



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 or to be our Team Historian. **Grooms** are responsible for the care of the horse during team events (meets, practices) and assisting riders with tack changes, etc. The **Team Historian** is responsible for taking photos of the team, writing recap articles for the team website, taking videos, etc.

The Season:

The competition season is from August 2019 to September 2019 (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, will take place on Saturdays: 8/24/19, 9/7/19, and 9/14/19. 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 2019 season will begin Summer 2019. Team practices are **MANDATORY** and occur 2-3 times a month and usually take place at the HVEC in Milford for 2-3 hours. Days of the week and times are dependent upon field and coach availability.

Cost:

The annual team fee is set in the spring, but is approximately \$250 for Riders and less for Groom/Historian. 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 2019-2020 school year.
- Have ridden in their discipline for 2-3 years. (We are not a learn-to-ride program).
- 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.