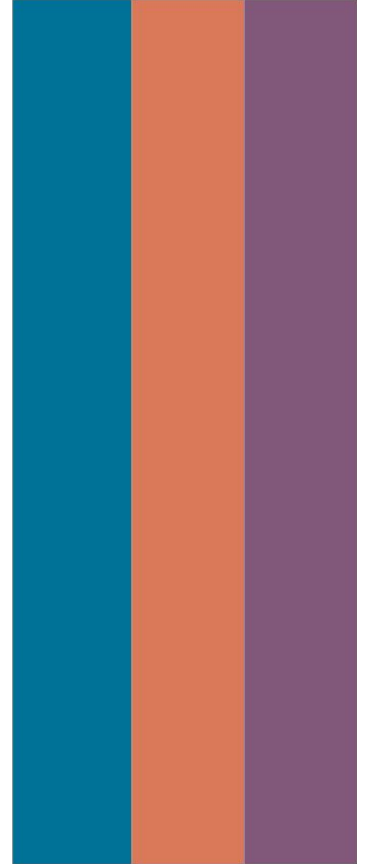


Collegiate Riding: Q&A



INTERSCHOLASTIC
EQUESTRIAN™
ASSOCIATION



Kari Briggs

Kari Briggs is the Business Manager of the Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science. As part of her duties as the Business Manager, Kari oversees the equestrian program and actively coaches riders of all disciplines.

Kari has competed through the Advanced level in eventing. She is also a graduate 'A' pony clubber and has ridden and competed on the A rated hunter /jumper circuit. Kari also serves as the Intercollegiate Dressage Association Vice President and is the regional president for IHSA.

Otterbein has won the IDA National Championships for the past 3 consecutive years.



Chris Mitchell

Chris Mitchell is the Interim Director of the Equestrian Program at Albion and the Hunt Seat Head Coach. Chris came to Albion in September 2022 after serving as head coach of the Randolph College WildCats in Lynchburg, VA for seven years and, prior to that, a 13-year tenure at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

Mitchell's time at Randolph saw three National Qualifiers, including one National Champion and while at Cornell, he led many members to the regional and zone championships. His teams claimed 27 collegiate horse show team crowns, including four Ivy League titles. Mitchell led his team to a brand new level during the fall of 2011, guiding the group to six invitational titles in eight meets, already matching a school record for victories in a season (six show titles in 2003-04). Mitchell's teams won a pair of shows (Skidmore, Hartwick) en route to a regional reserve champion showing in 2009-10. His 2010-11 team won its first-ever regular season regional championship after claiming four team blue ribbons during the season.

Prior to Cornell, Mitchell was previously an instructor and trainer at the Sleepy Hollow Country Club in Scarborough, N.Y., and was the barn manager and trainer for Lion Hill Farm in Easton, CT. During that time, he also served as an equestrian instructor for Sacred Heart University and was an assistant coach and instructor at Pace University. He coached one of his riders to a national championship in walk-trot equitation at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association competition and had other riders place among the top 10 nationally in the novice flat, novice fences, intermediate fences and open levels.

Mitchell was a member of the NCAA steering committee for equestrian and is also a member of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), United States Hunter Jumper Association (USHJA), and a board member of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). Most recently, he served as Director of Jumper Programs for the U.S. Hunter Jumper Association.

He is a graduate of Longwood University in Farmville, VA, with a degree in business administration and marketing.



Kelly Munz

Kelly Munz is the Chair of the Dept of Equine Studies and Animal Health at Centenary University in NJ. She oversees all academic programs, the equestrian center, and all of the riding teams which include IHSA, NCEA, IDA, and the Hunter/Jumper Team.

Kelly is also a USEF C1 Steward and has been for 20 years. She is on the USHJA Steward Committee, a clinician for licensing maintenance for stewards, and a Measurement Field Examiner. Kelly has been the steward for many large horse shows including the Upperville Horse and Pony show, USEF Talent Search East Finals, Princeton Show Jumping and Saratoga Horse Shows.



