NATIONAL FINALS BOUND: VISIT THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL FINALS DESTINATIONS

DO YOU IEA? CHECK OUT IEA'S NEW ABBREVIATED GRAPHIC

FINDING THE RIGHT TIME TO START LOOKING AT COLLEGES
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Printed in the U.S.A.
Do you IEA?

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These are all descriptors that INTERSCHOLASTIC EQUESTRIAN Association members/families/vendors use everyday to label the organization. Hardly anyone refers to us by our full name! The IEA acronym has become synonymous with our official name. We are IEA!

Thus, we have created an acronym stamp that depicts more of the colloquial use of our name. Guidelines for the use of the new trademarked logo, with and without the current “larger logo” will be published in the soon-to-be-released new graphic manual. In the meantime, if you are interested in using the IEA stamp graphic for your IEA team, please contact McKenzie Yates in the IEA Marketing and Development Office at mckenzie@rideiea.org.
In the last week of October, the IEA membership officially hit 10,000 members! Although we were very close to this number in 2013–14, hitting the actual milestone was an exciting benchmark, worthy of fireworks, in my book.

Our 10,000 members are symbolic of so many extraordinary accomplishments. First and foremost, the IEA is keeping 10,000 people active in equestrian sports. Coaches are utilizing our offerings to support their lesson programs and to provide structure and goals to their eager students. Every year, riders are moving through varying levels of learning and expertise while consistently gaining access to recognition, college acceptances, and scholarships.

However, at the same time that we celebrate this magical, membership number in the IEA, we also see continuing concerns in the larger equine industry. In the past year, several significant riding programs have disbanded. And, this fall the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) announced that it was considering the removal of equestrian sports through the NCEA (National Collegiate Equestrian Association). While these decisions may not directly affect the IEA, they certainly are detrimental to the equine industry, and they should spur us to continue advocating for better understanding and support of our sport.

One of the listed goals of the IEA is, “To generally promote the common interests of riding instruction and competition, and education on matters related to all segments of the horse industry.” I would like to enlist all of our IEA members to help in the personal and group promotion of equine sports and athletics. Let’s use the strength of our numbers to educate this country about the joy of horses—from pleasure riding to Olympic competitions. Wear your team jacket to school. Bring your friends to the barn. Push school leaders to include your accomplishments in announcements and newsletters to the community. Volunteer to help in therapeutic programs, farm parks, and rescue organizations. Voice your support for the variety of equine offerings in your local area.

The IEA will continue its commitment to growing new riders and growing participation in the industry. And, I sincerely hope as individuals and as a group, we will be loud and clear in support of horses and horse sports across the United States.

“THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS, YES, BUT EVEN MORE SO IN COLLECTIVE GOOD WILL. FOR THOSE ENDEAVORS ARE SUPPORTED BY MIGHTY FORCES UNSEEN.”

—RICHELLE E. GOODRICH

IEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ROXANE LAWRENCE

“Let’s use the strength of our numbers to educate this country about the joy of horses—from pleasure riding to Olympic competitions.”
Share your best IEA Show Photo on Instagram and have it featured in *Take The Reins* magazine!

Use #IEAgram to enter. Weekly winners will receive an iTunes gift card and their picture reposted on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. One of those winners will have their photo featured in the Spring issue of *Take the Reins* magazine!

Contest ends December 31
JENNIFER EATON, THE IEA'S BOARD MEMBER, Zone Chair and current Membership Marketing Coordinator has been with the IEA since the days of processing membership applications on a kitchen table. This year, the membership count surpasses the 10,000 mark and Eaton's work is a significant part of that success. The IEA is proud to announce that the Massachusetts Horseman's Council (MHC) has named her their 2014 Horseman of the Year!

Jenn was nominated by Ken Mahoney, a long-term Emergency Medical Technician for the MHC. According to Mahoney, to win the Horseman of the Year award one must be an active member of the MHC, stand out with involvement with the club in the past year, be well-liked by the other members, and take extra steps to help others involved in the MHC. He also explained that the award winner does not have to be a trainer or an instructor and the award does not have to be granted to someone every year if no one has presented himself or herself fit as a nominee.

