

## Ravenwood Farm IEA Team 2018-2019 Show Season



**Thank you to all riders and parents for taking interest in joining our IEA team for its third season!**

This opportunity is available to students entering grades 6 - 12.

Classes in this program range from walk/trot/canter for students new to showing, up through the Varsity and Future Open Divisions for more experienced riders.

The IEA was founded on the principle that any middle school or high school student should be able to participate in horse shows, regardless of their financial status or riding level. The IEA attempts to eliminate the expenses of students owning horses and allows more students to compete. Students ride horses that are provided by the host barns during their team's horse show.

Many schools offer their students an opportunity to earn letter jackets and achieve other types of school recognition. In addition, last year's IEA riders were offered over \$125,000 in college scholarships! For high schoolers interested in continuing their riding career in college, the IEA team helps give exposure to college teams that they may not have been able to have otherwise. This is a unique opportunity in our sport, as the USEF and other local horseshow organizations do not put as much focus on the scholastic side of things.

This program is available to students in our lesson program, boarders of RWF, as well as students from other local farms who meet the necessary age and ability level requirements.

Since this is a school-recognized sport, it is important that you are able to maintain a 3.0 weighted GPA in order to represent Team Ravenwood at horse shows. Any semester that a student drops below a 3.0 will have one grading period to bring their grades up before they are placed on an academic probation. Any reasons that would prevent a student's ability to maintain a 3.0 GPA can be discussed with me further.

### **Individual requirements for competing:**

IEA horse shows consist of regular season shows from September through January, as well as post-season shows which begin in February and last through as late as April.

Riders will show in 2 classes each day, one class over fences and one equitation on the flat. Flat riders will show twice as well, once in a walk trot class used as a warm up, and one walk trot canter class which is recorded for points.

Riders who have accumulated **18 or more points** throughout the regular season will move onto the Regional horse show. Those who further qualify could then potentially move on to Zone finals, and then National Finals shows. By joining the team, each rider should have a personal goal of earning the 18 points in each of their classes required to make it to Regionals. The point system is based on the following:

- 1st place: 7 points**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place: 5 points**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place: 4 points**
- 4<sup>th</sup> place: 3 points**
- 5<sup>th</sup> place: 2 points**
- 6<sup>th</sup> place: 1 point**

**Each individual rider is allowed to participate in up to 5 shows per season.** Although it is feasible to qualify in a class with only 3 shows, it is highly recommended to allow for 5 horse shows (1 day each) in your schedule in order to acquire your necessary points. It is not likely that in this somewhat “luck of the draw” scenario that a rider gets a horse that compliments their skillset every time, so more often than not, it takes all 5 opportunities to achieve what you need for post-season competition.



## Team requirements for competing:

Not only are individual points calculated and recorded for the IEA, but there is an equally important element to being a part of Team Ravenwood. Just as you can qualify as an individual for post-season showing, our middle and high school teams also have a chance to represent in the TEAM category!

The way it works:

Each show day, one rider per class will be the designated point rider. Whatever placing the point rider earns in their class is recorded both for their own personal points, as well as how they measure up against each point rider from every other team. At the conclusion of the show, the 6 teams with the most points will earn between 1-7 team points, similarly to the way it works for individual recording.

This season, to qualify for Regionals under the TEAM category for both High School and Middle School would be a huge success! **Each team must earn 22 points per season to make it to Regionals**, so the more shows we attend as a full team (one rider in each class offered) the better!



## Point Riders:

Point riders will be assigned at the coaches' discretion at the start of each show day. This year, primary and secondary point riders will be assigned at the beginning of the season. In order to take on the role as point rider for the team, they must be open to attend 5 shows, 3 of which will be decided by the coaches what day they will be most needed.

It is possible for a team member to be promoted to point rider mid-season should they show growth and potential, just as it is possible for the assigned point riders to be demoted if they are not meeting the necessary requirements.

This year, we will assign team captains both for High School and Middle School, which will largely be decided by the votes of their peers. Captains will be responsible for various organizational and leadership tasks, and will be based as much on commitment to team morale as it will be to riding experience and success. Only 2nd+ year team members eligible.

## **Team Practices:**

There will be 2 practices each month for all riders on the team, divided by HS/MS and ability level. Riders must attend at LEAST one of these practices in order to participate in horse shows. Riders must also take at least one lesson per week with their usual instructor. Riders who wish to participate who do not lesson with RWF weekly are required to attend BOTH team practices each month.

## **Tuesday Practices:**

**First Tuesday of each month @ 5pm- Varsity High School**

**Second Tuesday of each month @ 5pm- JV High School**

**Third Tuesday of each month @ 5pm- O/F Middle School**

**Fourth Tuesday of each month @ 5pm- Flat Middle School**

## **Sunday Practices:**

(One Sunday per month depending on USEF Show schedule)

**11am- ALL High School**

**1pm- ALL Middle School**

**\*\*There will be a make-up lesson for people with schedule conflicts on the last Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm.\*\***



## **Upfront Cost to join the team:**

The total cost due between today and August 15th will be **\$160.00**

### **Cost breakdown:**

\$60 membership fee

-Paid directly online at [rideiea.org](http://rideiea.org)

\$100 check to Ravenwood Farm

-\$50 split for coach and team memberships, and coach insurance

-\$50 team dues for misc. expenses

Paperwork and memberships must be complete 2 weeks before the first show date. I will send in all paperwork that I receive in late August for the team together; any additional memberships joined after that deadline can be sent individually to the home office.

