.5. Short name for use in publications and announcements: “Vettoria”.

1.6. The Award is an independent professional competition under the exclusive operational management of the Organizer. Winners in the main nominations are determined by the Jury by open voting; public voting is used exclusively in the satellite nomination “Audience Favorite”.

1.7. Principles of the Award:

- transparency and independence of evaluation; □ publicity of procedures - Jury regulations and minutes are published on the official Competition website; □ measurability of criteria - verifiable data are evaluated (clinical cases, protocols, implemented methods, production indicators); □ anti-fraud - technical and administrative measures to protect against unfair participation; □ equal access - veterinary professionals from Russia and foreign countries are eligible to participate regardless of their place of work;
- international recognition - representatives of international organizations are included in the Jury, ensuring the international standing of the Award. 1.7.1. The Organizer retains the exclusive right to determine the Jury's operating procedures, meeting format and scoring system. Direct interference by representatives of any third parties, including the General Partner, in the application evaluation process is prohibited. Exceptions are the "NITA-FARM Choice" nomination and public voting in the "Audience Favorite" nomination.

1.8. The official Competition landing page, application platform and main media platform are hosted by the Organizer primarily on the Organizer's resources (vetandlife.ru domain). The Organizer may use alternative technical platforms at its discretion. The user interface of the landing page and platform is maintained in Russian. The working language of the Award - the language of these Regulations, participants' competition materials and Jury publications - is Russian.

1.9. These Regulations constitute a public offer. Submission of an application means the participant's full acceptance of the terms of these Regulations.

1.10. Representatives of pharmaceutical companies are not prohibited from participating in the Award as participants (nominees).

2. Goals and Objectives

2.1. The goal of the Award is to recognize the professional achievements of practicing veterinarians in Russia, enhance the prestige of the veterinary profession, and encourage the dissemination of best practices in the industry.

2.2. Objectives of the Award:

- to identify and publicly recognize the most significant professional achievements of veterinarians and veterinary clinic professionals; □ to facilitate the introduction of innovative methods for diagnosing, treating and preventing animal diseases; □ to build an international professional community around an institutional industry award; □ to provide media coverage of the achievements of the international veterinary community through the Organizer's resources - the industry publications of Lintega Media Group or other platforms selected by the Organizer; □ to establish a sustainable annual tradition of recognizing the industry's leading professionals at the international level; □ to facilitate the integration of the Russian veterinary community into the global professional environment.

3. Participants

3.1. Practicing veterinarians working with small companion animals, regardless of their place of work - veterinary clinics, private practice, pet hotels, animal shelters, zoos, the state veterinary service or other organizations - are eligible to participate in the Competition provided they meet the following requirements:

CRITERION	REQUIREMENT
Citizenship / residency	Citizens of Russia, EAEU and CIS member states, as well as other foreign citizens, without restrictions as to place of work. Citizens, tax residents and persons permanently residing in states included in the list of foreign states and territories committing unfriendly actions against the Russian Federation (approved by Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 430-r dated 5 March 2022), as well as persons whose bank details for receipt of a prize relate to credit institutions located in such jurisdictions or subject to blocking sanctions, are not eligible for nominations carrying a cash prize. Persons in these categories may participate in the Competition only if they waive the cash prize in favor of an in-kind award (statuette, diploma, publication).
Education	Higher veterinary education (specialist degree or master's degree) in Veterinary Medicine or a related discipline.
Work experience	At least 3 years of practical professional experience as of the application date. For the "Young Professional of the Year" nomination - 3 to 5 years.
Place of work	Active veterinary practice involving small companion animals: work at a veterinary clinic, state veterinary service, private

practice, pet hotel, animal shelter, zoo, industry university or academy, or another organization.

Other restrictions	No unexpunged or outstanding criminal conviction (confirmed by a certificate upon formation of the shortlist).
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— self-nomination (independent submission of an application through the online platform); ☐ nomination by a work team or the management of an organization; ☐ nomination by professional associations and associations of veterinarians; ☐ nomination by industry universities and academies. 3.3. One participant may be nominated in no more than two nominations.

