



# USEF AREA VIII YOUNG RIDERS LETTER OF INTENT FOR GROOMS

2022 USEF Young Rider Eventing Championships

## GROOM INFORMATION

Groom's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships: USEA # \_\_\_\_\_ FEI # \_\_\_\_\_ USEF # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your experience grooming : \_\_\_\_\_

Rider you wish to Groom for: \_\_\_\_\_

By filling out and signing this application to show intent to ride in/qualify for the USEF Young Rider Eventing Championships in 2022 I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby agree to the following terms and conditions:

### Code of Conduct

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to establish the United States Equestrian Federation's ("USEF") common expectations in the sport of equestrian. It is a foundation intended to promote a positive environment and good sportsmanship. As ambassadors for the sport of equestrian, this Code of Conduct applies to the following individuals at all times: Board of Directors, Officers, volunteers (including all committee, council, and task force members), employees, members, participants, athletes (and athlete support personnel), owners, competition organizers and managers, licensed officials, coaches, chefs d'equipe, and others appointed or authorized to act on behalf of the USEF:

Act as an ambassador of the sport and in a manner that does not bring embarrassment to USEF, or otherwise may be detrimental to the image or reputation of USEF or the sport of equestrian.

Adhere to the highest standards and rules and regulations of the USEF, including the Sportsman's Charter. Adhere to the USEF Safe Sport Policy, U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, and Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policies.

Adhere to the rules and policies of the Federation Equestre Internationale ("FEI") and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee ("USOPC"), including the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, where applicable.

Adhere to all applicable state, federal, and foreign laws, including those governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and alcohol to minors.

Place the well-being, health, and safety of horses and others above all other considerations, including developing performance.

Engage in no verbal or physical threats against others.

Instruct one's support team in sportsmanship and demand that they display good sportsmanship.

Model fair play, respect, and the highest levels of sportsmanship.

Model inclusive behavior, supporting diversity while opposing all types of discrimination, including racism and sexism, at all levels of the sport.

Promote the sport of equestrian and treat officials, athletes, coaches, trainers, support personnel, participants, media, and fans: fairly, properly, justly, professionally, respectfully, with sensitivity, and without any form of discriminatory behavior.  
Report Code of Conduct violations.

**ENFORCEMENT**

A violation of this Code of Conduct may be grounds for action, which could result in an admonishment, warning, required training, or penalties set forth in General Rule 703.  
Adopted June 2021

Code of Conduct violations must be reported promptly to the USEF Regulations Department Director, Emily Pratt at [ep Pratt@usef.org](mailto:ep Pratt@usef.org). USEF does accept anonymous reports. All reports will be investigated and the Chief Executive Officer, or a designee, will determine whether a violation occurred. Respondents will be afforded an opportunity to be heard on the merits before disinterested members of the Hearing Committee prior to limiting one's opportunity to participate in competition. Temporary measures, such as a temporary suspension, may be imposed where circumstances warrant. See Bylaw 702 regarding Temporary Measures. For information on the disciplinary process for Code of Conduct violations, see Bylaws Part VII - Complaints and Disputes. For procedural guidance, please contact Emily Pratt at [ep Pratt@usef.org](mailto:ep Pratt@usef.org)

**ANTI-RETALIATION**

Retaliation against someone reporting a violation in good faith will not be tolerated and will be considered a Code of Conduct violation and grounds for discipline hereunder.

**ATHLETE OMBUDS**

For guidance on the USOPC grievance processes and information regarding athlete rights, please contact the USOPC Athlete Ombuds Office, toll free at 719.866.5000 or at [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org), or visit [www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Ombuds](http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Ombuds). For additional resources and to access An Athlete's Guide to Filing a Grievance Regarding Opportunity to Participate, see <https://www.usef.org/compete/resources-forms/rules-regulations>

1. I agree to sign the Code of Conduct and Waiver of Liability and abide by them.
2. I understand that the groom selection process is its own entity and I may not necessarily be selected to go to YREC. Any selected riders whose horses get injured prior to YREC have first right of refusal to go as a groom.
3. I understand that the equipment given to me to use at YREC is owned by the program and must be returned in the way and condition it was received.

**I have read (1) the 2022 Criteria for Selecting Area VIII YREC riders and (2) the Area VIII Code of Conduct. I understand these documents and agree to be bound by them.**

**I am a current member of Area VIII Young Riders in good standing.**

Signature of Rider \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your completed Letter of Intent to:

Shelley Ryan  
1558 Player Dr  
Lexington, KY 40511

Or email: [shelleywryan@gmail.com](mailto:shelleywryan@gmail.com)



# 2022 CRITERIA FOR SELECTING AREA VIII YREC RIDERS

## COMPETITION QUALIFICATIONS (qualifying period: January 1, 2021 through October 24, 2022)

### USEF Young Rider Eventing CCI1\*-L Championships

- Completion of a CCI\*. All 1\* riders are required to complete the FEI MER (Minimal Eligibility Requirements) at a CCI\*. MER is no more than 67 penalties in dressage, 0 cross country jump penalties and no more than 90 time penalties on cross country; no more than 16 penalties in showjumping.

