



**2025-2026**  
**IEA Team Handbook**

## AEC IEA TEAM INFORMATION

The Anderwood Equestrian team is now signing up new members for our 2025-2026 season. We offer a Hunt Seat team and our team competes in the IEA (Interscholastic Equestrian Association) which is a nationally recognized program. Visit their website a [www.rideiea.com](http://www.rideiea.com) for more information. IEA tournaments are hosted by different high schools and barn teams at farms around metro Atlanta. Currently, we are in Zone 4, Region 4. Our zone consists of states in the southeastern United States and our region represents local Atlanta area teams.

**Evaluations:** Team coaches will do an evaluation during the first IEA lesson. After you have been evaluated, your riding level will be assigned. This determines which class(es) you will compete in as well as which lesson group you will train with. The placement levels are determined by the coaches based on rider skill level and the team's needs. **The coaches have final approval for all placements on the team.** To ensure the safety of all riders, the coaches will place you where they feel is best for the **TEAM** and rider. Please honor these requirements and placements. The coaches reserve the right to deny a rider the opportunity to compete if it is a safety hazard to the rider.

**Lessons:** All team riders are required to ride a MINIMUM of two days per month with the IEA Coaches. Additional lessons are encouraged as with this sport the more you practice, the better you ride. The lesson schedule will be completed by the coach based on the coach's availability and best use of the lesson horses. Groups will be made based on riders having the same riding skills and abilities. Once the schedule is set, it will remain the same throughout the season unless the coaches make any changes. (Additional Information below.)

**Spirit Wear:** Spirit wear is offered for sale by the barn. All riders wear their spirit wear to the tournaments before changing into the team uniform. This is not a fundraiser so costs are kept to a minimum.

**Fundraiser/Sponsorship:** Fundraisers may be held throughout the year as needed. Sponsorship will be held on a case by case basis. If you have any potential sponsors, please let the coaches know.

### **Individual Rider Post-Season Travel:**

There are times when an individual rider may qualify for advancement to Regional, Zone, and National Finals, which may require overnight stays. If the competition is solely for individual riders (because the team did not advance), the advancing riders will share the coach's travel expenses among themselves at each level of advancement. If only one rider advances, that individual will be responsible for covering all of the coach's travel expenses.

**Non-riders:** We need non-riders or non-competitive riders to join the team to help us out on tournament days and lesson days as grooms or managers. You will be required to attend shows with the team to help out in whatever capacity is needed. Having general equestrian knowledge is helpful. If you will be a member of the equestrian club but NOT competing, you may opt for lessons and spirit wear.

**Calendar:** IEA shows are held on Saturdays and Sundays. All IEA shows are one-day tournaments with the exception of the postseason. As soon as the show schedule is made for the 2025-2026 year, you will be notified. Dates are subject to change, and *flexibility is appreciated*. This is an outdoor sport, and weather plays a large role in the schedule with regards to cancellations and reschedules. There are five (5) shows that the team attends to qualify for postseason shows and points. This will be the only opportunity to compete with the team and acquire the five (5) shows. If for some reason you are unable to attend one of the shows the team is attending, you will need to schedule a makeup show. There are other shows on the calendar for you to choose from. Fees for these shows, in general, must be covered by the individual rider. Some or all of the fees may be covered at the discretion of the coaches. Some reasons for why fees

would be covered would be a death in the family or as illness for example. The coaches will have full discretion on what will be covered and why. Fees will not be covered for a schedule conflict or for trips. As always, in the spirit of team unity, attending all team competitions is highly encouraged, whether riding or not. If you are having to participate in a show without the team as a "make-up" show, fees may differ and individual riders would pay the difference between the set show fee and the make-up show fee set by coaches.

### **Tentative Show Dates for the 2025-2026 Season**

*All of these are at Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center in Gainesville, Ga.*

October 18, 2025

October 19, 2025

November 16, 2025

December 13, 2025\*

December 14, 2025

\*December 13<sup>th</sup> is the Anderwood Holiday Classic

Regionals will be February 15, 2026 at Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers, Ga.

**Postseason:** In order to qualify for IEA Region Finals, each rider must earn a certain amount of ribbon points. You are not required to compete in every tournament that is scheduled, but you are expected to be in attendance in competitive or supportive roles in a minimum of five (5) shows for Hunt Seat. Non-competing team members are needed to serve as grooms so that riders don't have to do the work themselves on show days. It will be up to the individual rider to communicate with Coach Sarah to make sure they have competed in enough shows to earn the required ribbon points to qualify individually for finals.