The plaque Eaton received from the MHC states the following: “There is a saying that goes, there are two kinds of people in this world: those that watch what happens and those that make things happen. Jennifer Eaton makes things happen— for her family, for our industry, and the horses and ponies that make our lives so fulfilled. Since Jenn has been old enough to sit on a horse and hold a pitchfork, she has dedicated herself to the well being of our four legged friends and the education of riders of all ages and abilities in how to become a responsible horseman. Whether it was teaching a massive lesson program at Rising Star and coaching their nationally ranked IEA team while getting a degree in education, or being an integral member in developing the Interscholastic Equestrian Association on a national scale while being a single mom raising Emma, Jenn has ALWAYS been guided by her sense of what is the right thing to do—even when it was harder to do the right thing. So much of the time the professionals that get recognized are the ones whose riders end up in the winners circle or in pictures in magazines. We tend to overlook those professionals who may not be as famous, but are 'lynch pins' of our industry, as a whole, because they see a bigger picture and develop programs that facilitate the education of ALL who want to learn to ride and show. Without people like Jennifer Eaton, our industry would not be the same. It is for these reasons that the Massachusetts Horseman’s Council is happy to honor Jennifer Eaton as our 2014 Horseman of the Year."

“We are so honored to have Jenn as part of our IEA team. She has been committed to equestrian sports her entire life and this award in indicative of the work that she does for the IEA, we couldn’t be more proud,” stated Co-Founder and Executive Director, Roxane Lawrence.

Congratulations, Jennifer Eaton! The IEA sends you many thanks for the work you have done and there is no person more fitting for this highly-respected award.
AN YOU HEAR THE ANNOUNCER CALLING YOUR NAME? Does your heart skip a beat? It’s the goal of every IEA rider, team, coach and parent, the ultimate in IEA competition—National Finals.

Qualifying throughout the regular season, Regional Finals and Zone Finals requires time and dedication of each and every IEA family. With exciting new twists on time-honored National Finals traditions, world-class facilities and locations with plenty to offer, this year’s National Finals are sure to be an event the entire family will be looking forward to all season!

While coaches across the country plan no-stirrup lessons, and team parents dutifully transport eager (and sometimes sleepy) children to the barn and shows—let’s take a look at where all that hard work will pay off.

Okeeheelee Park
The Jim Brandon Equestrian Center is nestled in the over 900 acres of Okeeheelee Park. Okeeheelee means “Quiet Waters” in the unwritten language of the Seminole Indians. This regional park is the result of a 23-year reclamation effort that was officially completed in June 1996. Once ravaged by strip mining, the area now includes a scenic system of lakes, a nature center and sanctuary, 27-hole golf course, dog park, world class competition water ski course, a tennis center, athletic fields, a BMX track and the equestrian center.

With its beautiful setting and its wide range of active and passive recreational opportunities, it’s easy to see why Okeeheelee Park is considered one of the gems of Palm Beach County’s park system.

Looking forward to NATIONALS
And the 2015 IEA National Champion is . . .

BY STEPHANIE KEOUGH
IEA NATIONAL FINALS COORDINATOR

Okeeheelee Park
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With its beautiful setting and its wide range of active and passive recreational opportunities, it’s easy to see why Okeeheelee Park is considered one of the gems of Palm Beach County’s park system.
2015 Hunt Seat National Finals
Welcome to the #1 horse show destination in the world!
This year, the entire family will enjoy a trip to The Jim Brandon Equestrian Center in West Palm Beach, Florida. This 111-acre, world-class equestrian show venue features a covered arena, ample spectator and coach seating areas, and is located seven miles east of the famous Wellington Winter Equestrian Festival.

The sunny skies and mild temperatures of April in Florida make for a refreshing outdoor National Finals. College representatives, retailers and riders will all enjoy the fresh air and cool breezes to be found in the airy covered arena. Plus, we’ll be able to spread the fun throughout the days with social events right on the show grounds!

The Village of Wellington is known for its equestrian community, hosting diverse equestrian events. Show jumping, dressage, and polo all have found a home in Wellington. It is host to both the Winter Equestrian Festival and more than 40 weeks of equestrian competition per year. The renowned Palm Beach International Polo Club hosts polo matches, including the USPA Piaget Gold Cup and the Nespresso U.S. Polo Open.

When not polishing boots and memorizing courses, enjoy a round of golf, soak up the sun on the 47 miles of picturesque beaches, or hike the park trails.

