



## QUESTIONS?



Contact the  
Coaching Staff



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## INTERESTED?

Please email us to  
discuss your  
qualifications, the  
next steps for joining,  
and to answer any  
questions.

# MERCY VARSITY EQUESTRIAN TEAM WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### The Team:

The Equestrian Team is a Fall Varsity Club Sport. Starting position for all members is Groom. To be considered for a promotion to **Rider**, you must be evaluated and approved by the Coaching Staff. You may request to remain a Groom. **Grooms** are responsible for the care of the horses during team events (meets, practices) and assisting riders with tack changes, etc. Grooms may also act as team historians by taking photos of the team, writing recap articles, taking videos, etc.

### The Season:

The competition season is from August 2021 to September 2021 (October if we advance) and takes place at the Huron Valley Equestrian Complex (HVEC) in Milford. The banquet is in December. Team practices take place in the spring and summer **PRIOR** to the start of the school year. Riders also train independently throughout the year.

### Meets (Competition Days):

The Meets, the days we compete against other teams in the district, take place on Saturdays in September (9/11, 9/18/, 9/25/21). Regionals and States take place in the first half of October. Meets are day-long events that last until they are done (typically 6 a.m. – 6 p.m.). **We compete in the following classes/disciplines: Hunt Seat, Saddle Seat, Western, Jumping, Trail, Gymkhana (Speed Games), Fitting & Showing, Bareback, Equitation, Patterns.**

### Practices:

Practices for the Fall 2021 season will begin Summer 2021. Due to Covid-19, practices will be handled as a private lesson for each rider. The schedule for practices and the location will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

### Cost:

The annual team fee is \$300 for Riders and less for Grooms. Parents/students are responsible for all costs related to the horse, tack, transportation, meets, practices, team wear and show clothing, etc. This can be an expensive sport; we try to minimize this with a pay-as-you go system for the extras like field fees, team wear, team photos, etc.

## WHAT WE EXPECT

### This is a Varsity sport and we expect Riders to:

- Be a registered student with Mercy High School for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Have ridden in their discipline for 2-3 years.
- Be taking weekly riding lessons.
- Be able to walk, trot, canter or walk, jog, lope.
- Be able to **HOLD** the canter or lope for at least two laps of the arena.
- Own / Lease / Borrow a safe and controllable horse for practices and meets.
- Own / Lease / Borrow riding apparel and tack for meets in accordance with the class/discipline you will compete in.
- Be able to compete in more than one class/discipline.
- Have transportation for rider and horse to practices and meets.
- Attend practices and meets.