

# IEA FAQ

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## What is IEA?

IEA stands for the Interscholastic Equestrian Association. It is a team-based riding program that allows riders to compete without owning a horse. Riders compete alongside teammates from their barn, making it a great way to gain show experience, compete on a budget, meet other riders, and prepare for collegiate riding.

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## Who can participate?

Riders in grades 4–12 who are confidently cantering are eligible to join.

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## When is the show season?

- **Regular season (qualifying shows):** August through January
  - **Post-season (championship shows):** February through April
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## How big is the time commitment?

Participation does not require additional lessons beyond your regular riding schedule.

- Riders may compete in up to **five shows per season**
- While not required, riders are encouraged to attend and support teammates at all shows

## Typical show day schedule:

- **2' and 2'6 riders:** Arrive around 7:00 AM and typically finish by late morning
  - **WT, WTC, and Crossrail riders:** Arrive later and stay through the afternoon
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## What equipment or attire is needed?

No horse or tack is required—horses are provided. Riders only need proper show attire. Please refer to BE's IEA show policy for full details.

## What happens at an IEA show?

- Riders arrive before their division's schooling begins
- Horses are "schooled" so riders can observe and take notes
- At the coaches' meeting, riders are randomly assigned a horse

### Class format:

- Morning: 2'6 and 2' (jumping, then flat)
- Afternoon: Crossrails, WT, then WTC

### Warm-ups:

- Jumping riders receive a brief warm-up over two fences
  - Flat riders do not warm up before entering the ring
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## What divisions can riders compete in?

- Walk/Trot (WT)
- Walk/Trot/Canter (WTC)
- Crossrails
- 2'
- 2'6

WT and WTC are flat-only classes. Crossrail through 2'6 riders compete in both jumping and flat classes.

Riders typically compete about **two levels below** what they jump at home (e.g., a rider jumping 3' at home may compete in 2'6 in IEA).

Riders who earn **21+ points** in a division must move up the following season.

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## How many shows can a rider do?

- Maximum of **5 shows per regular season**
- Each day counts as one show (a weekend = 2 shows)
- No minimum number of shows is required

## How do post-season competitions work?

- Riders who earn 18 points may qualify for **Regional Finals**
  - Riders who place first or second at Regionals qualify for **Zone 5 Finals** (Zone 5 includes IL, KY, MI, IN, and OH)
  - Riders who place top three at Zones qualify for **National Finals**
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## How are points earned?

Points are awarded based on placement:

- 1st place — 7 points
  - 2nd place — 5 points
  - 3rd place — 4 points
  - 4th place — 3 points
  - 5th place — 2 points
  - 6th place — 1 point
  - **18 points in a section** (flat or jumping) qualifies a rider for Regionals
  - Riders may qualify in flat, jumping, or both
  - Riders only have **5 shows** to earn their points
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## What does it cost?

- Annual membership fee: **\$60**
- Per show:
  - **\$210** (jumping divisions)
  - **\$155** (non-jumping divisions)

Shows are one day long, and most weekends include both Saturday and Sunday competitions.