

INFORMATION for FMF NCAEL “Adult Team”

Commitments & Costs for the 2023-2024 Season

Riders MUST read this information sheet in its entirety before committing.

Eligibility:

- Must be an adult rider aged 21+ enrolled in lessons at Full Moon Farm.
- Each division has its own requirements in terms of abilities, but a good rule of thumb is that riders should be able to walk, trot, and canter on unfamiliar horses.
- If you have not been on the team before, ask your instructor about it!
- If your instructor has encouraged you to join the team, it’s a good idea to listen to them!

Lesson Requirements:

- All team riders are required to ride in **two lessons per week** (beginning no later than the week of August 27th) **until the end of the season** (after Finale weekend).
- Your two weekly lesson days/times must be determined no later than August 19th.

Tryouts & Placements:

- **4pm on Saturday, August 5th, 2023**
 - \$25 Tryout fee due no later than **July 31st**.
- Tryouts are for a spot in any division. The coaches decide who rides on the team and in which division—*not* the riders. If you sign up for tryouts, you agree to abide by the coaches’ decision.
- Depending on the number of riders at each level that pay/commit, everyone may or may NOT get a place on the team. (That doesn’t mean we don’t love you!)
- **Once rosters are posted, you are locked in & you owe whatever fees are associated with that team for the duration of the season.**

NCAEL Divisions:

Div. 1 – WT, WT discipline rail

Div. 2 – WT, WTC

Div. 3 – WTC, x-rails

Div. 4 – WTC, 18” fences

Div. 5 – WTC, 2’ fences

Div. 6 – WTC, 2’3” fences

Rider Commitments:

1. Riders must maintain a positive attitude and exhibit good sportsmanship at **all** times.
 - a. Absolutely no trash-talking/blaming other riders, horses, barns, coaches, etc.
2. Riders must be scheduled in at least 2 lessons per week throughout the season.
 - a. Riders having to miss any lessons must schedule a makeup for those missed rides.
 - i. Even if you “no-show” a lesson or cancel late, **you are still required to make up those lessons** (yes, at extra cost!). *All riders must put in equal work towards becoming better riders!*
3. Riders must work at the team’s Work Day(s) for their home show(s).
 - a. *What is Work Day?* The team’s riders spend a few hours at the barn the day before their home show to prepare the horses, tack, arena, and barn. (This is usually right after Practice the day before the home show.)
4. Riders must attend the Paint Party for a minimum of 2 hours.
 - a. Any rider unable to attend must contact Ms. Christine to set up an alternative time to come help.
 - b. This is a fun time to be together and meet other riders before our season officially begins. It’s your chance to make all of our jumps & cavalettis look fresh and fantastic!

5. Riders must volunteer at at least 2 other Home Shows for our other FMF teams.
- Two 3-hour shifts at any other FMF home shows (JEL, NCSSEL, NCEL, or IEA).
 - Sign-ups for volunteering will be posted in advance.
 - After the mandatory 6 hours of volunteer time is met, the rider's time spent volunteering at shows can be logged as Volunteer Hours.
 - Remember:** Time spent volunteering means helping, not standing around, eating, chatting, & watching! If you stay longer than your required shift, that's great, but you're fair game and will be expected to keep helping!

FMF EQUITATION TEAM COST COMMITMENTS:

	Due date	Cost
Tryout Fee	July 31st	\$25
League Fee	July 31st	\$50
Team Dues	July 31st* *Early Bird rate expires after June 30th	\$400* *\$375 Early Bird rate if paid <i>on/before</i> June 30th
Show Fees (4 shows per season)	Will be collected prior to each show	Likely \$50 per show (may vary each year)
Team Jacket	Orders must be placed no later than September 8th	Approx. \$135 plus shipping (<i>unless someone offers to pick up the order!</i>), paid directly to First Impressions Embroidery
Finale Fees	Approx. 2 weeks before Finale	TBD (was \$205 in 2023)
Banquet Costs	Late February-Early March	TBD (was \$15/ticket in 2023)

Cost Descriptions:

- Tryout Fee: Covers the cost of Tryouts/rider evaluations.
 - Nonrefundable.
 - For equity purposes and to cover the time the coaches spend evaluating every rider: Even if you cannot attend Tryouts, you still owe the Tryout fee if you wish to join the team.
- League Fee: Covers the team's League Dues, which pays for part of the admin time it takes to run teams and participate in the leagues.
 - If you decide not to participate in Teams **PRIOR** to 12pm on August 10th, we can **credit** the \$50 to your account.
 - League Fees will NOT be waived/credited/refunded (for any reason!) after 12pm on August 10th.
- Team Dues: Covers your coaching costs (at the 4 regular-season shows) and the 4 team practices.
 - If you decide not to participate in Teams **PRIOR** to 12pm on August 10th, we can **credit** the \$375/400 to your account.
 - Team Dues will NOT be waived/credited/refunded (for any reason!) after 12pm on August 10th.

- 4) **Show Fees:** Covers the costs we pay to each host-barn.
- These payments will be due before each show.
 - One rider will collect these payments from all riders, and then they will write one check to FMF to cover the whole team.
- 5) **Finale Costs:** Covers the costs of the Finale weekend.
- 2023-2024 Season Finale:** Sun., March 3rd, 2024 at Prince George's Equestrian Center
 - We trailer some of our own horses off-site for Finale.
 - Proceeds from any team fundraisers can be used towards these costs– it's up to your team!
 - Costs for Finale include:
 - Entry Fee (\$TBD by the League)
 - Horse-Use Fee (\$35; waived if your own horse is used at Finale)
 - Coaching Fee (\$35)
 - Trailering Fee (per horse, split equally amongst the riders)
 - Coaches' expenses
- 6) **Banquet Costs:** Covers your share of the costs for Banquet (Awards Ceremony), including a fraction of the coaches' Banquet costs.
- 2023-2024 Season Banquet:** TBD
- 7) **Team Jacket:** All riders must have a blue FMF team jacket, embroidered with their name & the FMF team logo, to be worn at all team shows.
- Sign-up sheet with payment instructions will be posted/announced.
 - Pricing is determined by First Impressions Embroidery of Laurel, MD (<https://firstimpressionembroidery.com>), but usually runs around \$135.
 - Family members are also encouraged to buy their own jackets!
 - Sometimes, former team riders will sell their used jackets to new riders. If you are concerned about pricing, we may be able to help. No guarantees.

All riders must sign below to acknowledge and agree to all financial and physical commitments as listed on pages 1-3 of this document, and either (1) email this page to ridewithfmf2@gmail.com OR (2) print this page and bring it to Tryouts (on 8/5) OR drop it off in one of the Payment Boxes at the farm (no later than 8/9).

Rider Signature

Date