- To qualify for IEA Hunt Seat Region Finals, you must have –
  - Eighteen (18) ribbon points for flat classes and/or eighteen (18) ribbon points for over fences classes. Riders may only compete in five (5) IEA tournaments so these points must be earned within these five (5) shows.
  - Two (2) lessons per month with the team's coach.
- To qualify as a "TEAM" we must acquire twenty (20) points, therefore attendance with your team at shows helps maximize our chances of success. Along with our desire to remain focused on the "team" atmosphere.
- All team members are invited and encouraged to attend postseason championship tournaments regardless of whether you qualify.
- Coach Fees in Postseason: All team members who are competing in the postseason are responsible for splitting the cost of the trainer's hotel room and meals.

## **2025-2026 AEC IEA TEAM COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS**

The official lesson season will begin during August and continue at least through the month of February when Regional Finals are complete. To participate on the competition team, you are required to take a **MINIMUM** of 2 lesson per month with the team coaches. *Lessons taken at a farm or by a coach not affiliated with the team will not count toward your requirements, though some additional consideration may be made at the Coaches' discretion.* Riders are highly encouraged to continue lessons at the same frequency during the off season. Great progress can be made during the off season and this also prevents having to re-learn those skills that may be lost due to lack of practice with the coaches.

### **PRE-SHOW SET UP**

All riders are **REQUIRED** to help a **MINIMUM** of two (2) times to help set up the day/night before a show. This will be a Friday or a Saturday. A sign-up will be sent out once show dates are confirmed.

This includes, but is not limited to, setting up stalls with shavings, water and hay, bathing horses, cleaning tack, unloading the horse trailer, setting up the tack stall, etc.

### **POST SHOW TEAR DOWN**

All riders must help at the end of the show day with packing the trailer and loading the horses. Riders may not leave until all horses are in the trailer. All riders are **REQUIRED** to help a **MINIMUM** of two (2) times with unloading back at the barn. If you need to leave a horse show early, it must be communicated and cleared with the coaches prior to the show unless an emergency arises.

### **LESSONS FOR 2025-26**

Lesson funds are used to help pay for the cost of the horses we use and ride. Without lesson funds, there would be no horses to ride. Therefore, it is imperative that you pay for your lessons on time and that you make it to your lesson when it is scheduled.

This is an outside sport and bad weather does happen. In the event that it is unsafe weather to be in and/or drive in, the lesson will be canceled by the **COACHES**. If it's too wet for the horses or raining too hard to ride, there could still be a lesson in the barn - so be prepared to be at your lesson even if it's raining!

All lessons are \$65 each, as of August 1, 2025. Lessons should be paid via check, cash, or Venmo (paid to @anderwoodeq). Please note that payment for lessons are in addition to the cost of being on the team.

Riders are required to ride a minimum of 2x per month (every other week) with the IEA coach. Weekly lessons is also an option, but not required.

### **Lesson cancellations:**

If a lesson is canceled by the coach, a refund will be given or makeup will be allowed.

If a lesson is canceled by a rider with 24 hours or more notice, a refund will be given.

Any lesson canceled with less than 24 hours notice will still be invoiced for the lesson

You may not lesson if you have an unpaid invoice. If you do not meet your 2x a month lesson requirement, you may not be allowed to horse show and you will not be refunded for the missed show.

## **Hunt Seat Attire:**

May be purchased at Atlanta Saddlery, Dover Saddlery, or The Snooty Fox Tack Exchange (provided used attire is in appropriate condition) or other tack shops.

Team members **MUST** have all equipment needed for competition, which includes the following:

### **ASTM/SEI Certified Show Helmet**

Helmets must be solid black.



### **Show Shirt**

White Long-Sleeved Show Shirt with or without a ratcatcher (detachable collar).



### **Show Jacket**

Hunt Seat Show Coat (solid or very subtle pattern) black or navy blue.



### **Show Pants**

Tan Breeches they are not full seat and must be knee patch (patches are just on the knee).  
No full seat is allowed in showing.



### **Tall Boots**

Tall, black, hunter show boots are your own particular choice.



### **Gloves**

They must be black.



## **Belt**

Must be a black belt.



## **Hair Nets**

Hair net needs to match the color of the rider's hair.



