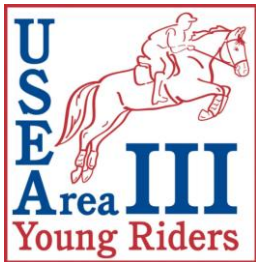


Area III Young Riders

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From the YR Coordinator

Well I am winding down my time as the YR Coordinator. I have served my three years and the time has flown by for me. I feel an energy rebuilding in our area and I hope it continues to grow. The new coordinators who are stepping in December 1st have some good energy and I hope you will give them the support you have shown me.

We will have a fall clinic. The details are getting worked out and once finalized it will be advertised.

I have three/four riders who have joined the Junior board. There is still space to join if you want to have a voice in what the YR program offers you. This is your chance to help build the calendar and pick the clinicians. Email me if you are interested.

Going to a HT and want to set up a YR table? Reach out to me and I can get you the banner and some swag to hand out while you are talking up the program. This is a great way to build the program because potential members can hear from you the benefits of being a part of the program.

Lee Ann Gilson

USEF Young Rider Eventing Championships

This year the Championships are being held in California. Galway Downs is hosting the Championships November 1st – 5th. We had six declared riders but they have all pulled their names from consideration for various reasons. Sadly Area III will not be represented at the USEF YR Eventing Champs for 2023. I know this is sad news but we are not alone in this, many of the East coast areas have small to no numbers heading to Champs this year. Hopefully Championships will be in a more central location next year. Bids have not opened yet for venues so we will have to wait and see.

Plantation Youth Team Challenge

The Area II Coordinator has coordinated with Plantation HT to offer a YR team challenge at their September 21 – 24th event. The event opened August 8th and closes September 5th.

The Eventing Youth Team Challenge is open to athletes who are members of their USEA Young Rider Program in the following age categories:

- CCI1* for FEI ages 14-18
- CCI2* for FEI ages 14-21
- CCI3* for FEI ages 16-25

Note: FEI age is defined as the age the athlete will turn during the calendar year. Areas may send more than one team at each level. Where possible Individual representatives will be scrambled onto teams of the same level.

Team: Teams will be composed of 3 or 4 Athletes. The 3 best individual results of each Team will be taken into account for the Team score. An Athlete can compete on a single team at each level.
Individuals: As per FEI Rules, if an Athlete competes with multiple Horses at a level, the Team Horse must start first.

Please include: "Youth Team Challenge" on your stabling request.

If you want to learn more about it you can read the press release here: <https://www.plantationfield.com/competitors>

Email me, Lee Ann, if you would like to form a team.

Hagyard Midsouth Three-day Event & Team Challenge

This competition is the longest running HT Team Challenge in the U.S. and everyone raves about how fun it is. Want to create a team and be a part of it? Reach out to Lee Ann Gilson so we can build our teams. This event opens on September 5th and notoriously fills fast. Levels offered are BN, N, T, P, I, CCI2*, CCI3*, and T3D. According to their Facebook page they will also be offering a Novice Level Classic in addition to the Training Level Classic they offer. It is being held at the Kentucky Horse Park. Make sure to reach out to Lee Ann if you want to be on a team by September 1st so we can be ready to sign up on opening day.



Interscholastic Eventing League (IEL)

While the Interscholastic Eventing League (IEL) is not directly linked to the Young Rider program there is the opportunity for Area III YR's to form teams at competitions and compete in the IEL. "The mission of the IEL is to bring together junior riders with a common interest and provide a supportive community through which students can continue to pursue their riding interests. The program will encourage team camaraderie and will give junior members a chance to compete in a team atmosphere." This program is open to individuals currently in the 7th to 12th grades and competing at USEA events. Riders can only affiliate themselves with one interscholastic team and often it is their barn or pony club that will put together a team and submit the roster to USEA. For those riders who find themselves without a team you may join the [Area III Young Rider Affiliate](#) roster so you will be eligible to compete in the IEL competitions.

Upcoming Events

Sept 29th – Oct 1st – YR Team Challenge at Stable View Oktoberfest

October 14th – 15th – YR Team Challenge at Poplar Place Farm

October 18th – 22nd – Hagyard Midsouth Three-day Event, let's send some teams this year!

November 17th – 19th – YR Team Challenge at Terra Nova

Area III YR Coaches Corner -

Hello Area III Young Rider Program!

The end of summer is just around the corner! I know many of you had the opportunity to attend camps and clinics this summer (we had a blast at the USEA AREA III Young Rider Camp held at Majestic Oaks in June), and some of you took summer working student positions. I hope the time spent dedicated to riding and horsemanship has left you feeling inspired! Congratulations to our Area III Young Riders Kate Midgley, Bree Robinette, Mackenzie Vaneffen, and Chloe Paddock for being chosen to participate in the USEA Emerging Athletes EA21 program! That is quite an honor and well deserved.

We have AEC's just around the corner and the Hagyard Midsouth Team Challenge in October. For myself, I will be officiating at Chattahoochee Hills the weekend of the AEC's, so I will not be there, but I plan to compete my horse Charlton Fame in the CCI2* at Hagyard. We also are looking into coordinating a fall Young Rider's clinic. I hope to see many of you out an about! Parents and riders, I am always happy to meet you or catch up with you, so feel free to say hello! I am also excited to begin teaching online mental skills courses through Empower Performance Coaching. These courses are designed to be interactive, with lectures, skills assessments and discussions. Each participant will come away with their own personal roadmap for mental skills. If you have any interest in participating, I am offering an Area III Young Rider discount of 30%. Please contact me or check out [www/empowerperformancecoaching.com](http://www.empowerperformancecoaching.com) to register!

Kick on!

- Coach Ashley