Ruth Sorrel

Ruth Sorrel is the owner/founder of Sorrel Equestrian Consulting. She is a graduate of the University of South Carolina (USC). During her time as a student USC, she competed on the IHSA team. She then coached for 16 years in Division I Equestrian at Fresno State (1 yr.), Auburn (1 yr.), and at University of South Carolina (14 yrs.).

During her time as Associate Head Coach at USC, the team won three back-to-back SEC Championship titles in 2012, 2013, 2014, and two National Championships in 2007 and 2015.

Since leaving USC, Ruth created her consulting business which provides assistance to young men and women who are interested in continuing their equestrian passion once they graduate from High School. Ruth is actively involved in the Interscholastic Equestrian Association, as she is an Assistant coach for the Flamekissed IEA Western team. Flamekissed High School team was 2023 Reserve National Champions and 2022 National Champions.



Philip Williamson

Phillip Williamson is the Director of Equestrian at the University of Lynchburg. He oversees the University's equestrian facility, and has served as the head coach for both the IHSA and NCEA teams since 2020. Williamson immediately vaulted the Hornets into the forefront of the national collegiate equestrian conversation, culminating with back-to-back National Collegiate Equestrian Association single-discipline championships in 2022 and 2023. He won jumping seat coach of the year honors from the NCEA for his efforts in both championship seasons and was the ODAC Coach of the Year in 2023, following Lynchburg's conference championship win.

Williamson came to Lynchburg with a wealth of experience in the equestrian world, most recently as a riding instructor and assistant IHSA team coach at Sweet Briar College. He is a graduate of the equine studies program at Centenary University in Hackettstown and holds a master's degree in coaching and sport leadership from Randolph College.

Outside of collegiate coaching, Phillip has taught and ridden professionally in Colorado, New Jersey, Florida, and Virginia and holds a USEF "r" judges card in Hunters and Equitation.

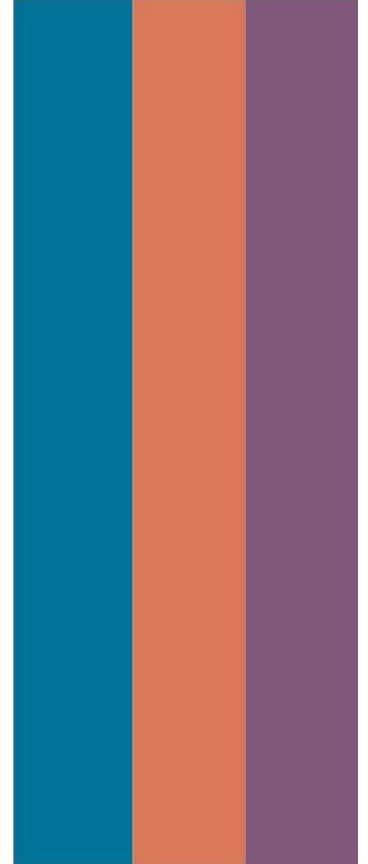


Goals for this Q&A

Today we are going to answer questions raised by our first webinar on collegiate riding. If you missed that one, it's an overview of how to select colleges, meet with coaches and prepare for tryouts. It discusses many opportunities for riding in college.

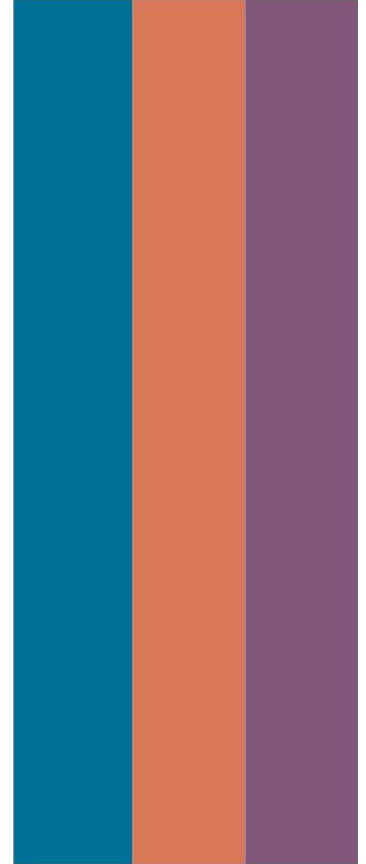
The previous webinar on collegiate riding is available on the IEA website under IEA Educational Guides and Videos.

