**Equestrian Team Information**

**What:** Concord Equestrian Center Equestrian Teams are open to Middle and High School aged riders. We offer English (IEA) and Western styles of riding (YEDA). English riders compete in Equitation on the Flat and over fence classes. Western Riders compete in Horsemanship(rail and pattern), Ranch Riding and Reining. ALL of the classes are grouped based on riders experience level ie:if a rider is a first year lesson student they would be placed in a class with other first year riders. This helps level the playing field for riders! Each rider gets the chance to show to accumulate points to move on to the different levels-regionals, semi-finals and nationals!!

**When:** The season runs from September-July. With the season starting in September we would like ALL IEA members to have their rider membership completed by September 1. Each rider will have to take 1 weekly lesson ($40 per lesson) to be a member of the team.

**Cost:** Each rider is required become a member of IEA or YEDA plus pay a team fee. Each year the fees change but usual the rider membership is $60 and the team fee is $150.

**Show Clothing:** Each rider will be responsible for purchasing their own show clothes. We will go over clothing during the informational meeting or individually. **NO HORSE OR TACK REQUIRED!!!!**

**Show expenses:** IEA classes are $45 each and Yeda costs range depending on the show. Classes are $45 each and each class has a ride fee of $35. Coaching fee for the day is $500 per day split amongst all riders showing.

All coach’s hotel costs and mileage is split amongst the riders showing.

Riders will be invoiced prior to the show and the fees are due before the closing date of each show. There are no guaranteed refunds.

**Where:** IEA Shows are held throughout Ohio with regionals being local. Semi-finals and Nationals are usually out of state events that change yearly. IEA show dates will be given as soon as they are available for the season. We communicate via email frequently so please make sure your email is up to date.

**Fundraising:** We will have several opportunities for riders to do fundraising that will go directly to the riders show expenses!!! Those details will be out closer to the beginning of the show season.

**Fast Facts**

* **Riders do not need to own a horse!**
* Classes are offered on ability levels! Different combination of ability levels on a team is permissible, but it is advantageous to have at least one rider in every class to be competitive as a team.
* Riders in grades 4-5 elementary, 6-8 are eligible for Middle School Teams while riders in grade 9-12 compete at the High School level.
* Points are tracked for individual rider accomplishments AND for overall, team accomplishments. Individuals and teams earn points to qualify for regional, zone and national finals.
* The competition season starts September 1st and ends at the National Finals in late spring / early summer.
* Students ride horses that are furnished by the host barn and chosen by random draw. The use of personal tack is not allowed and limited schooling is permitted. This equalizes competition variables and tests the horsemanship of the contestants.
* YEDA offers an AMAZING scholarship program!!
* YEDA National Qualifiers are based on the top 20% or top 10 riders per division from the whole season of points, not one ride and one draw at one qualifying show.
* YEDA Riders can show up to 10 judges, but their top 6 are accounted for as their qualifying points. This gives the rider the opportunity to drop their 4 lowest rides.
* COLLEGE RIDING SCHOLARSHIPS!!!