

Selection Process Letter of Intent for Area III

For the 2009 Midsouth Three-Day Event and Team Challenge Horse Trials

The 2009 Midsouth Team Challenge will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, October 15-18, 2009. We will accept candidate applications for BN, Novice, Training, Preliminary and the CCII* teams.

APPLICATION

Riders wishing to be considered for the 2009 Area III Young Riders Team Challenge teams **MUST** complete a **Declaration of Intent** (attached) and return it to Judy Lewis, 10791 Elnina Drive, Mobile AL., 36608.

Please attach a list of the 2009 Horse Trials at which you intend to compete or have already completed at the level you wish to try out for. See page 7.

In order to have the application accepted, each rider must meet the following criteria:

1. U.S. Citizen or compliance with FEI Article 123.5 at the time of selection;
2. Current member in good standing (from the date of the first qualifier entered through the end of the Midsouth Team Challenge) of the USEA and USEF; current member in good standing of Area III Young Riders for 2009.
3. A competitor's Area is determined by the competitor's legal address as listed with USEA and USEF membership files. Competitors who are temporarily domiciled in another Area (i.e., attending college or working student) must declare what Area they will represent no later than March 1, 2009, and notify the USEA office in writing. A competitor may not change his or her Area during the year unless the USEA Young Rider Committee gives approval;
4. In addition, the following qualifications apply:

Horse must be in good standing under USEF rules, and registered with the USEA and USEF.
5. Horse must be five years old or older;

6. Both the competitor and one or more of the owners of the horse must be of the same Nationality

7. **Qualifying requirements**

Horse and rider must have achieved within the current or preceding two calendar years, 2 qualifying results at recognized horse trials (with exception to CCI1*) at the level that is wished to compete at.

8. *A qualifying result is achieved by completing the following:*

Qualifying result for dressage tests: Not more than 50 penalty points.

Qualifying result for cross-country:

Not more than 20 penalties at obstacles.

Not more than 90 seconds exceeding the optimum time. (36 time penalties)

Qualifying result for show jumping: Not more than 16 penalties at obstacles.

Requirements for all: **Deadline for qualification is June 17th 2009.**

9. Before an application will be accepted, the rider (his/her parent or guardian if rider is under 18) and horse owner(s) must certify that they have read the Area III procedures for selection, USEA Statement of Principles, and the Area III Young Riders Team Competition Code of Conduct, understand those documents, and agree to be bound by them.

SELECTION

The 2009 Selection Committee for Area III is as follows:

1. Mike Winter, Georgia
2. Tiffany Loudon, South Carolina
3. Hilda Donahue, Florida

Horse/rider combinations shall be chosen by majority vote of the selectors present at a meeting or conference call. This meeting/call will take place following the Selections Clinic at a time and/or place convenient to all selectors. [Entry fees for Team Challenge will be due at the end of the Selection Clinic.](#)

In addition to selecting the team members, the selectors will rank the 2009 candidates to serve as alternates. Up to four alternates will be chosen for each team (BN, Novice, Training, Preliminary, and CCI1*). Only the first alternate will be ranked. If horse/rider combinations are substituted past the first alternate, the decision will be made by majority vote of the coach and available members of the selection committee.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No member of the Selection Committee shall have had, within the 30 days prior to the meeting of the selection committee (meeting referred to above), any financial or other interest, including as coach, trainer, or otherwise, except at YRAP sponsored clinics or camp, in the applicant horse, or have had financial dealings with the rider or owner or members of their families, nor be a member of the family (See article 132 of USA Equestrian Rules) of an applicant rider or owner. If, within the past 30 days, a member of the Selection Committee has had any financial or other interest as outlined above, he/she shall recuse himself/herself from the selection process. Further, each selector and applicant shall be required to fill out a conflict of interest statement, disclosing any potential conflicts.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selectors will evaluate the current fitness, soundness, and ability of the applicants to determine whether they are able to meet the standards of the Midsouth Team Challenge competition; i.e., distance, size and complexity of obstacles, and the required speed to avoid time penalties.

