



How to Start a Team at Your College or University

The mission of the Intercollegiate Dressage Association (IDA) is to introduce students to the equestrian discipline of dressage and to foster continued development, understanding and appreciation in the art of dressage through organized student competitions and educational opportunities. IDA's main functions are to promote the sport of dressage and to establish and enforce IDA rules and policies.

teamdressage.com

IMPORTANT FACTS

- ❖ IDA competition for teams and individuals promotes skills students will need throughout their lives.
- ❖ Participation in IDA makes it affordable for schools and students to earn regional and national titles in dressage.
- ❖ Participation in IDA's nationally recognized competition is a big draw for prospective students.
- ❖ IDA member colleges have greater visibility via the IDA website that attracts thousands of students each month and coverage in national equine publications.
- ❖ IDA shows help students set goals and improve their performance.
- ❖ Students do not need to own a horse to participate in IDA.

USEFUL CONTACTS

- ❖ Ribbons & Numbers. Hodges Badge Company (has the IDA logo on file for your convenience.)

<http://www.hodgesbadge.com/>
Phone: 800.556.2440

- ❖ Judges & Tests. US Dressage Federation (USDF)

Phone: 859-971-2277.

Download Tests from <https://www.usdf.org/downloads/forms>.

Find judges at <https://www.usdf.org/about/contact/officialsOnly.asp>

US Equestrian members can access the most current officials list. <https://www.usef.org/search/officials>

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ABOUT THE INTERCOLLEGIATE DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

The Intercollegiate Dressage Association was founded by coaches who wanted to offer riders the opportunity to participate in team competition as part of their college experience.

The IDA began officially in the fall of 2001 with over 150 student riders representing 20 schools. By the end of the first year, the number of member schools was 27. The West Coast Region came on board in the fall of 2002. By 2006 the number of regions and teams wanting to join IDA were so great that the board elected to change from using geographic locations as regional names to a system that assigns regions letters.

The IDA is affiliated with the United States Dressage Federation, adheres closely to the US Equestrian dressage rules, and offers support in forming new IDA teams and hosting shows.

HORSE OWNERSHIP NOT REQUIRED

Colleges hosting IDA shows provide the horses and tack. Riders choose their horses by random drawing. Riders must ride in the tack already on the horses they've drawn. The only tack changes allowed are adjustments of stirrup length.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Each region elects a Regional Representative who is responsible for all regional records, organization and planning, and acts as liaison between the colleges of that region and the association. The Regional Representative is the best person to answer your questions, offer advice, and help you to establish your new college team.

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The IDA is governed by a National Board of Directors comprised of all Regional Representative, plus National Officers. The National Board sets national policies, make rule changes, and develop new programs within the association. The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors consists of the President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, and Vice President who are responsible for the day-to-day administration of the association and its policies.

REGIONAL SHOWING

The regional representative determines the locations and dates of shows. At each show, the host school provides the horses, tack and facilities used for classes that can range from Intro through First Level. Teams of four riders each compete on horses that are unfamiliar to them with only a short warm up period before riding before a judge, which adds to the challenge and builds rider skills. Individuals and teams earn points at each IDA approved competition. All IDA shows are judged by US Equestrian Federation or USDF licensed judges.

New for 2018 dressage seat equitation (DSE) have become official classes for IDA. These are flat or rail classes judged on equitation. DSE allows additional riders to compete in IDA competition. 2019 will be the first year that a national DSE championship will be contended at the national competition.

INDIVIDUAL SCORING

Each ribbon is worth a point value to the winner. When a rider scores 35 points he/she moves to the next higher level. Top scoring riders in each region qualify for the National Championship based on the scores they earn during each academic year. Points do not carry over from year to year.

Ribbons earn the following points: First- 7, Second -5, Third -4, Fourth -3, Fifth-2, Sixth -1.

TEAM SCORING

At each IDA show, the scores earned by one rider in each division are totaled to determine the team's overall score for each show. The scores are cumulative throughout the season. The team with the most points at the end of the last show of the academic year is named the Regional Champion Team. The number of teams from each Region that advance to Nationals is based on the number of team memberships in that Region. National Championship team and individual competition follows the same format as regional competitions. (See IDA Rules and Standards for more information.)

INSURANCE

The IDA has liability insurance available at a reasonable per-event cost. However, it is strongly recommended that all riders have adequate major medical insurance. For more information on liability insurance for host colleges, please contact the IDA President.

ORGANIZING YOUR OWN IDA TEAM

To get started you need a group of ambitious students who want to ride dressage as a college sport. Teams usually are formed as a “club sport” as part of an existing horse-related club (Equestrian Club, Horseman’s Association, etc.) that is officially recognized by your college. If your college has an existing IHSA team for hunter seat or western, they may be willing to help create an IDA team. Get them on board if at all possible. If your college doesn’t have a horse related club or IHSA team, contact the administration to find out what your options are.