It is important that all girls be dressed neatly and in appropriate show attire. It is also important that show clothes and boots be well cared for. The judge is looking to see that you have proper and neat attire. You will forfeit points in the ring unless you adhere to standards.

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUIREMENTS**

- Parents must be respectful of coaches, riders and IEA judges, stewards and other show members.
- All concerns about placement, horse selection or other issues must be addressed with coach. The coach is the only person able to address concerns directly to show officials.
- Parents must not use profanity, make derogatory comments or act in a manner that reflects negatively on the Anderwood Equestrian team while assisting or spectating at IEA shows or practices.
- Parents must commit to ensuring riders arrive on time, participate in assigned tasks and duties and stay for the duration of the show to support team members. Riders may only arrive late or leave early with prior approval of team coaches.
- Failure to comply with these requirements may result in rider being dismissed from the team.

## **RIDER REQUIREMENTS**

- Must have a positive attitude, willingness to learn and exceptional sportsmanship.
- Riders must treat horses with respect and use appropriate correction techniques.
- Riders must commit to arriving on time, participating in assigned tasks and duties and staying for the duration of the show to support team members. Riders may only arrive late or leave early with prior approval of team coaches.
- Riders who are unable to represent the team in a positive manner and/or fail to demonstrate good sportsmanship and horsemanship will be removed from the team.

## **SHOW HOSTING RESPONSIBILITIES**

Anderwood Equestrian will be hosting an IEA Show on Saturday, December 13, 2025 at Chicopee Woods Agri-Center. Parents and Riders will be asked to support the host responsibilities. Some of the responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- o Set-up arena and other areas
- o Decorating show jumps

- o Providing raffle baskets
- o Performing duties such as in/out gate monitors, ring monitor, jump crew, announcer, awards, raffle, show secretary support
- o Show clean-up

A pre-show meeting and sign-ups will occur in early August.

## IEA FEE SCHEDULE

As we all know, equestrianism is an expensive sport. To help with the cost we have developed a payment schedule. This allows us to balance out what each family owes on a monthly basis. Please see the table below for specific fees that are included in the team dues, along with the payment schedule.

***A rider will not be able to participate in a show if the monthly dues are in arrears.***

Team Dues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horse Show Supplies</li> <li>• Anderwood Holiday Classic Supplies</li> </ul>	\$150
Show Fees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horse Use &amp; Stalls (\$75)</li> <li>• Coaching (\$75)</li> <li>• Hauling (\$40)</li> <li>• Class Fees (\$110)</li> </ul>	\$1,500 (\$300 per show x 5 shows)
Total	\$1,650 <b>\$330 per payment</b> for a total of 5 payments

**Payment Schedule via invoice sent from Anderwood Equestrian Center by the following dates:**

August 15    September 15    October 15    November 15    December 15

## AEC IEA Team Contact Information

### **Coach:**

Megan Anderson

678-687-0292

[anderwoodequestrian@gmail.com](mailto:anderwoodequestrian@gmail.com)

Bentley Smallwood

678-316-6016

[anderwoodequestrian@gmail.com](mailto:anderwoodequestrian@gmail.com)

### **Equestrian Training Facility:**

Anderwood Equestrian Center

379 Cleveland Hwy

Clermont, GA 30527

### **IEA Team Admin:**

Carla Baker

770-654-4786

[anderwoodequestrian@gmail.com](mailto:anderwoodequestrian@gmail.com)

### **GroupMe App**

Anderwood IEA Team on GroupMe.

[https://groupme.com/join\\_group/95621667/uCZPEAeo](https://groupme.com/join_group/95621667/uCZPEAeo)

## **IEA TO-DO LIST**

- ☐ Complete Youth Rider Membership application. Enter team name: Anderwood Equestrian. Please complete this process by July 31, 2025. There is a \$70 membership fee.
- ☐ Pay First Payment no later than August 10, 2025 to Anderwood Equestrian (check, cash, Venmo @anderwoodeq).
- ☐ Order team swag (optional) no later than September 15, 2025. A notification will go out to team members when order forms are ready.

## **AEC IEA Team RELEASE FORM**

I agree to release and hold harmless the Anderwood Equestrian Center and all of its officers, representatives and agents, from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, damages, or causes of action resulting from any damage, injury or death. In no event shall any officer, representative and/or agent of the Anderwood Equestrian Center have any personal liability for any damage, injury or death.

Rider's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Rider Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_