

Riding For Reading



2009 Host Show Application

Riding For Reading is a non-profit organization (501 (c)3) dedicated to promoting reading, literacy and education through equestrian sports and activities.

INTRODUCTION

Riding For Reading is accepting applications from horse shows interested in hosting a Riding For Reading Class. In 2009 the Riding For Reading board of directors will designate at least five shows throughout the country to host a Riding For Reading event. Riding For Reading shows will feature the Riding For Reading Class at a prominent time in a main show arena.

Shows should be prepared to:

- Raise some of the money allocated to the Riding For Reading Library Grants
- Obtain participation prizes for the riders
- Pay for Riding For Reading t-shirts and/or caps
- Provide publicity and promotion of the event
- Designate a Riding For Reading liaison who will work with Riding For Reading on the details of the event

Below is a description of Riding For Reading's expectations of a host show:

BEFORE THE SHOW

Designate a Riding For Reading Liaison

- The Riding For Reading Liaison will oversee the class and all of the details involved with putting on a Riding For Reading event.
- The liaison work closely with Riding For Reading to ensure all requirements are fulfilled.

Class Background

The goal of the Riding For Reading Class is to allow riders from first grade through twelfth grade to compete on behalf of their schools. By running the class as a pleasure class, younger riders tend to be as competitive as older riders. However, a show may propose a different class providing that riders from first through twelfth grades can compete on equal footing. Note: All riders in a Riding For Reading Class are guaranteed a grant to their school's library. Higher placed riders will receive larger grants, but all riders earn a library grant.

Class Specifications - Pleasure

All riders will compete at all gaits in both directions of the arena. If there are 30 or more riders in the class, management and/or the judges may split the riders in half and work the riders in two groups. If a class is large, the judge(s) may call back a smaller group to perform additional work in order to identify the Top Ten.

At the conclusion of the class, the judges shall designate the riders in the Top Ten. From that group, the judge(s) will designate a Champion and a Reserve Champion.

Financial

- Library Grant: Riding For Reading will match the funds raised by the host show for the Riding For Reading Class starting at \$1,000, with a maximum grant of \$2,500. The host show is encouraged to raise as much money for the library grants as it can, and is welcome to raise funds in excess of Riding For Reading's grant. (Due before the show)
- Entry Fees: Shows set the entry fee for the class and keep the funds collected.

- License Fee: Host shows pay Riding For Reading a license fee of \$15 per rider (in the class) or a minimum of \$250. (Due two weeks after the show)

Publicity and Prize List

- Shows are asked to place a half page ad in their prize list and in their program, if they have one. Riding For Reading will provide camera ready black & white artwork.
- Riding For Reading will provide a media kit to the host show.
- Shows are requested to place a Riding For Reading link on their website, and Riding For Reading will do the same.

Designate a “High Need” Public School

Schools across the country are in desperate need of funds, and especially library funds.

Therefore, Riding For Reading requests each host show to identify a “High Need” school as the beneficiary of a library grant and of the book drive. Many riders in our sport are fortunate to attend well-funded private schools. As a result, if a rider wishes, he or she may choose to ride for the host show’s “High Need” school.

AT THE SHOW

Class Conduct

- Before the class, obtain each rider’s grade in school and school name
- Hold the class in a main arena and during a prominent time slot
- The Riding For Reading Class should be treated as a special or premier class at the show
- Take a class photo immediately after the class.

Awards

- Ribbons are provided through our national sponsor, Hodges Badge Company. The show will be able to purchase the special ribbons at a discount.
- The host show will provide additional awards to the riders. Each rider should receive at least three additional awards (gift certificates or products).
- Each rider will receive a Riding For Reading t-shirt and/or cap (the show purchases these at a discounted price).

Thank You Notes

Because of the tremendous support and sponsorship Riding For Reading receives, all riders in the Riding For Reading Class are required to write thank you notes before receiving their awards. Ribbons are presented in the ring, but awards are given out once riders write thank you notes and complete necessary paperwork for their school’s grant.

- Host shows need to provide staffing and a place for riders to write thank you notes and to receive their awards.
- Riding For Reading will provide the thank you notes, and the show needs to provide pens and pencils.
- Riding For Reading has a master “rider packet” on its website. The show needs to make sufficient copies for every rider in the class.

AFTER THE SHOW

- Submit the class results and all Riding For Reading forms within two weeks of the show
- Submit any additional donations
- Submit the license fee
- Submit the class photo and any additional photos
- Submit any local press coverage of your Riding For Reading Class

GENERAL INFORMATION

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