3.4. Members of the Competition Jury and employees of the Organizer may not participate in the Competition.

3.5. A participant may withdraw their application up to and including the end of the application period.

3.6. Participants from foreign countries may apply provided they meet all requirements of Clause 3.1. Foreign participants must additionally provide:

— a Russian translation of their education diploma (notarization is not mandatory; however, the Organizer may request it if the authenticity of the document is in doubt); ☐ confirmation of employment as of the application date (employment certificate or equivalent document); ☐ bank details in an international format (SWIFT/IBAN) for transfer of prize payments if the participant becomes a winner in a cash-prize nomination. 3.7. The working language of the Competition is Russian. All application materials, correspondence with the Organizer and publications following the Competition are in Russian. Application documents of foreign participants drawn up in another language must be accompanied by a Russian translation. The Jury evaluates applications exclusively on the basis of materials submitted in Russian.

4. Competition Nominations

4.1. The Competition is held among veterinarians and veterinary clinic professionals working with small companion animals and includes main and satellite nominations, as well as the special nomination “Best Veterinary Clinic”. Small companion animals include cats, dogs and other companion animals.

4.1.1. “Veterinarian of the Year” - main nomination

Awarded to the veterinarian who has had the most significant impact on the practice of treatment and prevention of animal diseases in Russia over the past year. Evaluation criteria: overall professional achievements, clinical experience, contribution to industry development and public recognition within the professional community.

4.1.2. “Best Clinical Project”

Awarded for an implemented clinical project supported by measurable results: documented cases, implemented protocols and clinical data. The number of patients and key outcomes must be specified.

4.1.3. “First Discovery / Innovative Method”

Awarded for the development and practical implementation of a new diagnostic approach, treatment or prevention method not previously used. Documentary evidence of novelty and practical application is mandatory.

4.1.4. “Professional Excellence of the Year”

Awarded to a veterinarian for outstanding professional expertise recognized by peers. Reputation in the professional community, contribution to training colleagues, publication activity and participation in professional events are evaluated.

4.1.5. “NITA-FARM Choice” - special nomination of the General Partner

Awarded to a veterinary professional for a collaborative contribution to the development of veterinary pharmaceutical practice: participation in clinical trials, implementation of new pharmacological protocols, and cooperation with manufacturers of veterinary medicinal products. The winner is selected independently by the General Partner following review of the applications. The prize is an exclusive tour of NITA-FARM's high-tech manufacturing facility in Saratov.

4.1.6. “Audience Favorite” - satellite nomination, public voting

Awarded on the basis of open voting by the audience of vetandlife.ru. Voting requires authorization through a social network. Voting is conducted among candidates who have passed preliminary moderation. Antifraud

measures are applied: social network authorization, vote limits, IP address and device filters, and manual moderation of suspicious activity. The Jury does not review the voting results.

4.1.7. “Young Professional of the Year”

Awarded to a veterinarian with 3 to 5 years of practical professional experience as of the application date (in accordance with Clause 3.1 of these Regulations) for the most significant professional result among early-career professionals.

4.2. Special nomination - “Best Veterinary Clinic”.

4.2.1. “Best Veterinary Clinic”

Awarded to a veterinary clinic for a high level of organization of veterinary care for animals, quality of clinical processes, and implementation of modern treatment and diagnostic standards. One application may be submitted per clinic; the clinic is

represented by its chief veterinarian or head. The organization as a whole, rather than an individual professional, is evaluated. The nomination does not carry a cash prize: the winner receives a statuette, diploma and publication in Veterinary Medicine and Life.

Evaluation criteria for the “Best Veterinary Clinic” nomination:

- quality of clinical protocols and operating standards; □ equipment and use of modern diagnostic and treatment methods; □ professional level of the team (specializations, participation in training and conferences); □ organization of work with clients and animal owners; □ reputation in the professional community (peer recommendations, industry reviews).
- 4.3. The Organizing Committee may establish additional special nominations in agreement with the General Partner. Satellite partners may establish their own thematic nominations subject to approval by the Organizer. Information on additional nominations is published on the official Competition website.

