

INFORMATION for FMF NCAEL “Adult Team”

Commitments & Costs for the 2025-2026 Season

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

Eligibility:

- Must be an adult rider aged 21+ (by Oct. 1st) and 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 and trot 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 **2 lessons per week** (beginning no later than the week of September 1st) **until the end of the team season** (after Finale weekend). *At least one lesson must be a group lesson.*
- Starting with the 9/21 lesson Season: Your 2 weekly lessons must be booked as **Seasons in Hopoti** through the end of the teams Season (i.e., until Finale).

Tryouts & Placements:

- Tryouts are for a spot in any division. The coach decides who rides on the team and in which division—*not* the riders. If you sign up for tryouts, you agree to abide by the coach's 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.** including:
 - 2 lessons per week through Finale, team dues, league fees, Tryout fee, and Finale fees.
- **Tryouts will begin at 4pm on Saturday, August 9th, 2025. (Make-up date: Friday, August 1st)**
 - \$27 Tryouts fee must be paid via Hopoti.
 - *The exact time, length of session, and number of riders in each group will depend on the number of riders registered.*
 - We will contact you with your assigned ride time.
 - Team Info Meeting after Tryouts in the Chateau. *Exact time will be posted once Tryouts end time is determined.*

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, parents, etc.
2. **Riders must be scheduled in at least 2 lessons per week throughout the team season.**
 - a. Riders are required to ride in 2 lessons per week from the week of September 1st through the week before Finale. *At least one lesson must be a group lesson.*
 - b. The 2 weekly lessons must be booked as **Seasons in Hopoti** once the 9/21 lesson Season starts.
 - c. Riders are expected to schedule a makeup for any missed lessons.
3. **Riders must work their team's Work Day for their home show(s).**
4. **Riders must attend the Paint Party for a minimum of 2 hours.**
 - a. Any rider unable to attend must contact 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 other Home Shows for our other FMF teams.**
 - a. Riders must do two 3-hour shifts at other FMF home shows (JEL, NCSSEL, NCEL, or IEA).
 - i. Sign-ups for volunteering will be posted in advance.
 - b. After the mandatory 6 hours of volunteer time is met, time spent volunteering at shows can be logged as Volunteer Hours.
 - c. **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 NCAEL TEAM COST COMMITMENTS:

	Due date	Cost
Tryout Fee	August 9th	\$27 (paid by booking Tryouts on Hopoti)
League Fee	August 9th	\$50
Team Dues	June 30th (Early Bird rate) or August 8th (Regular rate)	\$400* or \$425 <i>*\$400 Early Bird rate if paid on/before June 30th</i>
Show Fees (4 shows per season)	Will be collected prior to each show	Likely \$60 per show (may vary each year)
Team Jacket	Order will be placed around Sept. 1st	Approx. \$100-125 (plus shipping, if applicable)
Finale Fees	Approx. 2 weeks before Finale	TBD (was \$190 for 2024-25; will depend on fundraising)
Banquet Costs	Late February-Early March	TBD (was \$15/ticket in 2023)

Cost Descriptions:

- 1) Tryout Fee: Covers the cost of Tryouts/rider evaluations.
 - a) Nonrefundable.
 - b) For equity purposes and to cover the time the coach spends evaluating every rider: Even if you cannot attend Tryouts, you still owe the Tryout fee if you wish to join the team.
- 2) 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.
 - a) If you email ridewithfmf2@gmail.com to notify us that you will **not** participate in Teams **PRIOR** to 12pm on August 10th, we can **credit** the \$50 to your account (no refunds).
 - b) League Fees will NOT be waived/credited/refunded (for any reason!) after the deadline.
- 3) Team Dues: Covers your coaching costs (at the 4 regular-season shows) and the 4 team practices.
 - a) If you email ridewithfmf2@gmail.com to notify us that you will **not** participate in Teams **PRIOR** to 12pm on August 10th, we can **credit** the \$400/\$425 to your account (no refunds).
 - b) Team Dues will NOT be waived/credited/refunded (for any reason!) after the deadline.
- 4) Show Fees: Covers the costs we pay to each host-barn.
 - a) These payments will be due before each show.
 - b) 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 NCAEL Finale.
 - a) Date and Location TBD (Likely a Sat or Sun during the first half of March)
 - b) We trailer some of our own horses off-site for Finale.

- c) Proceeds from your team's fundraisers can be used towards these costs— it's up to your team to decide!
- d) Costs for Finale include:
 - i) Entry Fee (\$TBD by the League)
 - ii) Horse-Use Fee (\$50; waived if your own horse is used at Finale)
 - iii) Coaching Fee (\$50)
 - iv) Trailering Fee (per horse, split equally amongst the riders)
 - v) Coaches' expenses
- 6) Banquet Costs: Covers your share of the costs for Banquet (Awards Ceremony), including a fraction of the coaches' Banquet costs.
 - a) Date and Location TBD (likely a Sunday in mid-to-late April)
- 7) Team Jacket: All riders must have a blue FMF team jacket to wear to all team shows.
 - a) Sign-up and payment instructions will be posted/announced in mid-August, if not sooner.
 - b) Pricing is determined by the embroidery company, but usually runs around \$100-125.
 - c) Sometimes, team riders will sell their used jackets to new riders. If you'd like a used jacket, keep an eye on the FMF Barn Rats Facebook page or reach out to a former team member to see what's available.

All riders must sign below to acknowledge and agree to all financial and physical commitments as listed on pages 1-4 of this document, and either (1) email this page to ridewithfmf2@gmail.com OR (2) print this page and bring it to Tryouts (on 8/9) OR (3) drop it off in one of the Payment Boxes at the farm (no later than 8/9).

Rider Signature

Date

Rider Name (Printed)