The selectors' evaluation will be based on the overall performance and soundness of the horse/rider combination in various 2009 Spring Horse Trials, with emphasis on cross-country performance, including faults, boldness, rideability, speed, and the prospect of the horse/rider combination to win an individual ribbon or contribute to a team ribbon at the 2009 Midsouth Team Challenge Horse Trials, having considered all the factors mentioned above. If all factors are equal between two horse/rider combinations, the participation of the rider in other Area III Young Rider programs may be considered.

DECLARATION OF TEAMS AND ALTERNATES

After the selectors have made their decisions and ranked all candidates, they will confer and assign riders to teams at the level they are being considered, i.e., BN, Novice, Training, Preliminary, or CCI1*. After they have made their selections, the Chef d'Equipe will notify the team members of each team and associated alternates. Alternates may only be substituted for team members due to veterinary or medical reasons or for breach of the Area III Team Competition Code of Conduct, or any other exceptional circumstances having bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Midsouth Team Challenge with the approval of the Chef d'Equipe and the coach.

DEFINITIONS

Boldness – Does the horse/rider combination move forward with confidence, assertiveness, and vigor, demonstrating a positive attitude? When presented with a question (any situation that the horse/rider must answer to successfully negotiate the test, e.g., an obstacle, change of terrain, handling crowds, jumping into water), does the horse/rider combination answer the question with the same positive attitude?

Rideability – Does the horse exhibit in all three tests – dressage, endurance, and show jumping – that it responds readily to the aids (direction) of the rider as a result of his training? Does he move forward, slow down, turn, and jump any obstacle with composure, obedience, and confidence in himself and the rider?

Speed – Is there evidence that, in the previous record of the horse/rider combination, the horse/rider combination shows the ability to complete the 2008 Midsouth Team Challenge distances at the speed demanded?

Fitness – Has the horse competed at a high level more frequently than is consistent with delivering a peak performance at the event for which selection is being made? Has the horse demonstrated in training the modicum of preparation necessary for preparedness for the rigors of the event for which selection is being made?

**USEA AREA III YOUNG RIDERS
2009 Midsouth Team Challenge Horse Trials**

DECLARATION OF INTENT

1. Rider's Name (Print): _____
Permanent home address: _____
Current address (if different than above): _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____ Birth Date: _____ Citizenship: _____
Rider's Membership: USEA #: _____ USA Equestrian#: _____
2. Parent/Guardian name: _____ Telephone: _____
Email: _____
3. The horse(s) I intend to qualify with: _____ (Attach separate paper if more than 2 horses)
- a. Name of horse: _____ Short name: _____
Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Country of Birth: _____
Level (Nov, Trng, Prelim) _____ USEA Reg.#: _____ USA Eq. Rec.#: _____
Registered owner of horse: _____
Owner's address: _____
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- b. Name of horse: _____ Short name: _____
Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Country of Birth: _____
Level (Nov, Trng, Prelim) _____ USEA Reg.#: _____ USA Eq. Rec.#: _____
Registered owner of horse: _____
Owner's address: _____
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I have read the Area III Selection Process for the 2009 Midsouth Team Challenge Team; and the Area III Code of Conduct. I understand these documents and agree to be bound by them.

Signature of Rider

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian
(If rider is under 18)

Date

Signature of Horse Owner (a)

Date

Signature of Horse Owner (b)

Date

**Area III Young Riders
2009 Midsouth Team Challenge Horse Trials**

Intended Clinics and Competitions

Rider's Name (Print): _____

I plan to attend the following **Required** clinic(s) (Camp is highly recommended but not required!)

