



## ***Area III Young Riders Program***

The Area III Young Riders Program is open to riders 12 years of age to 21 years of age who live in Area III and are competing at the Beginner Novice level and above. The purpose of the program is to provide educational opportunities designed to teach young eventers the skills they need to compete safely and effectively, as well as the techniques they must have to meet the challenges of moving to the upper levels of competition.

When joining the Area III Young Riders program you receive;

- The opportunity to meet and work with other young riders
- The advantage of training with top riders and coaches
- The opportunity to take part in the Young Rider camp, clinics and seminars
- Free course walks at selected events with participating upper level riders
- The chance to represent Area III at the North American Young Riders Championships and/or at the Mid-South Team Challenge
- Awards at participating shows
- Participate in Mentoring Program

### **BECOMING A MEMBER**

You must be a member of the United States Eventing Association (USEA). Then you can join Area III Young Riders through the USEA website. Training level and below is \$50 and Preliminary and above is \$75. Second, fill out the 2010 membership application on the Area III Young Rider website so we can get to know you a little better!

### **ACTIVITIES**

**Clinics.** Usually, the clinics are held over 2 days and offer one group lesson each day, with groups limited to 3-5 riders. Frequently, we'll have dismounted instruction on some aspect of riding, safety, veterinary topics, nutrition or grooming. For our less-experienced members, the clinics offer the opportunity to train with some of the top talent in Eventing.

**Team Challenge.** The Team Challenge is an Area VIII horse trials held each October at the Kentucky Horse Park. Members are eligible to try out for the Area III Young Rider teams and be coached by an Area III trainer.

**Low Score Awards.** We select 3 spring and 3 fall horse trials and offer awards to the lowest-scoring Area III Young Rider at each level. This means if there are 30 in the division, but only five are Young Riders, you are competing only among the five for the prize. Only our members, that have paid dues at the level they are competing (e.g., training dues if competing at training), are eligible for the prizes.

**Participation Award.** Members who meet the program participation requirements of fundraising \$200.00 receive recognition at the end of the year

**Membership/Clinic Scholarships.** Membership Scholarships for the upcoming year are awarded to the highest placed Young Riders (under age 21) in the Area III Beginner Novice through Preliminary Championships.

### **NAJYRC**

The North American Junior Young Riders Championships (NAJYRC) is recognized as a Junior Olympic Event. Participation at NAJYRC is by invitation through the Young Riders program. The championship is a CCI\*\* 3-day event (Intermediate level) for riders 16-21 years old and a CCI\* event (Preliminary level) for riders 14-18. For each Championship, we can enter a four-person team plus two individual riders. Depending on the success of our fund-raising, the Young Riders cover some of the expenses. All riders, horses and grooms attend a training session prior to departing for the NAJYRC. Our teams are coached by Kyle Carter, our Area III Young Riders coach. Area III has had great success fielding strong, competitive teams – bringing home medals and ribbons each year.

## **Program Participation Goals**

This program is primarily supported by funds we raise ourselves and we use the funds to offset costs of activities where possible. Member support is the key to continued success of the Area III Young Riders' Program. Every member is expected to actively participate in meeting the prescribed fundraising and participation requirements. Young Riders who meet all the following requirements are eligible to receive a Participation Award at the end of the year:

- *Pay Dues at the Level Competing*
- *Write Thank You Letters to Sponsors*
- *Meet Fund Raising Requirements (\$200.00 for all members)*
- *Specified Fund Raising requirements if you participate in NAJYRC or Team Challenge as a rider or groom*

## **Sponsorships**

Obtaining Sponsorships is one way to meet fund-raising requirements and to offset our costs. We ask all members to help by identifying potential sponsors. For donations between \$100-\$500 we add the contributor's name to the banners that accompany our tent to area events. Sponsors that provide donations or services over \$500 or more are advertised on our large banner and included on t-shirts and signs as NAJYRC sponsors. Details on our various levels of sponsorships, a Young Riders brochure, annual budget and other information are available for prospective sponsors. Our Fundraising Co-Chairs will gladly assist you in identifying and making contact with prospective sponsors. Your efforts **CAN** and **DO** make a difference! As a part of USEA, the Young Riders program is recognized as a 501-(c)(3) non-profit educational program. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

***Help is always needed and very much appreciated!***