Looking for a change of pace? Spend the afternoon browsing the 1.27 million square feet of shopping at the Mall of Wellington Green. Or, choose to window shop along the extravagant Worth Avenue in Palm Beach for the epitome in luxurious fashion.
If Palm Beach County is the #1 horse show destination in the world, Oklahoma’s State Fair Park is the center of Oklahoma City’s status as “Horse Show Capital of the World.”

For the fourth year running, the IEA is thrilled to hold our Western National Finals in conjunction with the NRHA Derby. With more than $650,000 in estimated added money, the NRHA Derby runs for one week each summer in Oklahoma City and showcases the world’s best reining horses ridden by the top names in the industry.

IEA riders and families can spend time watching those top horses and riders compete in the air conditioned coliseum and touring the myriad shopping options—everything from living room furniture to hoof picks—all under one roof.

Between classes, allow your inner-child to run wild at the Science Museum or relive the history of the American West at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

Looking for a place to eat? Be sure to visit Bricktown where you’ll find everything from Mickey Mantle’s Steakhouse to Toby Keith’s I Love This Bar and Grill. After dinner, enjoy a stroll along the mile-long Bricktown Canal, take a cruise on a Water Taxi, or enjoy some tunes at the American Banjo Museum.

In addition to watching the best-of-the-best, exhibitors at the Western National Finals can look forward to meeting representatives from colleges, watching replays of their runs on the big screen and the always-exciting Welcome Party. Past years have featured bubble runners, giant inflatable slides and bumper boats. Wait until you see what’s in store for this year, we’ll see you there!

Fun with Bubble Runners at the 2014 Western National Finals.
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Photos by Whittemberry and Mary Franco/Remedios
THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE FAIRWIN/GALAXY IEA SHOW IN ZONE 4 TOOK A BREAK BEFORE THE NEXT DAY’S SHOW TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN "EQUINE-STYLE." WHAT FUN THINGS HAVE YOU DONE AT AN IEA SHOW?
CHECK OUT THE VARSITY REINING CLUB WEBSITE!

Get recognized for your involvement outside of the show arena:
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- Earn Scholarships & Other Great Prizes

Check the website EACH MONTH for your chance to earn DOUBLE POINTS!
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Please bring Inside Reining TRAINING SECRETS DVDs. (There’s FREE SHIPPING for 3 or more, in case your sleigh is too full)

Oh, and I’d LOVE an Inside Reining SWEATSHIRT or BALL CAP to keep me warm and cozy all winter.

Your friend,  
Suzie

P.S. Your elves can find it all on the STORE PAGE at www.INSIDEREINING.COM.
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point

Prove to the world you’ve got what it takes and earn some good stuff doing it. Earn your points by riding in NRHA Youth classes, and start working on your youth lifetime achievement. All kinds of cool stuff will be awarded.

\textbf{Point & Prize Levels}

\textbf{Points} = \textbf{Prizes}

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- 50 points
- 200 points
- 400 points
- 600 points
- 800 points
- 1,000 points
- 1,500 points

\textbf{Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup Levels:}

- 25 points
- 50 points
- 100 points
- 250 points

Make your goals today and start earning points!

\textbf{NRHYA}

national reining horse association

For more information contact Senior Coordinator of Marketing Hayley Lewallen at hlewallen@nrha.com or call 405.946.7400 ext. 103

*PRIZES PAY NRHYA*
Special Olympics = Special Smiles

BY PAIGE MCCASLIN

“Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt!”

These noteworthy words are the Special Olympics Oath said by all athletes at the Special Olympics. One division of the event is Special Olympics Equestrian, which gives kids who are at least 8 years old and are physically disabled a chance to compete in equine sports.

The different needs of Special Olympic athletes are endless, but those needs do not prohibit rider and horse from joining together as a team inside a show ring.

Horse therapy is a wonderful thing for people with special needs. It helps them with their communication skills and physical skills. Kids and adults who are physically disabled get a chance to do something they never thought they could do—ride and compete. Horses have changed so many lives for people with special needs. They have taught life lessons and revealed things that riders with special needs never knew about themselves.

Equestrian competitions have been a part of the Special Olympics since 1983 when the first competition was held in Louisiana. At the 1999 World Special Olympic Games, 148 athletes from 30 different countries competed. Today, more than 21,000 Special Olympic athletes compete in Equestrian competitions worldwide.

