



WAKEFIELD  
EQUESTRIAN  
2024-2025

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PROGRAM &  
BACKGROUND

10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

# EQUESTRIAN PRACTICE INFO:

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The practices occur at Beverly Equestrian, a year-round riding facility about 7 minutes from school in The Plains.



The school provides transportation to Beverly for all weekday practices for the upper school and middle school students.



Beverly maintains the horses for the school.



**STUDENTS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO OWN HORSES TO PARTICIPATE IN PRACTICES OR SHOWS.**

## PRACTICE SCHEDULE:

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Varsity: 3x/week after school (M/W/F)  
for **50** lessons during the double season  
(Fall/Winter)

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Middle School: 2x/week during school  
(Tu/Th PE block) for **20** lessons during a  
single season (Fall and/or Winter)

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Development: 2x/week after school  
(Tu/Th Study Hall during PE block) in 4-  
lesson blocks to assess progress during  
a single season (Fall and/or Winter)

\*based on mutual availability

# SHOW INFO:



WAKEFIELD EQUESTRIAN COMPETES  
AT SHOWS AT OFFSITE BARNS &  
ORGANIZED BY THE INTERNATIONAL  
EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION (IEA)

THE HOSTS ALSO PROVIDE HORSES  
FOR COMPETITION.

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IEA is a national league divided into 11 zones across the United States.

WESP is in Zone 3. Zone 3 includes Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, and Virginia.

Zone 3 is further split into 11 Regions. WESP is in Region 4.

Region 4 has shows throughout the regular season within a 2-hour radius of campus from Sept - Feb.



## SHOW SCHEDULE:

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Varsity and IEA riders must participate in 5 IEA shows. These shows are all OFF CAMPUS but in a 2-hour radius of the school.

Please note that in order to compete, there must be three riders attending a show as either an upper school or middle school team.

Accordingly, the show schedule will be set in advance to confirm that the required number of riders are present to comprise a team and be able to compete.

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SHOW CLASSES:

“FLAT” & “OVER FENCES”

Flat: Beginner,  
Novice,  
Intermediate  
and Open.

Over Fences  
Classes: Cross-  
rails, 2' and 2'6"  
jumps.





# TEAM & INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

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At shows, riders compete as individuals and as part of a team (middle school “futures” or high school “varsity”).

- Riders who compete at shows accumulate both individual and team points based on their placings.
- Riders and teams that accumulate a minimum number of points advance to post-season, first regionals, then zones, and finally nationals.
- Riders have the chance to qualify for post season as individuals and team riders.

WESP does not host a show at Beverly but instead “co-hosts” shows with other facilities. To meet its hosting requirement, WESP must co-host 2 shows per year. Co-hosting responsibilities vary but usually involve covering part of the cost of the show management or officials or pitching in at the show.



# WAKEFIELD EQUESTRIAN BENEFITS

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- Provides PE and athletic credit through the school for the riders, depending on their grade level.
- Recognition is also possible through national equestrian programs (USEF).
- Great preparation for collegiate riding as many colleges offer equivalent programs.
- Benefits of being on an athletic team and showing commitment to a sport are obvious for college admissions.
- Unique catch-riding format promotes resilience and other life skills.
- Equestrian is one of the few mainstream sports where boys and girls compete equally.
- The only Wakefield team where middle and upper schoolers compete together helping to foster community and experience across school divisions.







# MINIMUM RIDING REQUIREMENTS

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Because safety is of paramount importance and horses can be unpredictable, riders must have the minimum skills necessary to ride in a group. Specifically, riders need to be able to:

- mount the horse by themselves,
- steer, stop, and regulate pace at the walk and trot, and
- keep proper and safe distancing from other riders at the walk and trot.

If a rider is not able to meet these minimum requirements, the rider is not ready to be in a group lesson and should consider the *Development Program* to get more individualized attention to prepare for the group practice environment.

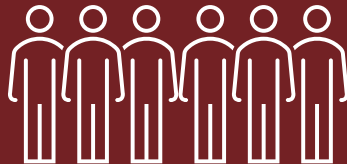
# INTENT TO JOIN & SELECTION PROCESS

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Because this program depends on the availability of safe and suitable school horses, we ask riders to give advance notice of their intent to participate. Riders are asked to provide notice of their intent to participate as soon as practicable but at least by August 1 each year.



**AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup> DEADLINE**



**THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON EACH  
TEAM IS CAPPED AT 6**

TEAM  
ACCEPTANCE  
MAY BE BASED  
ON THESE  
PRIORITY  
FACTORS:

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Riders who can commit to 5 shows for the IEA season (for MS riders this means that they must commit to both the fall and winter season).

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Returning riders (including rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders) or riders who have previously ridden at Beverly.

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Riders with previous show experience (including IEA, schooling, and unrated shows).

# PRE-SEASON PRACTICE



Wakefield Equestrian will offer a pre-season clinic prior to the start of school as additional practice for program members. Clinic participation is not mandatory to participate on the team. The dates and cost of the pre-season clinic will be announced before the start of the school year. Again, the sooner the program manager knows about rider interest, the sooner the clinic can be organized.





# AT A GLANCE . . .

Our team consists of middle and upper school students who practice separately but compete together.

\*Schedule based on mutual availability.

Team	Varsity	Middle School	Development
Practice Schedule	3x per Week after School (M/W/F)	2x per Week during School (Tu/Th PE block)	2x per Week after School (Tu/Th Study Hall during PE block)*
Number of Lessons	50	20	4-lesson blocks to assess progress
Number of Shows	5 per double season	2.5 per season	Only Onsite Beverly Shows
Credit	Full PE Credit + Varsity Letter	Full PE Credit per Season	Full PE Credit per Season

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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*[www.beverlyequestrian.com/iea-team](http://www.beverlyequestrian.com/iea-team)*

*<https://wakefieldschool.org/programs/athletics/teams/equestrian>*

