

# 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 revenue from young rider dues covers less than 20% of the activities we perform. 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. Creativity is the key to obtaining donations and sponsorship of the activities.

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 doesn’t go as planned, etc. We can be your advocate, so feel free to reach out at any time.

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

# 2024 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. The Youth Council runs the logo merchandise sales through <https://areaiiyouthcouncil.weebly.com/merch.html> They make recommendations on program activities and plan social activities to build friendships and connections between the young riders. See the schedule for dates of the **Socials** at various overnight events.

**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. Program membership is also required for many of the USEA Endowment Scholarships.

**FEI Level Young Rider Championship** will be hosted at Loch Moy – The Maryland Horse Trials International in July. 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\*-S, and CCI3\*-S. Applications and area declaration forms will be found on the USEF Athlete Dashboard before May 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 a future year. The YR Championships will be at The Maryland International Horse Trials for the next two years.

**Year-end Awards** are not automatic for the Area. You must also sign-up for this program separately on USEA2.net starting in March – the price goes up starting in June/July so sign-up early! 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 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> at all levels. Barns, trainers, Pony Clubs, and best friends are encouraged to create an Affiliate. (it is \$75 to establish an affiliate/club with the USEA National Office if you do not have a ICP coach.) 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 once we know your grade – this will ensure 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-yrp>
- 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 declared young riders.
- [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/areaiiyouthcouncil/) - <https://www.instagram.com/areaiiyouthcouncil/>
- 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.

# 2024 Schedule

Week	2024	Location	National Level	FEI Level	Socials
9	Mar 3	Sporting Days (P-BN)-Area 3	IEL Team Challenge Intercollegiate Challenge		
10	Mar 9-10	Southern Pines (P,M-BN)	IEL Team Challenge Intercollegiate Challenge		
11	Mar 13-17	Carolina (4/3/2/1S,A,I,P,M-T,N)	Achievement Awards	YRC Observation Trials	<b>Social</b>
13	Mar 30-31	Morven Park (I,P,M-BN)	Achievement Awards		<b>Social</b>
14	Apr 5-7	Stable View (4/3/2S,A,I,P,M,T)-Area 3	IEL Team Challenge Intercollegiate Challenge		
15	Apr 13-14	Longleaf (P,M-BN, Starter)	IEL Team Challenge		
16	Apr 19-20	Fair Hill (3/2/1S,A,I,P,M-T)	Achievement Awards	YRC Observation Trials FEI Team Challenge	
18	May 4-5	Waredaca (I,P,M-BN)	IEL Team Challenge		
18	May 4-5	<b>Stable View (A,I,P,M-BN, Starter)</b>	<b>IEL Team Championships Intercollegiate Championships</b>		
19	May 11	Plantation (I,P,M-BN, Starter)	IEL Team Challenge		
19	May 8-12	TIEC (4/3/2L,4/3/2/1S)		YRC Observation Trials FEI Team Challenge	<b>Social</b>
20	May 18-19	Fair Hill (I,P,M-BN)	IEL Team Challenge		
21	May 23-26	Virginia Horse Center (2L,3/2/1S,I,P,M-BN, Starter )	Achievement Awards	YRC Observation Trials FEI Team Challenge	<b>Social</b>
22	June 1-2	MCTA (P,M-BN, Starter)	IEL Team Challenge Intercollegiate Challenge		
24	June 15-16	HP of NJ (A,I,P,M-BN)	Achievement Awards		
26	June 25-28	<b>Summer WoW Eventing Camp and EA-21 Regional Camp Morven Park Leesburg VA</b>			
26	June 30	Full Moon (T-BN, Starter)	IEL Team Challenge		
27	July 5-7	<b>The Maryland International + Horse Trials (4/3/2/1S, A,I,P,M-T)</b>		<b>Young Rider National Championships</b>	
28	July 13-14	Loch Moy (I,P, M-BN, Starter)	IEL Team Challenge		
29	July 17-21	Rebecca (4/3/2L,4/3S, T3D,N3D,I,P,M-BN)-Area 7		FEI Team Challenge	
29	July 15-19	USPC (7/15-19) (M-BN)-Area 8	Achievement Awards		
32	Aug 10-11	Fair Hill (I,P,M-BN)	IEL Team Challenge Intercollegiate Challenge		
33	Aug 16-18	Waredaca (I,P,M-BN)	IEL Team Challenge		
35	Aug 27-Sep 1	<b>American Eventing Championships (A-BN, Starter)-Area 8</b>	Achievement Awards		
36	Sept 6-8	Five Points (I,P,M-BN, Starter)	IEL Team Challenge		
37	Sept 13-15	Fork (4/1S,2L,A,I,P,M-BN)	Achievement Awards		<b>Social</b>
38	Sept 19-22	Plantation (4/3/2/1S,A)		FEI Team Challenge	
39	Sep 28-29	ESDCTA (I,P,M-BN)	Achievement Awards		
40	Oct 4-6	<b>The Maryland Horse Trials (I,P,M-BN, Starter)</b>	IEL Team Challenge <b>Area Championships</b>		
43	Oct 24-27	Waredaca (P/M/T,N/BN3D,P,M,T-BN)	IEL Team Challenge Classic Teams		
44	Oct 31-Nov 3	TIEC (2L,3/2/1S,I,P,M-BN)	Achievement Awards	FEI Team Challenge	<b>Social</b>
45	Nov 8-10	VHC (2L,3/2/1S,I,P,M-BN)	IEL Team Challenge Intercollegiate Challenge	FEI Team Challenge	<b>Social</b>
46	Nov 17	Full Moon (T-BN): 2024 only	IEL Team Challenge		
52	Dec 27-30	<b>Winter WoW Eventing Camp - Virginia Horse Center Lexington VA</b>			