

CODE OF CONDUCT and GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR AREA VI YOUNG RIDERS FOR NAJYRC QUALIFICATION AND PARTICIPATION



CODE OF CONDUCT

As an area VI Young Rider and possible North American Junior & Young Rider (“NAJYRC”) participant, I acknowledge my obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards of horsemanship, sportsmanship, and citizenship whenever I am representing both Area VI and its Young Rider Program at any Area VI event, events outside Area VI and/or abroad, whether as a team member, individual competitor, and/or horse owner and whether during actual competition or other related events such as selection trials, training sessions, clinics, camps, etc.

As a horseman, I will place my horse’s welfare above all other considerations and faithfully observe the United States Eventing Association (“USEA”), the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”) and the Federation Equestre Internationale (“FEI”) Codes of Conduct, as well as this Area VI Code of Conduct and Guidelines and Rules for Area VI Young Riders for NAJYRC Qualification and Participation (“Area VI Code”).

As a sportsman, I will know and comply with this Area VI Code as well as with the USEF as my National Governing Body and the FEI as the International Governing Body, and honor the principles of fair play inherent in them. I will place the interests of the team above my own, and respect the decisions of its duly appointed/elected officials, selectors, coaches, chef d’equipe, team veterinarians, and coordinators made in the Area VI Young Rider Program’s best interest.

Knowing that, as an Area VI Young Rider, I also serve as an ambassador for my sport, USEF, and Area VI, as well as my country, I will endeavor at all times to reflect positively and with credit on them through my attitude, conduct, and dress.

I clearly acknowledge my responsibility to ensure that my family, friends, grooms, etc. who accompany me whenever I am participating in or competing at any event, and/or representing Area VI at any event, also abide by this Area VI Code.

I understand and accept that any serious or repeated transgressions of this Area VI Code may be grounds for suspension from a team or consideration to be on a team or from participation in any Area VI NAJYRC preparation or training session. In addition, I agree to abide by selection procedures established by the Area VI Young Rider program whenever applicable.

Finally, I fully understand that I will not be considered for NAJYRC team or individual competition and that my NAJYRC Application/Letter of Intent will not be complete until this Area VI Code has been read, fully executed and submitted to the Area VI Coordinators.

GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR NAJYRC QUALIFICATION AND PARTICIPATION

While qualification and participation in the NAJYRC and other Young Rider activities is an integral part of the Area VI Young Rider program, the development of a team approach and participation for all is the ultimate goal. It is a privilege to be a part of the Young Rider program and in this program both safety, as well as the health and welfare of the horse, are of paramount concern.

As this is a TEAM program, all activities are promoted through a team approach which includes riders, grooms, veterinary staff, coaches, chef, instructors, selectors, coordinators, and all Area VI staff, as well as sponsors, donors and venue management. An element of camaraderie, cooperation and respect for each member of the team shall be deemed essential to the success of the team and its activities. Any conduct, speech or statement, presentation, or violation of rules and regulations established by authority which impacts the team mission of the program, that creates a negative environment, that threatens, diminishes, or devastates the integrity of the team, the Young Rider program and/or any of its individual members will NOT be tolerated and may be subject to disciplinary action.

Examples of misconduct shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Disrespectful language, attitude or negative words to or about any other member of the team;
- The use of social media to express any discontent or anger towards the Young Rider program or any member of the team;
- Any physical act or disobedience that disrupts due process or which is prohibited by law, including, but not limited to: theft, acts of dishonesty, or the possession/consumption of age-restricted products by minors, or illegal substances of any kind;
- Use of language and/or accompanying gesture that may be offensive to any other party;
- Wearing of any attire, or lack thereof, deemed dangerous, offensive or inappropriate by Area VI staff.

Violation of USEA or Area VI rules and guidelines, including Area VI financial guidelines, USEF, FEI and venue rules will NOT be tolerated. Lack of understanding or familiarity with said rules/guidelines shall not be considered an acceptable excuse for non-compliance.

No party or rider may create or endorse any Young Rider fundraising or other activity that is not offered to and applied equally to all participants and other qualified parties.

Disciplinary action will be determined by the Area VI Chairman, in consultation with the Area VI Council, and may include restriction or expulsion from individual activities or the Young Rider program in its entirety.

OTHER GUIDELINES FOR NAJYRC PARTICIPATION

After potential NAJYRC candidates submit their Application/Letter of Intent to Area VI Coordinators in January, they must keep Area VI Coach, Chef, Coordinators and Selectors apprised of their proposed competition schedule from Application date until NAJYRC competition (unless they withdraw their name from team consideration), updating said schedule as changes are made and discussing possible competition schedules with their personal trainer as well as Area VI Coach.

As an NAJYRC candidate, Young Riders must put their personal safety, as well as the health and welfare of their horse(s), first and foremost in planning their competition schedule and attempting to obtain the necessary qualifications for NAJYRC competition.

As an NAJYRC candidate, Young Riders must understand the sponsorship process and take personal responsibility for acknowledging, showing appreciation, supporting and promoting those companies, businesses and individuals that donate products, services, time and/or funds to the Young Rider program.

Personal trainers/coaches are welcome to attend the NAJYRC competition, but will NOT be allowed in the barns and they must communicate with the Area VI Coach concerning competition schedule and coaching.

Signature(s) below indicate(s) full understanding and acceptance of this **Code of Conduct and Guidelines and Rules for Area VI Young Riders for NAJYRC Qualification and Participation**. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with these requirements.

Participant signature*

Date

Participant Name (please print)

Parent, Guardian, or Responsible Party Signature* (for minors)

Date

Parent, Guardian, or Responsible Party name (please print)

*Parents, Guardian, or Responsible Parties must also execute a separate form as Participants acknowledging their personal understanding, acceptance and compliance.