- June 13-17 YRAP Summer Camp Chatt Hills Horse name:
Fairburn GA.
- June 18-19 NAYRC and Team Challenge Horse name:
Selection Clinic at Chatt Hills,
Fairburn, GA

- TBA Team Challenge Training Session Horse name:
location TBA

I plan to compete(or have already competed) at the following horse trials and will be competing at the additional horse trials in spring/summer 2009:

<i>Date of Event</i>	<i>Name of Horse Trials</i>	<i>Horse Name</i>

Area III Young Riders Code of Conduct for Team Competition

Team competition is different from individual competition in many ways. First and foremost, when competing on a team each member must put the team's best interests above those of the individual. Team members represent the entire Area III Young Riders program and should act accordingly. The Area III Young Riders program has developed the following guidelines, based upon the FEI and USAE Codes of Conduct, to help team members understand their role on the team.

Please note that those YRs who are selected to represent Area III on a team will be required to sign this Code of Conduct prior to the competition.

1. The safety and welfare of the horse and rider comes first. The well being of the horse shall be above the demands of breeders, trainers, riders, owners, dealers, organizers, sponsors, or officials.
2. All handling and veterinary treatment must ensure the health and welfare of the horse.
3. In the interest of the horse, the fitness and competence of the rider shall be regarded as essential.
4. All riding and training methods must take account of the horse as a living entity and must not include any technique considered by the FEI to be abusive.
5. The team coach has final say in all decisions related to the team, on and off site of the competition for the duration of the practice sessions and clinics, and the competition itself.
6. Team members may have their personal trainers present at the competition, as long as the team coach is aware of the situation. Remember, the team coach's instructions to the team members takes precedence over the personal trainer's directions.
7. Team members must consider the effect their actions may have on the team's standings. Withdrawing from a competition should only be done when it is in the best interest of the horse, and/or team, according to the Team Coach.
8. If a Team Captain is appointed, it is the Captain's job to ensure that team members are aware of training sessions, warm-ups, course walks, etc. that the coach schedules.
9. Team members must make every effort to be on time for scheduled sessions with the team coach. Being tardy or absent may result in miscommunication among the team members.

10. The stabling area at the team competition must be kept orderly. Tack rooms are usually provided and are to be used to neatly store competitors tack and supplies. Sweeping or raking the area in front of the stalls is required to ensure that nothing harmful to the horse is inadvertently left on the ground, as well as to keep the area tidy.
11. After the competition, the team members should ensure that their stalls and the associated tack rooms are cleaned appropriately, and all personal and team belongings are removed and packed for transport home.
12. Any problems or questions during the competition should be addressed to the coach and/or the Chef d'Equipe.

Therefore:

I acknowledge my obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards of horsemanship, sportsmanship, and citizenship as a team member or individual competitor at all times.

I will place the team interests of the Team above my own and accept the decisions of its duly appointed/elected officials, made in the Team's best interest, even if I disagree with them;

I serve as an ambassador for my sport and the United States Eventing Association. I will try at all times to represent them to the best of my ability through my conduct, dress, and behavior.

I understand and accept that serious or repeated transgressions of this Code may be grounds for suspension from a squad or team, or other appropriate disciplinary action.

Signature of Rider: _____ Date: _____

Printed name of Rider: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

Printed name of Parent: _____

Conflicts of Interest Statement

Area Selectors – 2009 Midsouth Team Challenge

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please list all relationships within 30 days of the date hereon with individuals, businesses and/or other entities that may create a conflict of interest or which you believe might create the appearance of a conflict of interest with any applicant horse, owner or rider or members of their families (attach additional sheets as necessary to make the disclosure complete). Please review the Conflict of Interest Statement in the Selection Criteria for additional information.

If you have no such relationships, please indicate “none.”

	Individual / Entity with whom a conflict exists or may exist. EXAMPLE: Jane Rider, applicant	Relationship to the conflicting Individual / Entity and Nature of conflict. EXAMPLE: My wife teaches at her high school, but doesn't have her in class this term.
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I certify that I have disclosed on this list and any attachments hereto any and all situations that may constitute conflicts of interest or give the appearance of a potential conflict of interest in connection with the Area selection criteria for the 2009 Eventing Selection Process for the Midsouth Team Challenge.

Signed: _____