COACH AND ADVISOR

The IDA requires each team to have an advisor who is the official contact with the college, and a coach who is responsible for paperwork, forms, entries, correspondence, etc.

THE ADVISOR must be someone officially attached to the college - a member of the faculty, staff, or administration. He/she may or may not be actively involved with the team but will be ultimately responsible for the team as its liaison to the college. The advisor may be any interested person from any department on campus but typically is found in the departments of equine studies, agriculture, animal science, or physical education, has some

riding background and is interested in helping you form a team.

THE COACH at some colleges is required to be a professional trainer/instructor who accompanies the team to shows. Other teams contract with a local professional trainer or instructor to work with the team and conduct weekly training sessions.

While the IDA strongly recommends using professional coaches, a student may act in the capacity of coach, accepting correspondence, attending coaches’ meetings, appointing point riders, etc. Whether your coach is a professional or student, the IDA requires all coaches to be at least 21 years of age. Some states require coaches to have a special license or other qualifications. Check with your college and state to determine what these requirements are. If you contract with a coach, include all the specifics such as number of team members, number of team practices, cost of each etc. Include how the contract may be renewed.

The faculty advisor and coach may be the same person, which can simplify matters. However, the IDA strongly recommends that whoever signs the “liability waiver” forms for each rider and for each horse show entry be familiar with the riders and their abilities, enough to attest to their safety and suitability. The person signing these liability form as “coach” is opening himself/herself up to future litigation should a rider be in over his head and get hurt.

EXPENSES

TEAM MEMBERSHIP for 2018 - Team membership fees are: \$225 for Participating Teams- those participating in three (3) or more competitions per year, or \$125 for Supporting Teams – those participating in less than three competitions per year. Fees can be paid online or an official check from your college, official club or team account. Personal checks are not accepted. Fees must be paid annually before the team attends its first show.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP - Individual Memberships are \$35 in 2018.

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE/COACH MEMBERSHIP – A representative or coach from each college must fill out an IDA coach's form.

HORSE SHOW ENTRY FEES 2018 entry fees are generally \$140 per team, \$35 per individual and \$25 for DSE.

TRAVEL EXPENSES – Some IDA teams travel in either a college owned van, charter bus, or rented van while others will drive personal cars and share the cost of gas. Typically, riders have to pay for their own hotel rooms and meals.

FUNDING

A fully college funded equestrian team is the ultimate goal but most IDA teams are self-supporting and cover the costs from their own pockets. Teams can raise money to pay for their travel and other expenses through fund raising activities organized by the club or team.

Your college may provide some funding if you present them with a written proposal. A good figure to aim for in a proposal is from \$500 to \$2000, depending on the college and the number of team members.

If your team members are active, if your team is growing, pinning well and receiving publicity in the local or national media, chances are that the college, horse-related departments, organizations such as student government and alumni interested in dressage might contribute funds.

IDA ASSISTANCE GRANTS

IDA offers a limited number of Assistance Grants to assist teams with entry fees, travel expenses, and travel to the national competition. Teams may apply for a maximum of \$500 by the fall and spring deadlines of Oct. 15th and March 15th. Applications available at teamdressage.com.

STEPS TO STARTING AN IDA TEAM

1. Go to our website www.teamdressage.com. Download a copy of the IDA By Laws, and Rules and Standards. Read them over carefully as membership requires that you are willing to subscribe to and follow IDA by laws and rules. These documents will also give you a better idea of how the organization works and will help you answer questions your college or potential donors may ask.

2. Contact your IDA Regional Representative and let them know you are trying to form a team and ask for help. Representatives are listed at teamdressage.com

3. Find out if your college has a horse-related club or IHSA team and get them involved.

4. Find a Faculty Advisor and Coach.

5. Advertise with fliers placed around campus, area barns and feed and tack stores and place an ad in your campus newspaper or on their website if they will allow it. See if the college newspaper will run a short press release announcing that you are trying to form an IDA team and provide them with your contact information.

6. Create an account with IDA and fill out the Forms. Each team needs to complete a Team and Coach's Membership Application form, and a Team Eligibility Form*. Each member on the team will need to complete an Individual Membership Form, Assumption of Risk Form, and Rider Classification Form. All of these forms can be found on our website www.teamdressage.com. Each rider will need to sign and submit a hard copy of the Assumption of Risk form to their Regional Representative.

7. Attend one IDA show before competing in a show to learn the rules and format. Start attending IDA shows in your region and try to host at least one IDA show each year.

*The Student Eligibility Form must be submitted to your college registrar to be checked, signed, and sealed, certifying that each student is indeed a full-time undergraduate and is in good standing at the college every term. Contact your Regional Representative or use our Info address.

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