Special Olympic riders choose their style of riding, whether it is English, Western or Dressage. There are many kinds of events in the Special Olympics Equestrian like prix caprilli, English equitation, stock seat equitation, western riding, working trails, showmanship at halter/bridle classes, gymkhana events, drill team of two and four riders, unified sport team relays and unified sport drill team. Unified teams are teams made up of riders with and without disabilities.

When the athletes are divided up into their divisions, they are grouped by age, gender, and ability. This ensures all riders are able to equally show their ability to work with their four legged partners. Athletes placing first through third receive Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals respectively; while athletes placing fourth through eighth receive ribbons. Athletes stand on podiums when receiving their awards, much to the delight of their parents, fellow athletes, coaches and volunteers.

This gives the athletes a chance to show what they have learned from the horses and how they can apply it to the real world. These equine riders are judged on an equitation scale, their balance on horses, use of aids, ability to follow directions, ring etiquette, safety and sportsmanlike conduct. Aid refers to the help they need during their ride.

Winton Woods in Cincinnati, Ohio, is a Special Olympics horse show that has dressage, equitation and showmanship in both English and Western and working trail. For the past three years, athletes Ty Jackson (age 21) and Hannah McCaslin (age 18) from Columbus, Ohio, have participated in the show. Riders were asked what they
thought of showing at Winton Woods and how this equine community, their coaches, volunteers and the four-legged partners have changed their lives. McCaslin stated, “It makes me happy and I get so excited! I am happy I am doing barrels and showmanship and equitation.” Jackson said, “I do barrels, trail and showmanship. It’s fun hanging out with the coaches and friends. This has changed my life by helping me be brave and not afraid around horses. I got to learn how to ride a horse and I love it!”

McCaslin and Jackson, along with athlete Bryson Routsong, are the three original members of the Field of Dreams Special Olympics Show team in Blacklick, Ohio, which formed in 2012. During the 2013 Special Olympics show at Winton Woods, Field of Dreams had six athletes compete. Their team, like many others around the world, continues to grow.

It’s not just the riders who benefit from this program. Family members get to see their loved ones strive for success and achieve their goals. The smile on everyone’s face and the success the riders experience is what makes this one of the best equine communities around. The students get that warm smile when they think about their ride and remember the words they said, “Let me win, and if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.”

For benefits of riding for a disabled person—therapy programs—look at PATH’s website pathintl.org.

Paige McCaslin
Paige McCaslin is a senior at Gahanna Lincoln High School in Gahanna, Ohio. She participates in the Hunt Seat division at Paddock Stables in Pataskala, Ohio and shows with the IEA West Licking District Team. Paige hopes to find a career within the horse industry in the future.
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- Danielle Dove
- Kelly Posey
- Mark How
- Nick Valentine
- Jordan Larson
- Jarvis Anderson

- Jordan Donnelly
- Kinsy Donnelly
- Kimberly Ferguson
- Mark Rafael
- Peter DePortas
- Shane Brown
- Robb Schoeller
- Steve Schwartzenger
- Michael Davis
- Brett Walters
- Tom McCutcheon
- Nathan Piper
- Melanie Wilhelm
- Sam Smith
- Frank Schlossin
- Dan Huss
- Ruben Vandroper
- Shahan Florida

For more information contact Senior Coordinator of Marketing
Hayley Lewallen at hllewallen@nrha.com or call 405.946.7400 ext. 103

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OPEN FINALS DECEMBER 6

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2013 NRHA Futurity Open Level 4 Champion Jason VanLanenRgham & Not Yet A All

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FOUR
HOOVES
TWO
FEET
All equestrians know, horses are not cheap animals to own and care for. Not only are the horses expensive, but everything about the sport requires some level of financial support. As competitive equestrians, we are extremely lucky and should be thankful for all of the opportunities we are given.

Four Hooves, Two Feet is a project I created to help student equestrians give back to the community. The purpose of this project is to expose children from low-income families, who are at a higher risk of having emotional and behavioral issues, to benefit from the therapeutic aspects of horses and riding by offering a day camp. When children are focused on feeding, exercising, or grooming a horse, they get a break from their own problems.

I led the Four Hooves, Two Feet day camp with the help of my Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) teammates. My teammates earned service hours and had the opportunity to share the sport with others. The children learned basic horsemanship skills, which built confidence and gave them a safe environment in which to make mistakes. This project was very momentous because I was able to reach a large group of kids. Many of them had never seen a horse prior to the day camp.