5. Evaluation Criteria

5.1. Applications in the main small-companion-animal nominations are evaluated according to the following criteria:

CRITERION	WEIGHT	DESCRIPTION
Professional result	35%	Documented clinical cases, implemented protocols, measurable treatment outcomes. Number of patients, animal species, description of the method and results.
Innovation	25%	Novelty of the approach compared with standard practice. Use of advanced diagnostic or therapeutic methods.
Contribution to the profession	20%	Teaching, mentoring, publications, participation in professional associations, conducting master classes.
Public recognition	10%	Recommendations from colleagues, feedback from patients and animal owners, publications in professional media.
Application quality	10%	Clarity of presentation, completeness of documentation, compliance with the stated nomination criteria.

CRITERION	WEIGHT	DESCRIPTION
Quality of clinical processes	35%	Treatment standards and protocols, quality-control systems for medical care, documentation of clinical cases.
Professional level of the team	25%	Specializations, continuing education, staff participation in professional events, teaching or mentoring activities.
Equipment and innovation	20%	Use of modern diagnostic and treatment equipment, implementation of new methods.
Reputation and client experience	20%	Feedback from the professional community, organization of work with animal owners, transparency of

communication. 5.3. Each criterion is scored from 1 to 10 points. A participant's final score is the weighted average of all Jury members' scores, taking the weighting coefficients into account.

5.4. If two participants have equal final scores, preference is given to the participant with the higher score for “Professional result”. If the scores are equal again, preference is given to the participant with the higher score for “Innovation”.

5.5. The Jury may request additional materials or explanations from a participant. The participant must provide the requested materials within 5 business days of receiving the request.

6. Application Requirements

6.1. Applications are submitted exclusively through the official Competition online platform during the application period.

6.2. Mandatory application package:

- a completed participant questionnaire in the prescribed form. The email address provided by the participant is the primary official communication channel with the Organizer throughout the Competition. The Organizer may also send notifications through the application platform interface where such functionality is available; ☐ a professional photograph of the participant (portrait, minimum resolution 1200 × 1200 px, JPG or PNG); ☐ a copy of the higher veterinary education diploma; ☐ a scanned copy of the employment record book or an extract therefrom confirming work experience; ☐ a description of the competition entry of 1,500 to 5,000 words in accordance with the requirements of the selected nomination; ☐ at least three documents confirming professional achievements (medical histories, discharge summaries, treatment protocols, production records); ☐ consent to personal data processing in the Organizer's form (Federal Law No. 152-FZ); ☐ consent to publication of competition materials in Lintega Media Group publications and to their transfer to the General Partner. 6.2.1. For participants who are non-residents of the Russian Federation and claim cash prizes, the Organizer may additionally request:
 - a scanned copy of an international passport; ☐ a document confirming the actual residential address; ☐ a completed identification and risk-assessment questionnaire (the questionnaire form is sent as an attachment to the request); ☐ a written representation by the participant that their name and the names of their beneficial owners are absent from international sanctions lists; ☐ a separate consent to personal data processing (the consent form is attached to the request). The Organizer may request the above documents both during the initial application review and while preparing a cash- prize payment. The participant must provide the requested documents within 5 business days from the date the request is sent. If documents are provided late or inaccurate information is submitted, the Organizer may refuse payment of the cash prize.

6.3. Additional materials (optional but recommended):

- participant video application (up to 3 minutes, MP4); ☐ letters of recommendation from colleagues, organization heads or professional associations (no more than three); ☐ the participant's publications in professional media; ☐ certificates, diplomas and attestations of professional training. 6.4. The description of the competition entry must be structured as follows:
 - brief summary of the achievement (no more than 300 words) - for publication on the Competition platform; ☐ description of the problem or initial situation; ☐ approach and methodology used; ☐ results with specific indicators; ☐ significance for the profession or industry.