Today, we are going to talk with coaches of IHSA, NCEA and IDA teams, which all use a draw-based format like IEA does. Let's briefly recap.



Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association

- Founded in 1967 by Robert Cacchione
- Over 360 colleges, over 8,000 members
- All levels (beginner through open)
 - Hunter Seat Equitation (flat and over fences)
 - Western Horsemanship
 - Reining/Ranch Riding
- Individual and team competition
- Women, men, transgender and veteran athletes
- Costs can vary considerably depending on if the team is club, varsity, NCAA
- Wide variety of scholarships available



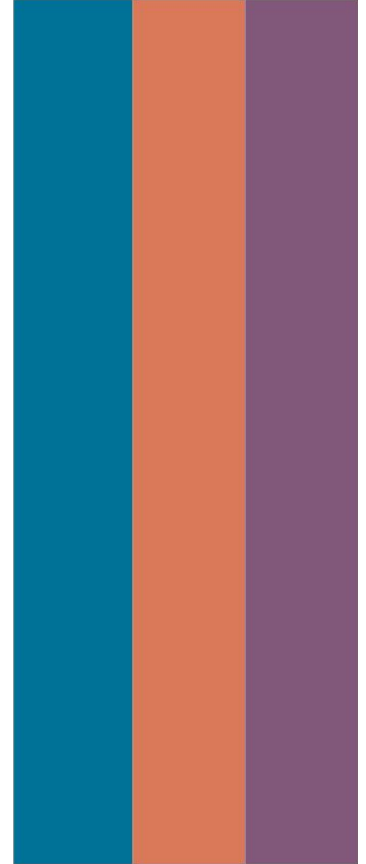
National Collegiate Equestrian Association

The NCAA adopted Equestrian as an emerging sport in 1998.

The NCEA is made up of teams that operate under the NCAA equestrian guidelines.

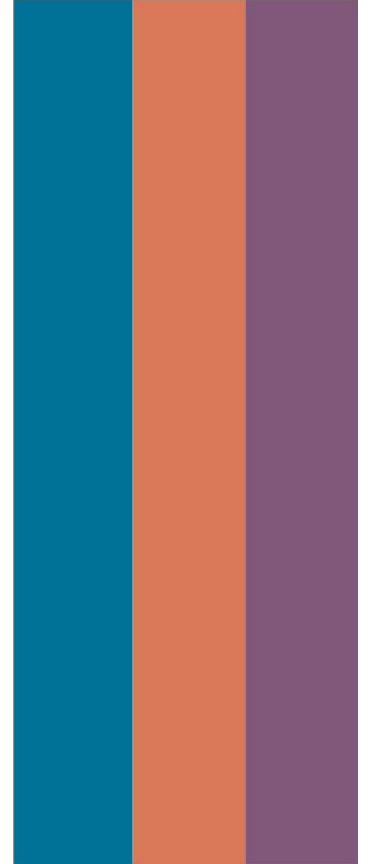
22 participating colleges

- 16 Division I
- 1 Division II
- 6 Division III - Single Discipline
- Horses provided by host college
- Women's sport (including trans women according to NCAA rules)
- Open-level only
- Most of these teams are fully-funded
- Scholarships are available, varying amounts



