

# A Little about IEA at Big Bay Farm

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The Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) is organized to promote and improve the quality of equestrian competition and instruction available to middle and secondary school students. Its purpose shall be to set minimum standards for competition, to provide information concerning the creation and development of school associated equestrian sport programs, to generally promote the common interests of safe riding instruction and competition, and to educate on matters related to equestrian competition at the middle and secondary school levels.

The mission of the IEA is to introduce students in private and public middle and secondary schools to equestrian sports and to develop understanding and appreciation of equestrian sports through organized competitions and educational opportunities. .

## Why Ride IEA?

- Riding with IEA is a fun team sport, focusing on sportsmanship and horsemanship
- IEA counts as a sport for college applications and scholarships
- Through the IEA, students have the opportunity to earn scholarships towards their college education through awards in competition and through sportsmanship activities
- You'll grow friendships through lessons and competition
- You'll also grow confidence by riding unfamiliar horses and ponies
- IEA allows you to show through the winter
- No need to own a horse to participate. Classes are offered in four ability levels: beginner, novice, and intermediate, open. Any combination of ability levels on a team is permissible, but it is advantageous to have at least one rider in every class to be competitive as a team. Riders in grades 6-8 are eligible for Middle School Teams while riders in grade 9-12 compete at the High School level.
- Points are tracked for individual rider accomplishments AND for overall, team accomplishments. Individuals and teams earn points to qualify for regional, zone and national finals.
- The competition season starts September 1st and ends at the National Finals in late spring.
- Students ride horses that are furnished by the host barn and chosen by random draw. The use of personal tack is not allowed and limited schooling is permitted. This equalizes competition variables and tests the horsemanship of the contestants.

## Goals of IEA.

- To encourage recognition for middle and secondary school equestrians and to promote the equestrian as an athlete.
- To provide riders with organized competitive opportunities.
- To introduce new riders to equine sports.
- To promote the IEA among its constituencies.

- To provide riders with opportunities to further their education in equine sports and equine-related matters.
- To encourage liaison with other equestrian associations for the betterment of equestrian sports.
- To encourage a higher standard of coaching and instruction.
- To provide information concerning the creation and development of mounted and non-mounted equestrian programs.
- To establish and enforce IEA rules, standards and policies.
- To keep pace with the continuing progress of equestrian sports and to encourage good horsemanship.
- To generally promote the common interests of riding instruction and competition, and education on matters related to all segments of the horse industry.
- To develop team and individual sportsmanship.

2019-2020 show schedule for our zone: ( not updated yet )

<https://www.rideiea.org/zone1/hunt-seat-calendar.html>

Members only need to attend a minimum of two shows to stay in good standing. They are encouraged to attend the maximum of 5 to be competitive.

#### **The BBF Rules:**

- IEA team members at Big Bay Farm must keep up their individual lessons and attend at least one group lesson a week (during show season). Riders who compete with the BBF Team but lesson outside the farm are required to submit written proof of regular attendance to a lesson program but are still required to participate in weekly team practices.
- IEA team members must attend the shows; the success of our team is counting on you!
- IEA members should encourage other riders to join our team (if this is something you like and see value, share the good news)!
- Be positive, everyone starts somewhere, we are only asking for your very best and for you to enjoy the experience.

#### **Fees/Financial Commitment for BBF IEA team member**

- One group lesson per week \$35 – IEA Group Lesson
- One private lesson per week \$40-\$45 – Regular weekly lesson
- Yearly membership fee to IEA \$55 if before July 31
- Annual IEA Team Administration fee of \$75 \* Payable to BBF
- Coaching Fee at Shows \$75
- Class Fee's (usually two classes per show) \$40 per class \* payable to the host show facility
- All participants will be required to buy & wear Team Logo clothing (if a new member) \$125-\$150

Your total cost for the shows would be \$155 for two classes/including trainers' fees. There is no horse fee and no trailering fee, as you will be riding horses at the host farm.

## **BBF Team Practices for 2019-2020**

### **Beginner - Olivia**

Mondays at 4:00pm

### **Novice / Intermediate - Valerie**

Thursdays at 4:30pm

- All riders are required to practice with the IEA team once per week. All riders must take one additional lesson each week.
- If you miss your practice the week of a show, you will not be allowed to show.
- Payments are due the day of practice or you may prepay monthly.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What are the fees that are associated with the team?**

**What kind of apparel and equipment should I be expected to have?**

**Are there consignment shops available to purchase show apparel?**

**How many horse shows will the team attend during the season?**

**What post-season competitions are held?**

**How many points are required to qualify for post-season competition?**

**How do I know which division I will be riding in?**

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### **Q. What kind of apparel and equipment should I be expected to have?**

Big Bay Farm Team riders will compete in attire similar to that expected of riders who compete in Equitation and Hunter competitions. This consists of tan breeches or jods, boots, an SEI approved helmet, a dark colored show jacket and black gloves. A detailed list of clothing and equipment will be provided to each rider at their request.

### **Q. How many horse shows will the team attend during the season?**

The team does not have a set amount of shows that it must attend during the regular show season, but each individual rider is limited to 5 shows per class.

### **Q. What post-season competitions are held?**

The Big Bay Farm team is located in IEA Zone 1. After the completion of the regular season, all qualifying riders and teams will attend a Region Finals. Following Region Finals there will be an IEA Zone 1 Finals held in western Massachusetts, and finishing the season there will be an IEA National Finals.

**Q. How many points are required to qualify for post-season competition?**

Region Finals: Riders must earn at least 15 points in each class. Teams must earn at least 20 points.  
Zone and National Finals: These two competitions can only accommodate a set number of competitors per class. The number that will be accepted from each Region and Zone Finals is determined by the IEA using national rider population data. More detailed information about how this is calculated is outlined in Rule 8504.3 in the [\*\*IEA Rules and Regulations of Membership\*\*](#).

**Q. How do I know which division I will be riding in?**

The IEA show format requires that riders compete on horses that they have little to no experience with. For this reason, they have set guidelines in the Rulebook for coaches to reference when assigning riders to divisions. Typically, in the IEA a rider will find themselves competing a full level or two below the one in which they are comfortable competing on at home on their regular mount.