6.5. The application must be submitted in Russian. Attached documents in foreign languages must be accompanied by a translation.

6.6. Applications submitted by methods other than that specified in Clause 6.1 of these Regulations are not accepted for consideration and are deemed non-compliant with the Regulations.

Applications that do not meet the requirements of Clauses 6.2 and 6.5 are not accepted for consideration. The participant is sent a notice stating the reason for rejection via the official communication channel. The period for correcting deficiencies is 5 business days from the day following the date on which the Organizer sends the notice. If correct documents are not provided within this period, the application is finally rejected.

6.7. The Organizer is not responsible for technical failures on the participant's side resulting in late or incomplete submission of an application.

7. Competition Procedure

7.1. The Competition is conducted in five stages:

No.	STAGE	DATES	CONTENT
1	Announcement and launch	August 2026	Branding, logo, brand book, landing page, Regulations, agreements, Organizing Committee, Jury. Information campaign on the platforms specified in Clause 1.8.
2	Application period	9 September - 30 November 2026	Launch of the online application platform. Acceptance of applications through the online platform. Preliminary moderation: verification of compliance with the Regulations. Application administration and collection of personal-data consents.
3	Jury work	December 2026 - January 2027	Evaluation of applications by Jury members according to the criteria in Section 5. Formation of a shortlist for each nomination (no more than 5 finalists). Publication of the shortlist. Video

			features about finalists.
4	Public voting	February - March 2027	Open voting only for the "Audience Favorite" nomination. Anti-fraud measures. Finalization of public-voting results.
5	Awards ceremony	April 2027	Formal ceremony. Announcement of winners. Presentation of statuettes, diplomas and cash prizes. Coverage and online broadcast.

- verification of the participant's compliance with Clause 3.1; ☐ verification of application completeness (Clause 6.2); ☐ verification of consents under Federal Law No. 152-FZ; ☐ notification of the participant of acceptance or rejection of the application within 10 business days. 7.3. Stage 3 - Jury work:
 - each Jury member independently evaluates applications according to the scale and criteria in Section 5; ☐ scores are entered into the Organizer's closed digital system; ☐ the final ranking is generated automatically based on the weighted average score (the tie-resolution algorithm is set out in Clause 5.4); ☐ a Jury meeting for each nomination is held in person or remotely; the results are documented in minutes;
 - the shortlist is approved by the Chair of the Jury and published no later than 31 January 2027. 7.4. The shortlist for the main nominations includes no more than 5 finalists in each nomination. The shortlist for the "Audience Favorite" nomination is formed based on the results of public voting in accordance with Clause 7.5.1 of these Regulations.
- 7.5. The winner in each main nomination is the participant with the highest weighted average score based on the Jury evaluation (1st place). Second and third places are awarded to participants with the corresponding score ranking.
- 7.5.1. The winner of the "Audience Favorite" nomination is determined by public voting. All candidates who have passed preliminary moderation (Clause 7.2) participate in the vote. Based on the voting results, a shortlist of the 10 candidates receiving the highest number of votes is formed. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes is the winner. In the event of a tie, the Organizing Committee makes the decision. Public-voting results are published on the Competition website no later than 5 business days after the vote count is completed.
- 7.6. Competition results are final. Appeals are accepted in writing no later than 10 business days from the date the shortlist is published:
- appeals concerning the professional assessments of Jury members are considered by the Chair of the Jury within 5 business days; ☐ appeals related to disqualification of a participant (Clauses 8.3 and 10.2) or violation of the Competition rules are considered by the Organizing Committee (Clause 14.2). The Organizing Committee's decision on such appeals is final. 7.7. Decisions refusing a cash payment on the grounds set out in Clause 9.6 (due to identified sanctions restrictions) are not subject to appeal. A participant may request an explanation of the reasons why payment cannot be made; such request will be considered by the Organizer in accordance with the established procedure.

