

Area 2 Young Rider Program

Mission:

The activities are designed to develop camaraderie among young riders, thus, hopefully, developing lifelong friendships and a commitment to the sport. The purpose of the program is to encourage our younger members to become involved in the sport of Eventing and perhaps continue this involvement into their adult lives as members of the US Team, volunteers at local events, coaches, trainers, competitors, and consumers of equine products. We support riders through the year in which they turn 25!

The fund-raising helps defray the costs of the program activities. Our primary fundraising activity is the selling of Area 2 branded gear and the silent auction. Other activities may be planned throughout the year. The remainder of our revenue is from donations and dues.

Beyond the activities below. The Young Rider Program acts as a clearinghouse for information. Everything from being a reference for college application or working programs, to sharing information about horses for sale/lease or instructors/coaches, to helping establish teams at the events. We are here to support each of you!

Activities: Our Young Rider banner and a representative can be found near the scoreboard or awards at the competitions below. From there we coordinate "Behind the Scenes" activities and distribute awards. We can provide assistance for things like: Identifying those who will provide a free course walk to our members; understanding the rules and how to inquire when it don't go as planned, etc. We can be your advocate, so feel free to reach out at anytime.

The **behind the scenes** is model from the National Mentorship Program. Riders will be given an opportunity to shadow judge, hang with the TD, Course Builder, assist in Show Jumping, scoring, or other activity. The biggest learning often comes when we can change a teenager's perception of what is a "good dressage test" or what the course builder is trying to test in your knowledge. Behind the scenes requires you to commit to being on the event grounds for a larger portion of the day – I promise you won't regret the learning.

Area 2 Young Riders supports the **Classic 3-Day** format for learning the horsemanship specific to Eventing. We provide promotional consideration to **Classic 3-Days** held at Kentucky Horse Park, Full Moon Farm, and Waredaca. YRP encourages participation at the classics, and helps fund the cost of education and team awards at the classics within Area 2.

WoW Camps are held with USEA ECP certified instructors and the coaches and selectors of our YR teams whenever possible. These camps are modeled off the **Emerging Athlete Pathways Program**. They are always popular and fill fast. They consist of two mounted sessions each day with focus on dressage, ring craft, show jumping courses, XC, pace, and grid work. Lessons are tailored to the needs and desires of the students who ride as individuals or in very small groups. Additional lectures and education are including most days. The entry for each WoW Camp will be found on StriderPro.com.

Achievement Awards are Individual awards are given at selective events each month. Achievement Awards are also distributed at **USPC Festival** and the **American Eventing Championships**. The goal is for riders to judge their performance as an individual and not against their peers in the class. The achievement awards are calculated based on your final score and not your placing. Area 2 YRAP Achievement Ribbons are awarded for Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) based on a Modified Danish Scoring System. The awards are follows:

First	33 or Below
Second	33.1 - 37
Third	37.1 - 41
Forth	41.1 - 45

2023 Schedule

Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER): an MER is achieved by completing the entire Horse Trial and scoring not more than 45 penalty points in the Dressage Test; and no jumping penalties at obstacles on the Cross Country Test and not more than 30 penalty points exceeding the optimum time; and not more than 16 penalties at obstacles in the Jumping Test. Athletes who get 25 penalty points for Dangerous Riding will not achieve a MER.

Youth Council is a group of active young riders who help ensure the young rider program is relevant to the members it supports. The council focus is on communication, membership engagement, and fundraising. They make recommendations on program activities and plan social activities to build friendships and connections between the young riders.

Emerging Athlete's Program is in full swing. The Emerging Athlete Pathways program is for our FEI level riders with the USEF and USEA. The applications for the EAP will be on the USEF dashboard for EA25, and the USEA dashboard for EA21. The EA21 program is for Training Level and above and the EA25 is for Intermediate and above riders. The Young Rider Program manages the selection process for the Area riders applying for EAP. Selection to the EAP is exclusive. Submitting a good application is critical to being chosen by the selectors to train in one of the regional camps or with David O'Connor/Leslie Law in January. The area program work with candidates who ask for support on the development of their application to EAP.

FEI Level Young Rider Championship will be hosted at XYZ this Fall. Representing Area 2 at these championships is usually the highlight of an elite YRs season. The USEF Young Rider Eventing Championship will award three championship titles: CCI1*, CCI2*-L, and CCI3*-L. Applications and area declaration forms will be found on the USEF Athlete Dashboard. Reach out to Chris, to learn more about the qualifications and how teams are chosen. There is significant work at the USEF and FEI to have the three disciplines run together again at an FEI Young Rider Championships in 2024 – 2027.

