



## **CODE OF CONDUCT and GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR ALBERTA YOUNG RIDERS FOR EVENTING YOUNG RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFICATION AND PARTICIPATION**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

As an Alberta Young Rider and possible Eventing Young Rider Championships participant, or Parent or Coach of the above, I acknowledge my obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards of horsemanship, sportsmanship, and citizenship whenever I am representing both Alberta and its Young Rider Program at any Alberta event or events outside Alberta, whether as a team member, individual competitor, and/or horse owner and whether during actual competition or other related events such as selection trials, training sessions, clinics, camps, etc.

As a horseman, the horse's welfare will be placed above all other considerations and I will faithfully observe the Equestrian Canada ("EC") Code of Conduct, and the Federation Equestrian International ("FEI") Codes of Conduct, as well as this Alberta Code of Conduct and Guidelines and Rules for Alberta Eventing Young Riders Championships Qualification and Participation ("Alberta Code").

As a sportsman, I will know and comply with this Alberta Code as well as with EC as my National Governing Body and the FEI as the International Governing Body, and honor the principles of fair play inherent in them. I will place the interests of the team above my own, and respect the decisions of its duly appointed/elected committee, selectors, coaches, chef d'equipe, team veterinarians, and coordinators made in the Alberta Young Rider Program's best interest.

Knowing that, as an Alberta Young Rider, or Parent or Coach of a Young Rider, I also serve as an ambassador for my sport, EC, and Alberta, as well as my country, I will endeavor at all times to positively represent myself through my attitude, conduct, and dress.

As a rider, I clearly acknowledge my responsibility to ensure that my family, friends, grooms, coach, etc. who accompany me whenever I am participating in or competing at any event, and/or representing Alberta at any event, also abide by this Alberta Code.

I understand and accept that any serious or repeated transgressions of this Alberta Code by rider, parent, or coach, may be grounds for suspension from a team and may affect future consideration to be on a team or participation in any Alberta young rider preparation, clinics, or training sessions. In addition, I agree to abide by and respect the selection procedures established by the Alberta Young Rider program whenever applicable.

Finally, I fully understand that I will not be considered for an Eventing Young Rider Championships team or individual competition and that my declaration will not be complete until this Alberta Code has been read, fully executed and submitted to the AHTA Athlete Development Chairperson, by myself, my coach, and my parents or guardian.

## **GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR EVENTING YOUNG RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFICATION AND PARTICIPATION**

While qualification and participation in the Eventing Young Rider Championships and other Young Rider activities is an integral part of the Alberta Young Rider program, the development of a team approach and cooperation for all is the ultimate goal. It is a privilege to be a part of the Young Rider program and in this program both safety, as well as the health and welfare of the horse, are of paramount concern.

As this is a TEAM program, all activities are promoted through a team approach which includes riders, grooms, veterinary staff, coaches, chef d'equipe, instructors, selectors, coordinators, as well as sponsors and donors. An element of camaraderie, cooperation and respect for each member of the team shall be deemed essential to the success of the team and its activities. Any conduct, speech or statement, presentation, or violation of rules and regulations established by authority which impacts the team mission of the program, that creates a negative environment, that threatens, diminishes, or devastates the integrity of the team, the Young Rider program and/or any of its individual members will NOT be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Examples of misconduct shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Disrespectful language, attitude or negative words to or about any other member of the team, clinicians, team coaches, or committee members;
- The use of social media to express any discontent or anger towards the Young Rider program or any member of the team, clinicians, team coaches, or committee members;
- Any physical act or disobedience that disrupts due process or which is prohibited by law, including, but not limited to: theft, acts of dishonesty, or the possession/consumption of age-restricted products by minors, or illegal substances of any kind;
- Use of language and/or accompanying gesture that may be offensive to any other party;
- Wearing of any attire, or lack thereof, deemed dangerous, offensive or inappropriate.

Violation of National or Alberta rules and guidelines, EC, FEI and venue rules will NOT be tolerated. Lack of understanding or familiarity with said rules/guidelines shall not be considered an acceptable excuse for non-compliance.

No party or rider may create or endorse any Young Rider fundraising or other activity that is not offered to and applied equally to all participants and other qualified parties.

Disciplinary action will be determined by the AHTA Athlete Development Chairperson, in consultation with the Alberta Horse Trials Association board of directors, and may include restriction or expulsion from individual activities or the Young Rider program in its entirety.

## **OTHER GUIDELINES FOR EVENTING YOUNG RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS PARTICIPATION**

After potential Eventing Young Rider Championship candidates submit their declaration to the AHTA Athlete Development Chairperson, they must keep the AHTA Development Chairperson informed of their proposed competition schedule as well as results from the application date until the Eventing Young Rider Championship competition (unless they withdraw their name from team consideration),

updating said schedule as changes are made and discussing possible competition schedules with their personal coach as well as the AHTA Development Chairperson.

As an Eventing Young Rider Championship candidate, Young Riders must put their personal safety, as well as the health and welfare of their horse(s), first and foremost in planning their competition schedule and attempting to obtain the necessary qualifications for the Eventing Young Rider Championship competition.

As an Eventing Young Rider Championship candidate, Young Riders must understand the fundraising/sponsorship process and take personal responsibility for participating, acknowledging, showing appreciation, supporting and promoting those companies, businesses and individuals that donate products, services, time and/or funds to the Young Rider program.

If Alberta has a team coach, personal coaches may attend the Eventing Young Rider Championship competition as a spectator only. They are not allowed to be coaching, whatsoever. The personal coach will NOT be allowed in any restricted areas as set out by competition organizers. They must communicate with the chef d'equipe and team coach with any comments/concerns regarding their rider.

Signature(s) below indicate(s) full understanding and acceptance of this Code of Conduct and Guidelines and Rules for Alberta Eventing Young Riders Championships Qualification and Participation. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with these requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent, Guardian, or Responsible Party Signature\* (for minors)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent, Guardian, or Responsible Party Name (please print)

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Coaches and Parents Must Also Sign Below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Coach or Parent Signature\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Coach or Parent Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
For Coach - Name of Participant(s) I am Associated With