The reason many underprivileged children are not able to ride stems mostly from lack of community awareness. Other root causes include lack of parent involvement, financial means, barn involvement, and no event plan. Once I made the barn manager aware of the issue, she happily donated her facility and horses for the day. Members from my IEA team donated their time, and through hard work and dedication I designed a program to successfully bring horses and low-income children together. Because of the donations I received, this day camp, which would usually cost about $60 per child, was completely free.

In order to host a similar event at your barn you will need to contact a local children’s shelter, gather food donations, a few safe horses, volunteers, and the event schedule, which is available on my Facebook page “Four Hooves, Two Feet.” Hosting a day camp for underprivileged kids is a fun and rewarding experience for both the kids who attend and the volunteers. My teammates and I really bonded over this event and I cannot wait to host another one. I encourage everyone to host an event at their barn so we can start making the world a better place, one horse at a time.

Rachael Peacock
Rachael Peacock is a high school senior from Marietta, Georgia, and attends George Walton Comprehensive High School. This is Rachael’s fifth year in IEA with Oak Creek Equestrian. She will be attending college next year majoring in pre-veterinary science. Rachael has 11 varsity letters in high school from cross country, track, chorus and academics, but her favorite letter is still “h” for horse. In Rachael’s free time, she is either striving to become a better equestrian or she is educating the community about the joys of horses.
THE LEG UP

[Image of two people with a horse]
COACHES SAY THE DARNEDEST THINGS. SOMETIMES THEY ARE INSPIRATIONAL AND SOMETIMES THEY ARE JUST FUNNY.

JAMES MORRIS
CHATHAM HALL COACH, ZONE 3, REGION 6
“Crouching rider, hidden distance.”

KATIE POTEET
BROOKWOOD COACH, ZONE 4, REGION 1
“Ride it like you own it.”

KAREN CATOV-GOODELL
FOREST EDGE COACH, ZONE 8, REGION 2
“When your legs are burning and you feel like you can’t keep going anymore, you’re half way there.” (regarding riding without stirrups)

TAMMY BRAHAM
GROVE CITY AREA EQUESTRIAN TEAM COACH, ZONE 2, REGION 1
“Ride like you show and show like you ride.”

SUE WENTZEL
BARRIE SCHOOL COACH, ZONE 3 REGION 2
“Eenie-Meenie, Jelly Beanie, Jinxy-Winxy, Out the Weenie.” (the counter-curse for anything)

DEBBIE GRIFFITH
AUTUMN ROSE COACH, ZONE 5, REGION 6
“Ride like you know how to ride.”

ASHLEY WOLF
SADDLEBROOK EQUESTRIAN CENTER COACH/ZONE 2, REGION 6
“Staring at your horse isn’t going to make him put his head down.”

JENNIFER EATON
CORNERSTONE FARM COACH, ZONE 1, REGION 1
“Where your eyes go your body will follow.”

EMILY ZEINTEK
ZONE 2 ADMINISTRATOR
“It’s your time to shine.”

COURTNEY SMITH
TEAM NEED A HAND COACH, ZONE 4, REGION 2
“Don’t Panic!”

AUTUMN ROSE COACHES
ZONE 5, REGION 2
“If you don’t know what to do … do something!”

KATHY JOHNSON
SCOTTSDALE EQUESTRIAN TEAM COACH, ZONE 8, REGION 1
“I NEVER LOSE. I either win or I learn.” (Team Motto)

KATIE MOREHEAD
KM EQUESTRIAN COACH, ZONE 5, REGION 6
“Eye of the tiger.”

Submissions for the next Leg Up column should be sent via email to Susan Wentzel at swentzel13@gmail.com.
S AN EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT, THE BULK OF MY days are spent answering the questions of parents and students. And the most frequent question I receive? Hands down, it’s this one: “When is the right time to begin searching for colleges?”

The problem with my ability to respond, however, is that there really is no right answer. A host of variables apply to each individual high school student so in the end, everyone must decide for themselves when the time is right.

Are there guidelines I can offer, though? Certainly! Starting earlier is always preferable to starting later, and it’s never a good idea to postpone the search until your senior year has already begun. If you do, you’ll be forced to condense a lengthy, stressful, and complicated process into the space of a few short months—a situation that’s sure to create more problems than it solves.