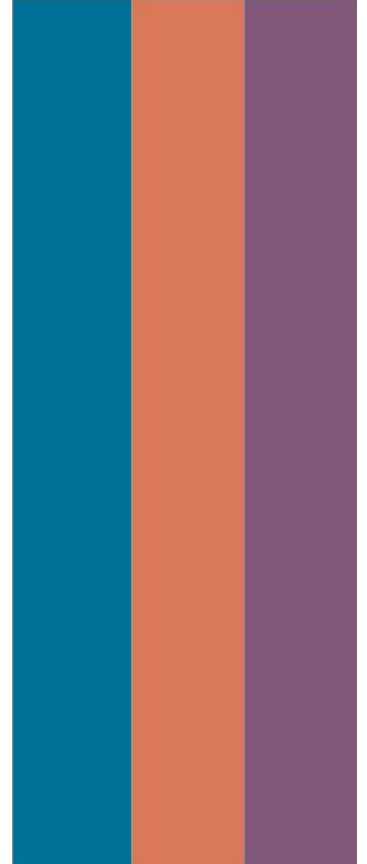
Intercollegiate Dressage Association

- Established in 2003 (as college only association)
- About 80 teams
- Riders compete in:
 - Introductory
 - Lower Training Level
 - Upper Training Level
 - First Level
 - Dressage Seat Equitation classes
- Women, men, transgender, para athletes
- Horses provided by host college
- Costs can vary considerably depending on team



Can you explain the difference between IHSA teams and NCEA teams?

- Most NCEA teams are varsity teams
 - They recruit open-level riders
 - All women
 - Teams vary in size, dual-discipline can range from 30-60 athletes
 - Single-discipline teams are smaller, 6-20 athletes
 - Usually 4-6 athletes per event compete at a show
- IHSA teams can be varsity, club, NCAA
 - Some recruit, some have tryouts, some welcome all
 - All levels and genders
 - Can vary in size from 1 or 2 members to 50-60
 - Usually 8-35 athletes per team compete at a show
- IHSA - NCAA teams?
 - These teams report Equestrian as a varsity sport to NCAA
 - But ONLY compete in IHSA, are not NCEA members



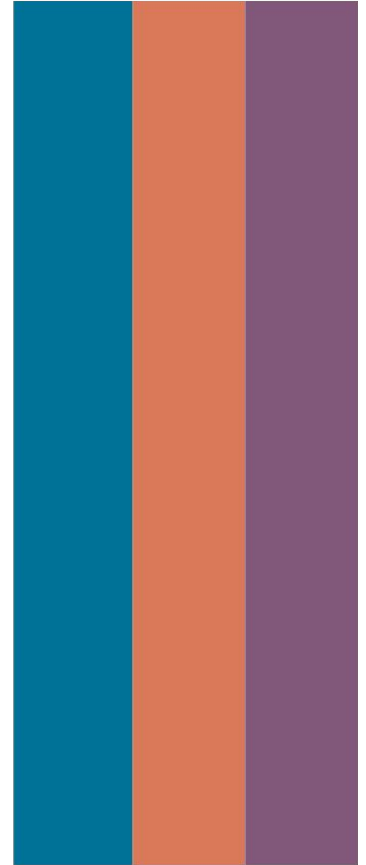
What are the skill levels required for IHSA and NCEA?

IHSA is ALL levels

- Division placement is based upon previous experience

NCEA is open-level only

- Generally competing in the Medal/Maclay or junior hunters/jumpers
- Division I teams are more competitive versus Division II and III teams



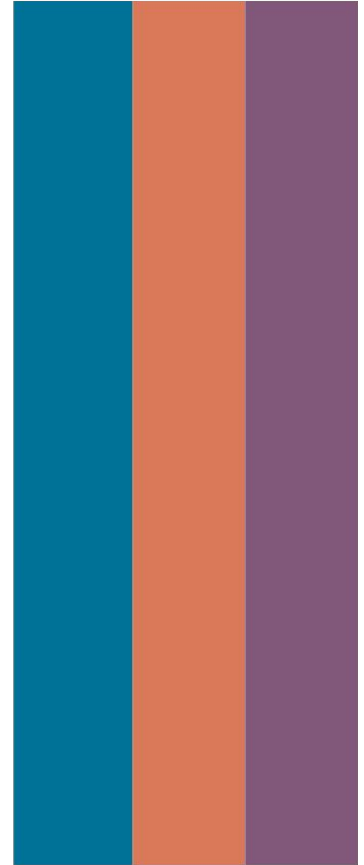
What is the difference between NCEA single-discipline and dual-discipline?