8. Competition Jury

8.1. The Organizer forms an independent professional Jury to evaluate applications.

8.2. The Chair of the Jury is the Editor-in-Chief of Lintega Media Group (Veterinary Medicine and Life publication).

8.3. At the time these Regulations are established, the composition of the Jury is planned. The final composition is approved by the Organizing Committee and published on the official Competition website. The planned composition includes representatives of the following organizations:

ORGANIZATION	AREA OF EXPERTISE
St. Petersburg State University of Veterinary Medicine (SPbSUVM)	Veterinary education, clinical veterinary medicine
Don State Technical University (DSTU)	Veterinary science, small companion animals
Moscow Veterinary Academy (MVA)	Veterinary education, surgery, small companion animals
Rosselkhoznadzor	State veterinary supervision
Ministry of Agriculture of Russia, Veterinary Department	State veterinary policy
NITA-FARM - authorized representative of the General Partner	Veterinary pharmaceuticals
Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University), Agrotechnological University	Veterinary education, international cooperation
World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)	International veterinary standards

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	International standards, food security
Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), Department for Sanitary, Phytosanitary and Veterinary Measures	EAEU veterinary regulation
Association of Practicing Veterinarians of Russia	Professional community, clinical practice

Association of Practicing Veterinarians of Russia Professional community, clinical practice 8.4. A representative of NITA-FARM is included in the Jury while maintaining an independent majority: the number of independent experts must be at least five times the number of General Partner representatives.

8.5. Jury members undertake to:

- maintain confidentiality regarding the evaluation process until the shortlist is published; ☐ notify the Chair of any potential conflict of interest before evaluation begins; ☐ refrain from evaluating a specific application where a conflict of interest exists.

8.6. The Organizing Committee may engage additional experts to evaluate highly specialized nominations. Such experts have no voting rights but may participate in an advisory capacity.

8.7. Jury decisions are made by open voting by a majority of the Jury members present.

8.7.1. Tie-resolution procedure. If final scores are equal, preference is given to the participant in accordance with the priority criteria set out in Clause 5.4 of these Regulations. If application of the criteria in Clause 5.4 does not resolve the tie, the Chair of the Jury has the casting vote.

8.7.2. Separation of powers. Applications are evaluated by Jury members solely on the basis of competition materials. Issues concerning document authenticity, authorship, and compliance with Competition rules (including anti-fraud system checks) do not fall within the Jury's competence and are within the exclusive competence of the Organizing Committee (Clauses 10.2 and 14.2).

9. Prize Fund and Awards

9.1. Competition winners receive the following awards:

NOMINATION	PLACE	PRIZE
Veterinarian of the Year	1st place	Statuette, diploma, RUB 100,000 and publication in Veterinary Medicine and Life
Veterinarian of the Year	2nd place	Diploma and RUB 70,000
Veterinarian of the Year	3rd place	Diploma and RUB 50,000
Best Clinical Project	1st place	Statuette, diploma and RUB 100,000
Best Clinical Project	2nd place	Diploma and RUB 70,000
Best Clinical Project	3rd place	Diploma and RUB 50,000
First Discovery / Innovative Method	1st place	Statuette, diploma and RUB 100,000
First Discovery / Innovative Method	2nd place	Diploma and RUB 70,000
First Discovery / Innovative Method	3rd place	Diploma and RUB 50,000
Professional Excellence of the Year	1st place	Statuette, diploma and RUB 100,000
Professional Excellence of the Year	2nd place	Diploma and RUB 70,000
Professional Excellence of the Year	3rd place	Diploma and RUB 50,000
Best Veterinary Clinic	Winner	Statuette, diploma and publication in Veterinary Medicine and Life (no cash prize)
NITA-FARM Choice	Winner	Exclusive tour of NITA-FARM's high-tech manufacturing facility in Saratov and a diploma
Audience Favorite	Winner	Diploma and special gift
Young Professional of the Year	Winner	Diploma and special gift

9.3. Cash prizes are paid to the 1st-, 2nd- and 3rd-place winners in four main nominations. The 1st-place prize in the "Veterinarian of the Year" nomination additionally includes publication of an extended story about the winner in Veterinary Medicine and Life (vetandlife.ru) in Russian.

