



YOUNG RIDER USEF & USEA PROGRAMS

USEA:  

USEF:  



Opportunities for Young Riders

USEA

AREA YR PROGRAMS

Camps, Clinics, & Symposiums
Team Challenges
Area Championships
Youth Councils
Special Awards

EMERGING ATHLETES U21

Regional Clinics
National Camp

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

USEA American Eventing Championships
IEL & Intercollegiate Championships
USEF Eventing Young Rider Championships

INTERSCHOLASTIC EVENTING LEAGUE (IEL)

All levels
Team Challenges
IEL Championships

INTERCOLLEGIATE EVENTING PROGRAM

All levels
Team Challenges
Intercollegiate Eventing Championships

RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

Indicates YR Membership Required

USEF

YOUTH SPORTSMAN AWARD

All levels
Athletes 17 years of age or younger

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETE PROGRAM

All levels
Students in Grades 5-12

EVENTING YOUNG RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS

CCIJ1*, CCIY2*-S, CCIU253*-S

EVENTING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS LEAGUE

CCI1*, CCI2*, CCI3*, CCI4*
U25 Divisions

DEVELOPMENT 25 PROGRAM

Age 25 or younger
CCI3* and Above
Training Sessions & Support
Eventing European Development Tour
FEI Eventing U25 Championships

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

USEA American Eventing Championships
USEA Foundation Grants
USET Foundation Grants



USEF Education



Development 25 Program

The Eventing Development (Dev.) 25 Program aims to identify and support Athletes who are 25 years or under with the perceived talent and ability to move up to the Eventing Development Program by age 25, or within four (4) years of first being named to the program. The Dev. 25 Program focuses on developing the fundamental skills necessary to progress up the Pathway or to be a future Team Athlete.

Development Program

The Eventing Development Program aims to identify and support Athlete/Horse combinations with the perceived talent and ability to move up to the Eventing Pre-Elite Program within the next 2-3 years by focusing on developing the skills needed to progress up the Pathway. Combinations are limited to a maximum of four (4) years in the Development Program.



USEF Competition



Eventing Young Rider Championship

The premier equestrian competition in North America for junior and young riders, ages 14-25. Young equestrians vie for team and individual medals in this unique competition.

European Development Tour

For members of the USEF Eventing Development Programs to gain international experience, achieve results at European events, and to develop future team athletes by immersion in a team environment.

FEI U25 Eventing World Championships

The FEI U25 Eventing Championship bridges the gap between the Young Rider and Senior levels. The Championship runs at the CCI4*-S for athletes ages, 16-25



USEA Competition



Interscholastic Eventing League

The mission of the USEA Interscholastic Eventing League (IEL) is to bring together junior riders with a common interest in the 7th through 12th grade and provide a supportive community through which students can continue to pursue their riding interest. The IEL encourage team camaraderies by allowing USEA junior members at the same barn, school, Pony Club or other common bond to unite in team competition at Interscholastic Team Challenges and, in the future, annual IEL Championships. The program also provides a pathway for those riders seeking to be a part of a collegiate eventing program after graduating high school.

Intercollegiate Eventing Program

The USEA Intercollegiate Eventing Program was established to provide the framework on which eventing teams and individual competitors could flourish at universities and colleges across the country by continuing their training and progression in the sport. Collegiate athletic programs have been the training grounds for Olympians, amateur athletes, and professional athletes for generations. The Intercollegiate Eventing Program aims to capitalize on this model by hosting Intercollegiate Team Challenges and the USEA Intercollegiate Eventing Championships annually so students can continue to compete during their years in school with the added comradery and support the college athlete.



USEA Education



Mentorship Program

The Young Rider Mentorship Program is a professional development opportunity created to assist young riders with an interest in various equine professions by giving them hands on experience shadowing some of the world's most prestigious eventing officials at the past FEI North American Youth Championships (NAYC) and the current USEA Intercollegiate Eventing Championships and other opportunities. Participants are given the opportunity to make connections and lasting relationships in the industry by working with the FEI Ground Jury President and Members, FEI Technical Delegate, Cross-Country Course Designer, Event Organizers, and more at these major championship events. The program shows Young Riders the wide variety of careers available within the sport of eventing beyond becoming a professional rider and trainer.

Emerging Athlete U21 Program

The USEA Emerging Athlete U21 Program (EA21) was introduced in 2022 with the purpose of identifying and providing consistent, quality instruction to the next generation of elite event riders with an aim to create a pipeline for future team riders. By identifying and developing young talent, improving their horsemanship and riding skills, and training and improving their skills and consistency, the EA21 program is intended to bridge the gap in development between being a Young Rider and becoming a Professional through access to the best coaching and educational opportunities. Participants in the EA21 program are selected not only for their competitiveness and effectiveness over all three phases of eventing but also for their willingness to learn, ability to be a “team player,” their love for horses and commitment to the sport for the future.



USEA Education



Young Rider Area Programs

Each of the ten USEA Areas develop their Young Rider program according to the diversity of their members as well as the needs and resources available to each Area. The Young Rider Coordinators develop their programs to support their members at all levels, from Starter through Intermediate level. Area activities may include a variety of team competitions, camps, grants, educational and social activities, providing experiences to encourage a young rider's life-long engagement and passion for the sport of eventing. Success in competition and the development of members who will sustain the future of eventing are common objectives among the ten USEA Young Rider Area Programs.

Bromont Rising U25 Grant

For the 2023 competition season, the MARS Bromont Rising U25 grant of up to \$2,500 will be awarded to twenty successful applicants to help assist with travel expenses and entry fees for the MARS Bromont CCI happening June 8-11, 2023 and Galways Downs International Nov. 1-5, 2023. In addition, classroom presentations will be made by course designers, High Performance riders and a dressage test analysis by a 5* FEI judge. Optional coaching during the three-day event is also available. Bromont Rising supports U25 athletes at CCI2* and CCI3* levels at the respective competitions.



Recognition Opportunities



USEA Medal Program

(3 scores at a level held at different venues below specific thresholds)

USEA Blue Ribbon Award Program

(automatically awarded - first through third at three events at a level)

USEA Certificate of Horse & Rider Achievement

(automatically awarded - BN only - complete three events as a pair with no XC jump faults)

USEA Leaderboard

(Junior or Young Adult, and Intercollegiate and Horse)

US Equestrian National Youth Sportsman's Award

(Each USEF Recognized National Affiliate Association may select one nominee to present to US Equestrian)

US Equestrian Interscholastic Athlete Program

US Equestrian Junior Equestrian of the Year

(nominated by USEA)

More information is available at usef.org/eventing



Grant Opportunities

US Equestrian Higher Education Equestrian Scholarships
(non-gap year)

**USEA Foundation Grant -
Rebecca Broussard Developing Rider Grants**
(4 riders)*

USEA Foundation Grant - Essex Horse Trials Grant
(FEI 4 + under 25yrs of age)*

USEA Foundation Grant - Wilton Fair Fund
(FEI 4 + under 29yrs of age - Europe Training Expenses)*

USEF Eventing Athletes Guide to Funding

USEA Foundation - Richard Picken Memorial Grant
(FEI CCI2 riders)*

*More information is available at useafoundation.org/grants-overview
and usef.org/eventing*