Year-end Awards are not automatic for the Area. You must also sign-up for this program separately on USEA2.net starting in March. We will send numerous reminders to program members to join before the July deadline.

The Young Rider program supports the **Interscholastic Eventing League** which provides a team experience for those riders in grades 7th – 12th at all levels. Barns, trainers, Pony Clubs, and best friends are encouraged to create an Affiliate. (it is \$75 to establish an affiliate with the USEA National Office) There is no limit to the number of riders on the Affiliate Roster. For those program members not on an affiliate team, the Area 2 YRP will add them to program IEL roster to ensure all program members continue to have a “team” experience. The IEL Schedule is posted at <https://useventing.com/events-competitions/interscholastic-eventing-league/interscholastic-team-challenges>

Learning more about Area 2 Young Rider activities can be achieved through the following:

- The Google Group Mailing List - Feel free to add email addresses to the google group, our primary method of communication. <https://groups.google.com/g/usea-area2-yr-yrap>
- We share positive stories and information through our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/area2youngriders/>
- [USEA2.net](https://usea2.net) also has great information, including the current ranking details for our FEI level YRs.
- [Instagram](#) -
- Feel free to call and chat with the Youth Council, Chris Donovan, or any of the other volunteers who work to make your program membership a valuable asset.

2023 Schedule

COVID may impact the schedule.

Date	Event	Activities
Jan 29 th	Area 2 Annual Meeting (Bel Air, MD)	Awards and discussion
Feb 4- 10	Area 2 Aiken Invasion (Aiken SC) I Sporting Days and Full Gallop Events	Ala-carte lessons and XC schooling IEL Team Competition – Sporting Days
Feb 25-Mar 5	Area 2 Aiken Invasion (Aiken SC) II Full Gallop and Sporting Days Events	Ala-carte lessons and XC schooling IEL Team Competition – Sporting Days
Mar 11-12	Southern Pines HT (Raeford, NC)	Achievement Awards
April 1	Morven Park – Youth Council Social for YRs	Meet and Greet - engagement
April 9	CDCTA Spring HT (Berryville, VA)	Achievement Awards
April 15-16	Longleaf Pine HT (Raeford, NC)	Achievement Awards
May 6-7	Waredaca (Gaithersburg, MD)	IEL Team Competition Achievement Awards
May 13	Plantation Fields (Unionville, PA)	IEL Team Competition
May 20-21	Fair Hill International (Fair Hill, MD)	IEL Team Competition Achievement Awards
June 3-4	MCTA HT @ Shawan Downs (Hunt Valley, MD)	IEL Team Competition Achievement Awards
June 17-18	Seneca Valley Pony Club (Poolesville, MD)	Achievement Awards
June 27-30	EA21 and Summer WoW Camp Morven Park (Leesburg, VA)	EVENTING CAMP
June 29-30	LandSafe Clinic @ Morven Park (Leesburg, VA)	Separate sign-up running along side WoW Camp
	Annual on-line Silent Auction - TBD	Fundraiser
Jul 14-16	The Maryland H.T. at Loch Moy Farm II (Adamstown, MD)	PARKING FUNDRAISER IEL Team Competition Achievement Awards
July 23	Full Moon Farm (Finksburg, MD)	IEL Team Competition
July 26-30	US Pony Club Championships (Tryon NC)	Program Member Achievement Awards
Aug 12-13	Fair Hill International (Fair Hill, MD)	IEL Team Competition Achievement Awards
Aug 29 – Sep 3	American Eventing Championships (Lexington KY)	Achievement Awards
Sep 2-3	Seneca Valley Pony Club (Poolesville, MD)	Achievement Awards
Sept 9-10	Flora Lea (Medford, NJ)	Achievement Awards
Oct 6-8	The Maryland H.T. at Loch Moy Farm (Adamstown, MD) AREA CHAMPIONSHIPS	IEL Team Competition Program Member Championships
Oct 27-29	Waredaca Classic 3D Event & H.T. (Laytonsville, MD)	3Day Team Competition IEL Team Competition Achievement Awards – Classic only
Nov 12	Full Moon Farm (Finksburg, MD)	IEL Team Competition Achievement Awards
TBD	USEF YR Championships Divisions: CCI1, CCI2-L, CCI3-L	USEF YR Championships
Dec 27-30	Winter WoW Eventing Camp (Lexington, VA)	CAMP

Updated 3/8/23