## Horse show cost:

Horse shows will range in cost depending on location as well as how many team members will be competing. Overnight accommodations will be made for any show attended 60+ minutes away from the farm. The cost for coaches' overnight stay during the horse shows will be split between team members. It is the personal responsibility of each person to make their own accommodation plans. Parents are encouraged to attend the shows as a positive support system for the riders but they are not required to do so. In order to attend a horse show, we need a sign up of 4 members per day. Horse shows with less than 6 riders will have an increased schooling rate in order to compensate for coaches time, canceled lessons, etc.

<b>Classes:</b>	<b>-\$80 per person per day</b>
<b>Schooling:</b>	<b>-Less than 6- \$60.00 per person per day</b> <b>-6 or more- \$45.00 per person per day</b>
<b>Lease Fee/Stall:</b>	<b>-varies by facility (typically \$25-50 per person per day)</b>
<b>Hotel Split:</b>	<b>-varies by show (typically \$10-30 per person per day)</b>

**Expect an average horse show to cost about \$175 a day.**

This price may sound a bit intimidating to some, but as a comparison, \$175 doesn't even cover the shipping to a regular horse show, so this way of horse showing is a small fraction of what it costs to compete even at a local schooling level.

## Attire:

The IEA requires proper riding attire for all classes. If you have not attended a rated or local horse show with RWF, attire must be approved by a staff member. There are always people looking to sell show clothes, so let us know if you are having difficulty completing your outfit, and ask parents of other team members for things they're looking to sell! :)



**Horse Show Must haves:**

- White long sleeve show shirt
- Hunt Coat (Navy for equitation)
- Tan/Beige show breeches
- Tall boots for all high schoolers, and middle schoolers at coaches' discretion
  - some middle schoolers may be better suited in jodphurs and garters. Ask your trainer before purchasing.
- Show helmet
- belt
- tall boot socks ☺

**Brand recommendations:**

Shirt: Essex, Tailored Sportsman

Coat: RJ Classics Navy

Breeches/ Jodphurs: Tailored Sportsman

Tall Boots: Less about the brand and more about making sure you get a proper fit. Be sure to ask someone in store or at the farm for an opinion on height, snugness, etc.

Helmet: Must be an ASTM/FEI certified helmet. Black Ovation practice helmets are acceptable, however it may be worthwhile to invest in a more formal show helmet.

Garters (if applicable): brown, traditional/no velcro

Belt/Tall boot socks: no special requirement

We have a team jacket and some practice shirts that will be available for purchase for anyone who has not yet ordered one. We will likely have new items available for purchase as well, check in the tack room this summer with options!

**\*\*You do not need to have your own saddle or tack to be a part of the IEA team. Horses will be provided for you fully tacked in what they normally ride in; riders are only responsible for bringing their own crop.\*\***

**Host Show:**

This year, in our third show season, we are required to host our own horse show!

Details to follow, but this will for sure be an "all hands on deck" type of affair. Jobs will likely include announcer, office managers, ingate and practice area attendants, prizes, baskets, grooms, horse providers and more! Thank you all so much in advance for your support and willingness to help with this weekend!

**Fundraising:**

We will have fundraising opportunities for individuals who are looking to help raise support for their position on the team, as well as tag days and other opportunities to raise money for TEAM expenses. Last year, some of our tag day expenses went to our new tents, providing a judge for our host show, etc. This year, group fundraising will help with fully hosting our own show day... any additional wish list items we may need, and hopefully have some left over to help with post season team costs. If you have any suggestions for fundraising, or would like to help arrange a fundraiser, please let me know.

## IEA Save the Dates!

### IEA Bootcamp July 31- August 2

In the spirit of gearing up for the new season, we will be having a camp for ALL riders (incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders thru high school seniors) who think they would like to give this IEA thing a shot. Daily riding lessons, horsemanship, and activities to help get to know your teammates.

Cost: \$180 -Tuesday through Thursday, 9am-1pm

### Horse shows in the Park August 3-5

Nothing like tacking a horse show onto the end of a 3 day boot camp! We are strongly recommending this horse show for all ages and ability levels. There are accommodations right on site, tons of land and trails, and pricing will be similar to a Venice/PCHA schooling show. This place fills up fast, so if it sounds like something you would definitely be interested in, please sign up in the tack room so that we can make accommodations.

### IEA Tryouts

High School- August 7-8

Middle School- August 9-10

Tryouts will be similar to a regular riding lesson, and will include questions and riding tests appropriate for the level that they would be best suited to show. Think you are ready to advance to a new class? Think you can be the point rider for your division? Now is your chance to show what you've been working on! If you cannot attend one of these two dates for your tryout lesson, please let me know so that we can re-schedule for a different time.

### Summer Pool Party!!

(Date and location TBA)

After Saturday lessons, we will be having a pool party for the kids to kick off the season, and parents are encouraged to stay and hang out as well. Not only will it be a fun night for all involved, it will be the next time that you can receive all of the season's information... show dates, details, etc. If you have any interest in hosting this year please let me know. Otherwise we can have it at my place but that seems lame.

Deadline for membership and paperwork is **August 15th**, and the show season officially starts **September 1st**.



Here's to a great Summer at the RAVE!

