**Welcome to “Team Randolph-Macon”!**

**A message from Coaches John West/Beth Jones**

We are very excited about Team Randolph-Macon! We are happy to expand our team as we grow together. We will provide the current season show list as it becomes available. I do understand that there are some shows that you might not be able attend; our hope is that we can all participate in as many as possible as a team!

Please go to the IEA website (<http://www.rideiea.org/>) and click on Rules, select Zone 3, and download the rules. **It is everyone’s responsibility to know the rules**. Please pay special attention to the descriptions of your classes, and please look at #3304 Hunt Seat Rider Tests. These are tests that you will need to know and perform correctly. While not all Flat Classes will need to know all 13 tests, please look at your class description to determine which tests are required.

**IEA Introduction**

The Interscholastic Equestrian Association (“IEA”) was formally established in the spring of 2002. The IEA held its first annual national championship event the following year in Willoughby, Ohio. A non-profit organization, the IEA has grown both geometrically and geographically each year. Beginning with just 200 students-riders, the IEA now has over 8,000 members in 32 states across North America which are split into 10 zones.

The MISSION of the IEA is to introduce students in private and public middle and secondary schools to equestrian sports and to promote and improve the quality of equestrian competition and instruction.

The IEA PURPOSE is to set minimum standards for competition, provide information concerning the creation and development of school associated equestrian sport programs, promote the common interests of safe riding instruction, competition, and education on matters related to equestrian sport at the middle and secondary school levels (primarily ages 11 through 19).

To fulfill its purpose, the IEA offers guidance regarding the creation and development of school and/or barn associated equestrian programs. IEA coaches aim to develop understanding and appreciation of equestrian sports through organized student competitions and additional equine educational opportunities.

Students have the opportunity to earn scholarships toward their college education through awards in competition and through sportsmanship activities.

**IEA Competition Format**

The unique aspect of the competitions, both at the local and national level, is that none of the riders will supply their own horses or tack. Instead, the host team arranges for the horses and equipment. Since the horse is new to the rider, the scores are based upon horsemanship and equitation. All disciplines offer a variety of ability levels from beginner through advanced. The IEA has set guidelines for the placement of new riders entering the IEA to allow for the unique program format of riding an unfamiliar horse.

The IEA is an affiliate of the National Reining Horse Association (NRHA), the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), the United States Hunter Jumper Association (USHJA) and the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA).

**IEA Goals:**

* To encourage recognition for middle and secondary school equestrians and to promote the equestrian as an athlete.
* To provide riders with organized competitive opportunities.
* To introduce new riders to equine sports.
* To promote the IEA among its constituencies.
* To provide riders with opportunities to further their education in equine sports and equine-related matters.
* To encourage liaison with other equestrian associations for the betterment of equestrian sports.
* To encourage a higher standard of coaching and instruction.
* To provide information concerning the creation and development of mounted and non-mounted equestrian programs.
* To establish and enforce IEA [rules](http://www.rideiea.org/rules/overview.html), standards and policies.
* To keep pace with the continuing progress of equestrian sports and to encourage good horsemanship.
* To generally promote the common interests of riding instruction and competition, and education on matters related to all segments of the horse industry.
* To develop team and individual sportsmanship.
* To establish a foundation to support the continuing mission of the IEA

**How to get started:**

IEA Forms – Register online at [www.rideiea.org](http://www.rideiea.org) , print application, print receipt and get all signatures.

**Lessons:**

If you are a student of Coventry Farm you are required to take two lessons a week, to be billed by Coventry Farm.

If you ride at another barn, you are required to take one lesson a month at Coventry farm with payment for lessons due in full at the start of the season. The cost is $270.00 for 6 lessons September through February.

Any additional lessons will be paid the day of the appointment.

If you go to Regional, Zones or Nationals, additional lessons will be paid at time of appointment.

**Payment for Horse Shows:**

Payment is due before the horse show starts. You will not be able to get your rider number until payment is made. You will be informed a head of time of show costs and expenses.

**What to bring to the show:**

Some Cash (for food) and a Check to pay for show fees.

Chairs to sit on

Snacks/Drinks – There should have a vendor there but never count on it.

Rain Jacket or Medium weight jacket.

Umbrella – Just in case

**SHOW CLOTHES:**

Girls must have their hair up and in their helmets – (Hair net and rubber band) NO HAIR BUN NET outside of helmet.

Boys must have a tie…I prefer a blue or red.

Black Approved Show Helmet – NO SCHOOLING HELMETS/COVERS

Show Shirt (CLEANED)

Show Jackets (CLEANED) Navy Blue/Black preferred

Riding Pants (CLEANED)

Jodhpur straps if wearing Jodhpur pants

Boots (CLEAN)

Black Gloves (MUST HAVE)

Black Crop if you have one…if not I will have one.

YOU DO NOT NEED YOUR SADDLE. The owner of the horse will have a saddle for them.