9.4. Cash prizes for winners who are tax residents of the Russian Federation are subject to personal income tax in accordance with Russian law; the Organizer acts as tax agent. For winners who are non-residents of the Russian Federation, taxation is carried out in accordance with Russian law.

9.5. Winners must provide the Organizer with the required set of documents and bank details for transfer of the cash prize within 10 business days from the date of the awards ceremony. Winners who fail to provide the documents within the prescribed period or provide bank details to which the cash prize cannot be transferred (including on the grounds set out in Clause 9.6) lose the right to receive the cash prize. The right to receive the in-kind portion of the award (diploma, statuette, publication) is retained.

9.6. Payment of cash prizes to foreign citizens and persons who have provided bank details at foreign banks is made subject to the following conditions:

- the winner, their beneficial owners and related persons, and the recipient bank are not included in sanctions lists as of the date the payment order is generated (the Organizer conducts the check using international compliance systems); ☐ the Organizer's correspondent bank confirms the technical possibility of making the cross-border transfer; ☐ the winner provides a complete set of documents satisfying the requirements of Federal Law No. 173-FZ "On Currency Regulation and Currency Control" and the Organizer's internal security policy. If payment cannot be made for the above reasons, the Organizer is released from liability for failure to perform the obligation to pay the cash prize and is not subject to any penalties.

The parties acknowledge that the introduction of sanctions preventing payment, including the inclusion of the winner, their beneficial owners and related persons, or the recipient bank in sanctions lists as of the date the payment order is generated, constitutes a circumstance releasing the Organizer from liability for delay or inability to perform the monetary obligation under these Regulations.

10. Anti-Fraud Measures and Procedure Protection

10.1. To ensure the integrity of the Competition, the following measures are applied:

- authorization of participants in public voting through a social network (using a verified account);
 - vote limit: no more than 1 vote from one account for one candidate per day; ☐ IP address filters: no more than 5 votes from one IP address per day; ☐ device filters: device fingerprint tracking; ☐ manual moderation: identification and removal of suspicious activity patterns.
- 10.2. The Organizer may disqualify a participant if unfair promotion methods are identified (vote manipulation, fictitious letters of recommendation, forged documents). A decision on disqualification is made by the Organizing Committee and may be appealed by the participant in accordance with Clause 7.6 of these Regulations.

10.3. Jury evaluation records for the main nominations are published on the official Competition website no later than 7 business days after the winners are announced.

11. Personal Data Processing

11.1. Participants' personal data are processed in accordance with Federal Law No. 152-FZ of 27 July 2006 "On Personal Data".

11.2. When submitting an application through the online platform, the participant consents to personal data processing by checking the relevant boxes in the form. The specific purposes of processing, wording of the consents and methods of implementation are communicated to the participant directly in the platform interface during registration. In particular, the basic set of consents includes:

- processing of personal data by the Organizer for the purpose of conducting the Competition; ☐ publication of the participant's name, photograph and competition materials in Lintega Media Group publications; ☐ transfer of personal data and competition materials to the General Partner for marketing and HR purposes.
- 11.3. The Organizer undertakes not to transfer participants' personal data to third parties not specified in Clause 11.2 without the participant's additional consent.

11.4. A participant may withdraw consent to personal data processing by sending a written application to the Organizer. Withdrawal of consent results in the participant's exclusion from the Competition.

12. Rights to Competition Materials

12.1. By submitting an application, the participant grants the Organizer a royalty-free, non-exclusive license to use the competition materials (description of the work, photographs, video application) for the entire term of copyright protection, without territorial limitation, for the following purposes:

- publication on the official Award landing page (vetandlife.ru) and in partner industry online publications (including agroexpert.press, the Pitomtsy ("Pets") magazine (pitomcy.press), and the relevant social media accounts); ☐ use in information materials about the Competition; ☐ transfer to the General Partner for use in its PR and marketing materials.
- 12.2. Attribution of the participant's authorship is mandatory when their materials are published.