NCEA single discipline:

- Jumping Seat (Equitation on the Flat and Over Fences)
- 3 Division 1 teams, 6 division III teams
- Roster sizes range from 6-20

NCEA dual-discipline:

- Offers both Jumping Seat and Western
- Division I or II



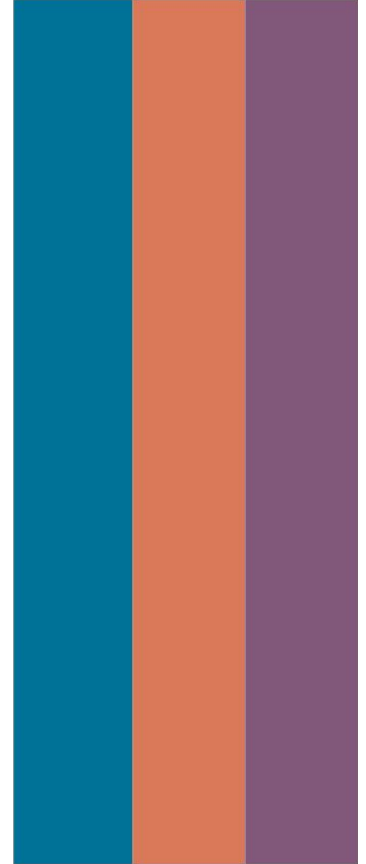
What is the best way to get recruited to NCEA, IHSA or IDA?

- NCEA:
 - Refer to NCEA website for recruiting rules!
 - Be aware of differences between Division I, II and III school rules
 - Email Coaches; coaches can only respond during certain times
 - Attend a camp
 - Check if there's a recruiting questionnaire!
- IHSA and IDA:
 - Visit!
 - Email Coaches and Captains, ask questions
 - Attend a camp
 - Check if there's a recruiting questionnaire!



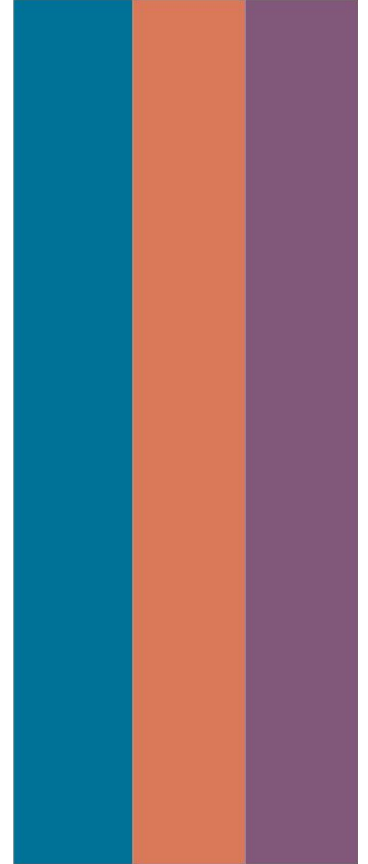
Does IEA riding help prepare a rider for riding in college?

- IEA exposes students to the catch riding format - beneficial for IHSA, NCEA and IDA.
- Riders from an IEA-only background fit well with IHSA teams as IHSA takes all levels.
- IEA teaches riders to adapt to unfamiliar horses quickly. Developing this skill is a tremendous benefit in college.
- The IEA makes an individual sport a team sport.