### CCI2\*-L

- Completing a CCI2\*-S with a MER as above.

### CCI3\*-L

Completing a CCI3\*-S with a MER as above

## DEADLINES AND PROCEDURES (subject to change; details and further reminders will come later)

### DECEMBER-JANUARY

- Submit a completed Letter of Intent along with your submission fee. This is not a formal application to USEF/FEI; that will come later. This Letter of Intent is intended for riders wishing to qualify for YREC during the upcoming competition season (or those already qualified) and is only used by Area VIII coordinators, coaches, and selectors to ensure those trying to qualify can be sent all communications about the YREC.
- Attach proposed competition schedule to Letter of Intent. Although there are changes to competition schedules, having your planned schedule leading up to Championships allows the coaches and selectors to familiarize themselves with potential team candidates.
- Ensure all memberships with USEF, USEA, FEI, and Area VIII YRs are current. At the time of your formal application for YREC, you must have memberships complete and be in good standing with USEA and USEF.
- Ensure all horses that you are applying for are also registered and in good standing with USEF, USEA, and FEI.
- National and FEI Passports. If you don't have one already, start your application process for your horse's National or FEI Passport for each horse that you plan on qualifying

### MAY 1

- If you're not a permanent resident of Area VIII, May 1 is the deadline for recording of your legal area address with USEF and USEA. The area in which you are eligible to compete at YREC is based on your legal address as recorded in USEF database. If you are a short term resident in Area VIII (college student or working student in Area VIII, but home is in another Area), you must notify and declare your Area via email to USEF/USEA and also join Area VIII Young Riders to be eligible to compete for Area VIII at YREC
- Deadline for making on-line applications through your USEF account for the YREC competition. Qualifying competitions do NOT have to be complete by this deadline and horses can be changed/added after this deadline. There is a \$75 fee payable to USEF for this application.

### TBD

- Signed USEA Codes of Conduct and Certificates of Capability will be submitted for each rider that is qualified.

### TBD

- Area VIII Selectors will determine which riders will compete on a team and which as individuals for YREC

## OTHER YREC REQUIREMENTS

### FUNDRAISING

All riders who hope to compete at the 2022YREC MUST participate in fundraising. Details on projects and the amount each rider must contribute to fundraising will be announced.

## **MANDATORY TRAINING SESSIONS**

There will be at least 2-3 sessions where candidates will work with YREC coaching staff and horses will be reviewed and evaluated by our team vet. We may also have a Mandatory Outing at an Area horse trial which will be announced. Attendance is mandatory.

## **AGE OF COMPETITORS FOR YREC**

You are eligible to compete at the 1-Star level from age 14 through the end of the year during which you turn 18.

You are eligible to compete at the 2-Star level from age 14 through the end of the year during which you turn 21.

You are eligible to compete at the 3-Star level from age 16 through the end of the year during which you turn 25.



## **CODE OF CONDUCT and GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR AREA VIII YOUNG RIDERS FOR NAJYRC QUALIFICATION AND PARTICIPATION**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

As an Area VIII Young Rider and possible NAJYRC participant, I acknowledge my obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards of horsemanship, sportsmanship, and citizenship whenever I am representing both Area VIII and its Young Rider Program whether at my local horse trials, at horse trials anywhere in the United States or abroad, whether as a team member, individual competitor, or horse owner, and whether during actual competition or other related events such as selection trials, training sessions, clinics, camps, etc.

As a horseman, I will place my horse's welfare above all other considerations and faithfully observe both the USEF and the FEI Codes of Conduct, as well as this Area VIII Code of Conduct and the Guidelines and Rules for Area VIII Young Riders for NAJYRC Qualification and Participation.

As a sportsman, I will know and comply with this Code of Conduct and the Guidelines and Rules for Area VIII Young Riders for NAJYRC Qualification and Participation, as well as with the USEF as my National Governing Body and the FEI as the International Governing Body, and honor the principles of fair play inherent in them. I will place the interests of the team above my own, and respect the decisions of its duly appointed/elected officials, selectors, coaches, chef d'equipe, team veterinarians, and coordinators made in the Area VIII Young Rider Program's best interest.

Knowing that as an Area VIII Young Rider, I also serve as an Ambassador for my sport, USEF, and Area VIII and my country, I will endeavor at all times to reflect credit on them through my conduct, dress, and behavior.

I clearly acknowledge my responsibility to ensure that my family, friends, grooms, etc. who accompany me whenever I am participating, competing, and/or representing Area VIII also abide by this Code of Conduct and Guidelines and Rules below.