Sophomore Year

Students and parents should begin thinking and talking about college in general terms. Some students may already have a strong idea about what careers are of interest to them and others may not; it doesn’t affect the search either way at this early stage. The most important thing is for students to familiarize themselves with the types of colleges available—from large research institutions to small liberal arts schools—and begin to develop a sense of what appeals and what doesn’t.

Sophomore year is also the time to take notice of the riding opportunities available at the college level. Many equestrian publications put out intercollegiate-themed issues that highlight schools, programs, and teams from around the country, and the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) publishes a guide to college riding as well. Prospective college equestrians should familiarize themselves with the major collegiate equestrian associations like the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (Ihsa), the National Collegiate Equestrian Association (NCEA), the International Dressage Academy (IDA), and the American National Riding Commission (ANRC) to see which one might be a good fit for their riding talents and goals.

Junior Year

Junior year is the time when students and families should get more specific about not only the college search, but about the colleges themselves. A good goal to set for the end of junior
year is to have a list of five or six schools to which the student intends to apply as a senior.

The key to making a good list is to identify the schools that are a good match for the student academically (in terms of both academic programs as well as admission requirements), socially, and athletically. The list must cover all three items because each one will play a role in the student’s overall happiness at his or her chosen college. Should one item be emphasized too heavily over another (for example, stressing riding options over academics), the student could be in for a rough time if he or she is unable to ride for a semester or even a year due to injury or unforeseen circumstance.

Campus visits should also take place during junior year. Families should make a concentrated effort to do so when the colleges are in session so they can see firsthand what a typical day on campus looks like. Junior year is also when students must sign up for and take either the SAT or ACT. Some colleges don’t require test scores for admission but juniors should always plan to take one or both tests in order to be fully considered for all admission and scholarship opportunities.

Finally, before junior year finishes and summer break begins, students should approach those teachers from whom they will request recommendations to supplement their applications. Very popular teachers will have a lot of recommendations to do each fall so asking earlier is always advantageous.

Senior Year

Because so many schools feature early fall application deadlines, students should spend the summer between junior and senior year refining and finalizing the list of colleges to which they will apply, as well as making note of the specific admission requirements and deadlines of those particular schools. Most application essay prompts are made available on or around August 1 to allow students to begin the writing process early.

Ultimately, the responsibility for submitting a complete, accurate, and timely college application falls upon the student. Teachers, counselors, and parents can certainly help by proofreading forms and essays and providing support, but students must keep track of important deadlines and reminders from the colleges so that nothing is overlooked in the process.

Even after applications are submitted, the student's job isn't finished. Second, third, and even fourth visits to campus (if it's financially feasible to do so) will help determine if the school will be the right choice. Other opportunities, such as alumni interviews, scholarship competitions, and other similar networking events may also present themselves and students should be receptive to attending. Finally, some college riding teams will hold tryouts for high school seniors during the school year so students will want to be prepared for those as well.

The college search can be a lengthy and stressful process from start to finish, but if you give yourself plenty of time and break it down into manageable tasks, you'll find that it isn't as overwhelming as it seems. What's more, you'll also be sure to find your right-fit college. Good luck!
THE RIDE OF A LIFETIME

ENTRY LEVEL REINING

Compete with riders from all backgrounds, learn from judges and win Pard’s Green Reiner Rewards with NRHA Entry Level Reining! Find Shows, NRHA Affiliates and NRHA Professionals in your area at nrha.com!

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Riders in grades 6-12 can compete with teams in the Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA). School-age children, with various levels of experience, compete in Hunt Seat and Western disciplines throughout the school year. Riders not only compete for individual points, but for their team as well.

It’s fun and challenging—and there is no need to own your own horse! Horses are provided to each rider at every event. All mounts are selected by a draw. Moms and dads really like that the IEA provides an affordable format for their child, as they build their equestrian skills. Many of the IEA senior championship riders receive college scholarships based upon their winning performance at the IEA National Finals, too.

Founded in 2002, the IEA has over 10,000 participants across the United States. For additional information about the IEA or answers to questions concerning team organization, please contact Jennifer Eaton-Membership Marketing Coordinator by phone at 877-RIDE-IEA (877-743-3432), Extension 1 or email Jenn@rideiea.org. You may also visit the IEA website: www.rideiea.org.

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