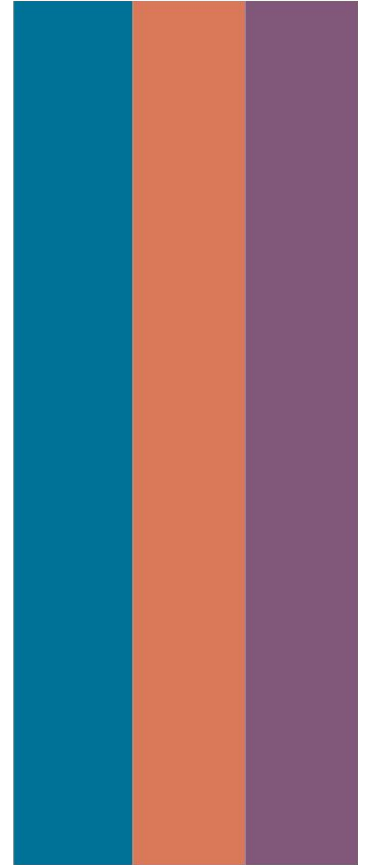
What skill levels are required for IDA?

- Like IHSA, IDA is open to all levels and riders
- Dressage seat equitation classes serve as an introduction to the sport.
- 4 different levels of dressage test offered with 10 min of warm up time - riders can represent their team in test and DSE classes at a regular season show.
- Nationals - riders may only show in DSE or Test



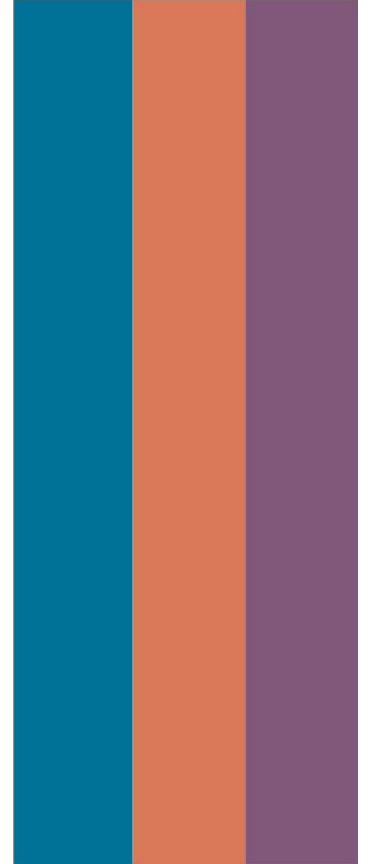
My college of choice doesn't have an IDA team. How can I continue to ride dressage?

- IDA is actively growing - start a team
- IDA has rules in place to help establish teams and regions that are emerging. A rider can represent their school as an individual.
- IDA has support to get a team started - reach out.
- IDA will be at IEA Nationals in Tryon - meet coaches and riders!



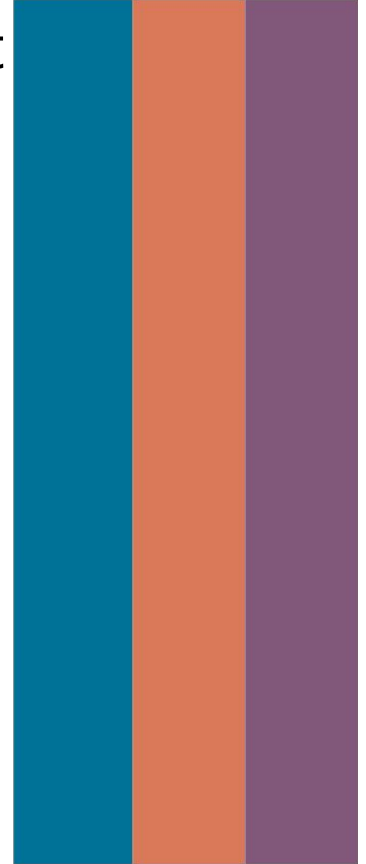
If a rider ONLY competes in IEA, what can that rider do to stand out?

- Do your homework re: the school you are visiting!
- Send an email with video to the IHSA coach, schedule a visit, dress thoughtfully for the visit (no sweat pants, etc) and ask questions during the visit.
- Students that request time to speak with a coach show more interest than students that do not (exception: the NCEA has rules as to when you can speak to coaches).
- Attend a camp at your top school(s). This provides an opportunity to work with the coach(es) and see campus.