I understand and accept that serious or repeated transgressions of this Code may be grounds for suspension from a team or consideration to be on a team or even participating in any Area VIII NAJYRC preparation or training. In addition, I agree to abide by selection procedures established by Area VIII wherever applicable.

Finally, I fully understand that I will not will be considered for NAJYRC team or individual competition and my Letter of Intent will not be accepted until this Code of Conduct and Guidelines form is read, signed, and completed in full.

### **GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR NAJYRC QUALIFICATION AND PARTICIPATION**

While qualification and participation in the North American Junior & Young Rider Championships and other Young Rider activities is an integral part of the Area VIII Young Rider Program, the development of a TEAM approach and participation for all is the ultimate goal. It is a privilege to be a part of the Young Rider program and in this program, safety is a primary concern and the health and welfare of the horse is of paramount concern.

As this is a **TEAM** program, all activities are promoted through a team approach; that team includes riders, grooms, veterinary staff, coaches, instructors, selectors, coordinators, and all Area staff; as well as sponsors, donors, and venue management. An element of camaraderie, cooperation, and respect for each member of the team shall be deemed essential to the success of the team and all its activities. Any conduct, speech or statement, presentation, or violation of rules and regulations established by authority which impacts the TEAM mission of the program, that creates a negative environment, that threatens, diminishes, or devalues the integrity of the team, the Young Rider Program, and any of its individual members will not be tolerated and may be subject to disciplinary action.

This conduct shall include:

- disrespectful language, attitude, or words to or about any other member of the team
- the use of social media to express any discontent or anger towards the program or any member of the team

- any physical act or disobedience that disrupts due process or which is prohibited by law, including but not limited to theft, acts of dishonesty, or the possession or consumption of age-restricted products by minors, or illegal substances by any part.
- use of any language and/or accompanying gesture that may be offensive to any other party
- the wearing of any attire or lack of attire deemed dangerous, offensive or inappropriate by Area staff or supervisor
- putting a public stain on the Area VIII program by sharing any internal problems or grievances, etc. with external organizations, individuals, USEA National office, etc.; only Area VIII staff and council can forward grievances and concerns to the National office.

Violation of USEA or Area rules and guidelines, including Area Financial Guidelines, USEF, FEI, and venue rules will not be tolerated. Lack of understanding or familiarity with rules is not considered an excuse for non-compliance.

No party or rider may create or endorse any Young Rider fundraising or other activity that is not offered to and applied equally to all participants and other qualified parties.

Disciplinary action will be determined by the Area Chairman, in consultation with Area Council, and may include restriction or expulsion from individual activities or the Program in its entirety.

### **OTHER GUIDELINES FOR NAJYRC PARTICIPATION**

After possible NAJYRC candidates turn in their Letters of Intent to Area YR Coordinators in January, they must keep Coaches, Coordinators, and Selectors apprised of their proposed competition schedule from Letter of Intent date until NAJYRC competition (unless, of course, they withdraw their name from team consideration); updating that schedule as changes are made, discussing possible competition schedules with their personal trainer as well as Area coaching/selector staff.

As a NAJYRC candidate, young riders must put their personal safety and the welfare of their horse(s) first and foremost in planning their competition schedule and attempting their qualifications for NAJYRC participation.

As a NAJYRC candidate, young riders must understand the sponsorship process and take personal responsibility for acknowledging, showing appreciation, supporting, and promoting those companies, businesses, and individuals that donate products, time, and/or funds to the program.

Personal trainers/coaches are allowed to attend the NAJYRC competition, but will not be allowed in the barns and must communicate

#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF CODE AND GUIDELINES**

Area VIII Young Riders is a TEAM; along with riders, that includes coaches, selectors, grooms, vets, instructors, coordinators. We are all in this together. Any conduct that negatively impacts the team, the Young Rider program, or any individual member will not be tolerated.

- DO NOT use social media to complain, harass, or express any discontent with ANY member of or any decision by the team; DO NOT post any content that will reflect negatively on ANY member of the team or Young Rider program
- Show respect to all team members; strive to represent the team consistent with Young Rider values, exercising good judgment; conduct yourself with honesty and integrity
- Take personal responsibility for your own behavior as well as the behavior of family, friends, and other members of the team as it relates to the Young Rider program.
- Any conduct which impacts the team or Young Rider program mission will not be tolerated

with the team coach concerning the schedule and coaching.

*I have read and understand the Code of Conduct and the Guidelines and Rules above. By providing my handwritten or electronic signature below, I acknowledge the aforementioned and agree to be bound by this Area VIII Young Rider Code of Conduct and the Guidelines and Rules for Area VIII Young Riders for NAJYRC Qualification and Participation and I fully understand and accept my responsibilities as a participant in the Area VIII Young Rider Program and/or the North American Junior/Young Rider Championships. I further understand and agree that an electronic signature is a legal and binding signature.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rider Written/Electronic Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print/Type Rider Name

*As a parent or guardian of rider, I have also read and understand the Code of Conduct and Guidelines and Rules.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature