

West Forsyth Equestrian Team

A Typical Show Day



Show days can be very long!

All team members are expected to be at the show venue by 6:30 am (unless otherwise stated) to tend to the horses, tack the horses, and watch the schooling of horses. Watching the schooling horses gives the riders a great opportunity to observe the horses being shown for the day and to make notes on ideas on how to ride the potential horses from the draw.

Horse draw, coach's meeting, and course walk are completed before the competition can begin.

All team members are expected to assist in getting horses ready for competition before and during the show along with holding horses waiting to be ridden during the show.

There is no set order for classes in show competition. Each show host determines the order of classes for their show. Typical order begins with the varsity level and works down to the junior varsity, with middle school classes after the high school classes. There may be times where the jump classes and flat classes are completed by level. Other times, all jumping classes are completed and followed by all flat classes.

Be prepared for delays in the day. Delays can come by needs for re-rides, injuries, or weather. Most shows will go until around 5:00 pm or later. We will also need to be ready for horse pick up/delivery back to the barn after the show. This will be split among team members for who stays late for each show. For the first show (at least), all team members will need to come early to the show and stay late for horse pick up/delivery to learn the expectations for team members.

When riders are not showing, they are expected to tend to the horses throughout the show day, pick stalls, hold horses in the waiting area, receive team horses coming out of the ring, help teammates get ready to show, and cheer their teammates during classes. Each rider and team member is expected to contribute equally and attend the full day of the show, whether she is showing or not.

Parent volunteers will be required to sign up to provide food/water to share, bring tables, and help with set up of the team area. Each family should bring chairs for themselves. Items that may be requested for parents to bring include: breakfast items, fruit, snacks, bottled water, sports drinks, sandwiches, hot dishes (most venues have outlets for plug in of crockpots), paper products, hot chocolate, etc.

After competition ends, clean up begins. Team members assist with untacking horses, brushing horses, and cleaning tack. Saddles should be cleaned, bits washed, and bridles cleaned and figure eight'ed. Team members may also assist with loading horses into trailers for shipment back to barn, as well as loading of team equipment and horse equipment into the trailer/truck for return to the barn. We should be returning things better than we found them.

Regular season shows are held at various venues throughout the North Georgia area. Our West Forsyth Equestrian Team hosted show for 2020-2021 will be on Saturday, November 7th at Chicopee Woods. The address is 1855 Calvary Church Road, Gainesville, GA 30507. For this show, team members must be available to assist the day before and the day of in preparing for the show!