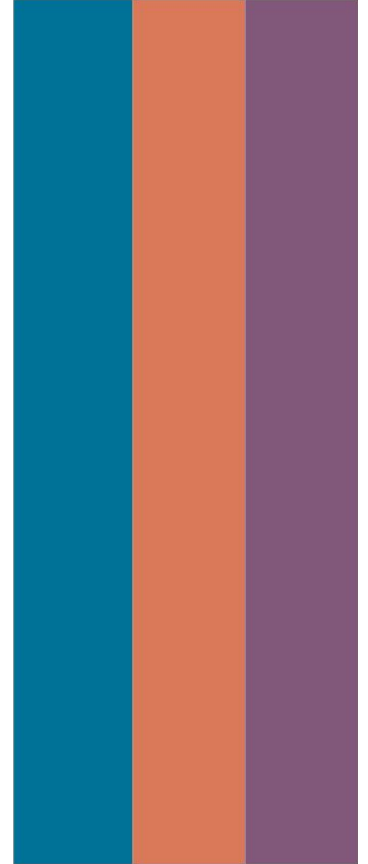
Do colleges and college coaches look more at high school academics or high school riding?

- Both! Riders need good academics to get into college and a successful riding resume to be able to compete in college.
- A great riding record is wonderful, but coaches are attracted to students who have a strong high school transcript because they will be successful college students.
- College riding is a commitment - coaches need to know you can handle academics and athletics.



Are there goals riders should have in middle school to stand out?

- Learn and practice excellent fundamentals
- Ride as many types of horses as possible
- Embrace the process of learning to be a great student and teammate
- Learn horsemanship and horse care!
- Practice sportsmanship
- Keep your social media mature, kind and professional



Are there scholarships available for riding?

Yes, there's a lot of variation. Let's go over some options:

- Athletic Scholarships - discuss with coaches
- Academic Scholarships also lower cost
 - Check the financial aid page
- IEA Scholarships
- Associations you are affiliated with (USEF, AQHA)
- Apply to everything!
- More on this in our previous webinar available online

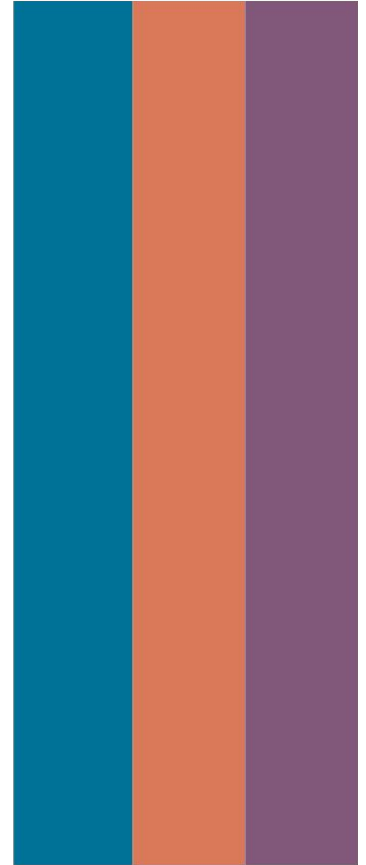
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How does IEA help a rider prepare for pursuing a college major or minor in equine?

IEA provides competition experience with a team

- The IEA draw-based format is the format used in college
- The IEA hippology program prepares students for future study



For Further Information

Stay tuned for our next webinar on equine majors and minors!

IHSA Website: www.ihsainc.com

NCEA Website: collegiateequestrian.com

IDA Website: teamdressage.com

NCEA Recruiting: <https://collegiateequestrian.com/sports/2020/7/10/recruiting%20101.aspx>

NCEA Transgender Athlete Participation Policy:
https://ncaaorg.s3.amazonaws.com/inclusion/lgbtq/SSI_TransgenderSADeadlinesAndThresholdsWinter.pdf

