

Riding

GURC Teams Pre-trials Information

Pre-trials:

During freshers week our committee will be at our stall in the Stevenson building for the GUSA freshers fayre, which will provide an ideal opportunity to meet current GURC members and sign up for our email list. Prior to trials taking place, riders will be expected to email our teams captain (gurc-teams@hotmail.co.uk) with specific information regarding their riding and competitive experience. We recommend that you join our Facebook group and follow us on Instagram @gusariding to keep up to date with everything GURC related. Candidates for teams trials must be capable of jumping a course at BS British Novice level and doing a BD Novice dressage test, all on an unknown horse. There are 12 spaces available in total for our 3 teams that compete in Region A of BUCS Equestrian leagues.

Trials structure:

Trials will take place on the morning of Wednesday the 20th September 2017, the week after freshers week, and will be based at our home yard, Busby Equitation Centre. Transport will be available to take everyone to the stables, so no need to worry about getting there! However, if you would like to make your own way to the yard, please let us know in advance. Once at Busby, riders will be split into small groups and will at least one horse on the flat. Following this, the best riders will go forward to jump a course of fences on at least one horse. There is a cost of £10 per rider to participate in the trials, although you do not need to be a member of the club initially. Usually around 30 people attend trials with the results will be released later that day. During trials, please feel free to talk to previous team members or committee members if you have any queries about any aspect of GURC. Everyone riding will need to wear suitable riding attire, including an up to date hat which may be borrowed on the day from Busby. Teams are selected by the GURC Teams Captain with the assistance of a qualified official.

Training:

All three teams train on a weekly basis at our home yard, Busby Equitation Centre in Clarkston. Lessons are held at a time which is mutually convenient for both team members and the yard at a cost of £17 (an exclusive price for GURC members only). The horses supplied are a mix of riding school type and liveries. **No part of being a team member requires you to have your own horse.** Team members **must be a member of the gym** which costs £100 (this is free for anyone staying in student halls) and be a **member of GURC** (£50). As a team member, you are expected to attend all training sessions unless you have a good reason which has been discussed with your team captain. **The teams as decided by the GURC Teams Captain are in no way permanent, and there may be some switching of riders as training progresses dependent on the development of the riders and the feedback of our qualified coach.** As you can imagine, it is very hard to judge a rider in a short space of time at the trials and the structure of riding in BUCS competition is very unique.

Competition structure:

All competitions take place on Wednesday mornings, often running into the afternoon. Dates for competitions will be made available by the Teams Captain once they have been agreed by all of the Universities in the mini-leagues. Each team will compete in a mini-league in Region A (Scotland) consisting of a maximum of four different Universities. In the event of a team winning their mini-league, they will progress onto Regionals. BUCS competitions are based on riders competing on unknown horses, so an ability to establish a quick and stable partnership with horses is an absolute must! Everyone competes in both the dressage and showjumping phases of the competition. Horses are selected at random and then competitors are given a maximum of 10 minutes to warm up. Riders will compete on different horses to their team members with the aim being the win against the riders from the other Universities on that same horse. Dressage marks are given as under BD rules with the aim of assessing how effective the rider is at producing a good test. Showjumping is based on style marks, so each fence is given a score out of 10 and then collectives are addressed at the end of the round. A full copy of the current BUCS rules is available at <https://www.bucs.org.uk/page.asp?section=19298§ionTitle=Equestrian>

Previous GURC Teams success:

2016-17

A team = BUCS Equestrian Nationals Championship Team Bronze medallists

B team = BUCS Equestrian Nationals Trophy Team Bronze medallists

C team = BUCS Equestrian Scottish Regional Team 2nd

Above all, those riding on GURC teams are expected to show a positive competitive spirit and conduct themselves in a friendly, polite and professional manner at all times when they are representing the club whether it be at training or during competition. We are very proud of our teams achievements and while we wish to uphold our success, we would also like GURC teams to continue to be known for being helpful and welcoming at all times.

Please check out the full results of our previous teams' successes on our website at <http://www.guridingclub.co.uk/team-results.html>

There is also ample footage of the 2016/17 teams riding at BUCS Nationals on the GURC teams youtube page, which can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjsPWdWcOsTzJfi9uDYD0FQ>

If you have any further questions regarding teams then please do not hesitate to contact our Teams Captain at gurc-teams@hotmail.co.uk