

Saint Vincent College
Intercollegiate Horse Show Association
Participation and Policies

By joining the Saint Vincent College Equestrian Team you are making as large of a commitment as any other sport team. The experiences you will make in IHSA are memories that you will have your entire life. You are joining this team in addition to the club in order to have showing opportunities and additional riding events as determined by the advisor.

Sportsmanship

All riders (and their families) are expected to behave in light of the college's Benedictine values during practice, at shows, around campus and online. Realize that you are representing the Equestrian Team at all times and your behavior reflects the whole team.

Joining the Team

1. Approval from Dr Ent.
2. Complete membership application on ihsainc.com
 - a. print out proof of membership & completed payment
3. Sign team contract
4. Proof of 6 hunter seat equitation lessons
5. Turn in all paperwork to Dr. Ent at the beginning of the Fall Semester
 - a. You may only join team in the fall semester.
6. You will NOT be allowed to compete until all fees, dues & memberships are paid
 - a. a payment plan can be made ONLY for team dues & show fees NOT membership fees

Lessons & Practice

- Team practices will be held Friday afternoons (weather permitting)
- You must attend practice to attend shows and other riding events
- 6 hunter-seat equitation lessons must be completed before you may begin competing
 - preferably completed over the summer
- A letter must be submitted that you completed your lesson requirement if it was completed at an outside facility
- If you choose to begin (or continue) your 6 lesson count during team lessons you will not be allowed to compete until after 6 team practices. (This could be a risky option since practices could be cancelled due to rain and you may miss the first few shows.)

Cost of Joining Team

- A total of \$500 is due at the beginning of the year that covers showing, riding clinics, events, and other horsemanship activities. All money is due before the third Wednesday in September.
 - If approved by Dr. Ent, that you have sufficient training and ability to participate in over-fences classes, then additional showing costs will be required. Dr. Ent must agree to rank you at the Novice level or higher.
- A payment plan can be arranged with Dr. Ent; but must be notified at the beginning of the year
- Food and personal expenses while at shows are the responsibility of the student.
- IHSA membership cost as posted on the IHSAINC.COM website

Shows and Riding Events

- All shows and riding events will be under direct supervision of the SVC team leadership: a college designee or coach. Due to liability, no other university or college coach, parent, or non-specified individual is permitted to substitute for a SVC designee or coach.
 - Each year the number of shows and riding events can vary.
 - Members can attend more as long as the team leadership is planning to attend; this is the minimum
 - Must give 2 weeks notice before the event if you want to be added
 - Once you sign-up you cannot be removed
- Overnight show weekend
 - A weekend show may be selected.
 - This show could be either the Fall or Spring term. It will be determined at the beginning of the year.
 - Transportation and lodging will be arranged to allow all members arrive at the location safely. Food and other expenses are the responsibility of the student.
- Additional riding opportunities
 - Occasionally there will be an opportunity to attend a clinic or other riding event over a weekend. If approved by the coach, all team members are expected to attend.
 - An additional lesson or event fee to cover the cost may be required.
- Day IHSA Shows
 - In order to attend, a minimum of (3) members on the IHSA showing team will be in attendance. Exceptions to this requirement must be approved prior to the show.
 - It is the expectation that all team members will car pool using either an SVC vehicle or a personal car. Mileage will only be reimbursed for one (1) vehicle traveling to and from a show.
 - Food and personal expenses are the responsibility of the student
- Cancelations and Make-Ups

- While every attempt will be made to attend the desired shows and riding events, the college and/or IHSA reserves the right to cancel events and/or participation in any event.
 - Additionally, every attempt will be made to assist in rescheduling missed opportunities, however, in the event there is not a rescheduling opportunity the riding event will be relinquished.
 - Refunds will NOT be given to riders who cancel their own attendance.
 - Money and missed riding events are not transferrable to the next school year
- Qualifying for Regional, Zone, and other championships
 - In the event a member exceeds in his or her riding to qualify for regional, zone, or other championships, the following is expected:
 - The student will arrange for his or her own travel to the competition, and be accompanied by a college designee, parent or guardian.
 - No student is permitted to attend a championship without a college designee, parental or guardian accompaniment. Travel information must be provided to Dr. Ent prior to the championship, so that she is aware of arrangements and planned participation.
 - All expenses are the responsibility of the student. If the student arranges to attend with a college designee, then expenses of both parties are the responsibility of the student.

Fundraising

- Fundraising opportunities are available to help cover costs of shows (van rental, horse transportation to SVC, tack and equipment, etc.); team members are expected to participate in all fund raising and service events
- Additional fundraising may be available to individuals looking to help cover the cost of team. Please talk to Dr Ent.

Club Events & Meetings

- All team members are expected to participate in all club events and meetings.
- On occasion there will be separate team meeting, which will be mandatory.

Team Apparel

- It is REQUIRED that you purchase the following Saint Vincent Equestrian Team attire.
 - A sweatshirt and tee shirt (available at the bookstore)
 - All other attire is highly encouraged
- The following is required for shows:
 - Hunter Green show coat (no other greens unless approved by Dr Ent)
 - yellow show shirt
 - rat-catcher collar with either a stock pin or embroidery

- black tall boots (field boot preferred; rubber only for walk/trot)
- show helmet (cover only for walk/trot)
- black show gloves (cloth only for walk/trot)
- tan breeches (knee patch or euroseat)
- hair net (match hair color)
- The team does have a selection of hunter green show coats that were purchased by Dr. Ent and donated by past members that are available to borrow.
 - Please make an appointment with Dr Ent well in advance of the first show if you would like to borrow a show coat.
 - All borrowed show coats must be dry cleaned and returned 2 weeks after the last show.