12.3. The participant warrants that the competition materials are original, do not infringe the rights of third parties, and may be used in the manner provided for by these Regulations. If third parties bring claims against the Organizer in connection with the use of the participant's materials, the participant undertakes to settle all disputes independently and at their own expense and to reimburse the Organizer in full for documented losses caused by such claims (including

court costs, fines and payments to rights holders) no later than 10 (ten) business days from receipt of the relevant demand from the Organizer.

13. Awards Ceremony

13.1. The formal awards ceremony for the winners is held in April 2027.

13.2. The recommended format is as part of the Moscow International Veterinary Congress (MIVC). The specific date, venue and format are determined by the Organizing Committee and published no later than 30 days before the event.

13.3. The ceremony includes:

- a welcome address by the Chair of the Jury; ☐ a welcome address by a representative of the General Partner; ☐ announcement and presentation of awards in each nomination; ☐ presentation of the special "NITA-FARM Choice" nomination personally by a representative of the General Partner; ☐ opportunities for marketing and image-building activities of the General Partner and other partners of the Organizer during the ceremony; ☐ an online broadcast on the official Competition landing page (vetandlife.ru), and/or partner industry online publications, and/or the Organizer's communities and social media accounts. 13.4. Winners must confirm their participation in the ceremony no later than 14 days in advance. If personal attendance is not possible, they must notify the Organizer and agree on a remote award format.

13.5. All organizational costs of the ceremony are borne by the Organizer. Winners' travel and accommodation expenses are not reimbursed unless otherwise agreed separately.

13.6. The Organizer is not responsible for the safekeeping of participants' and guests' personal belongings during the ceremony.

14. Organizing Committee

14.1. An Organizing Committee is established for the operational management of the Competition and consists of representatives of the Organizer and the General Partner.

14.2. The Organizing Committee is responsible for:

- approving and amending the Regulations; ☐ forming and changing the composition of the Jury; ☐ approving the timing of each stage; ☐ making decisions on participant disqualification; ☐ considering appeals, including those related to allegations of plagiarism, infringement of third-party copyrights or submission of inaccurate information by participants; ☐ approving the engagement of satellite partners. 14.3. The Organizing Committee may amend these Regulations. Amendments are published on the official Competition website no later than 10 business days before they enter into force and do not apply to applications already submitted. An exception is replacement of individual Jury members: if an expert is replaced, applications submitted earlier are evaluated by the current Jury in accordance with the requirements and criteria in force at the time the relevant application was submitted.

15. Final Provisions

15.1. These Regulations enter into force upon publication on the official website vetandlife.ru.

15.2. For questions regarding participation in the Competition: vetaward@lintega.ru.

15.3. The Organizer reserves the right to postpone or cancel the Competition due to circumstances beyond its control, notifying participants at least 14 days in advance.

15.4. Participants who identify violations of the Competition procedure may submit a complaint to the Organizing Committee by email. The complaint is considered within 5 business days.

15.5. These Regulations are drawn up in Russian, which is the official language of the Award. In all matters not covered by these Regulations, the Organizer and participants who are residents of the Russian Federation are governed by the laws of the Russian Federation. For foreign participants, insofar as their rights and obligations are concerned, rules of private international law apply to the extent that they do not conflict with mandatory provisions of Russian law, decrees of the President of the Russian Federation, counter-sanctions regulation measures, and the Organizer's internal financial-security requirements. If a cross-border payment becomes impossible due to restrictive measures (sanctions) imposed on the winner, their beneficial owners and related persons, or the recipient bank, or due to correspondent banks refusing to process the transaction, the Organizer may withhold (suspend or terminate) payment of the cash prize without penalties being imposed on the Organizer.

Organizer: Lintega LLC, Lintega Media Group, Veterinary Medicine and Life publication. Websites: lintega.ru, vetandlife.ru.

General Partner: NITA-FARM LLC.