

All riders must be active and paid members of Area VIII's Young Rider Program to be considered for the Team. Following are details of requirements for selection to the Area VIII Team that are in addition to the USEF Selection Criteria.

The Selectors' evaluation and decision will be based on the following:

- Overall performance and soundness of the athlete/horse as observed at horse trials and Area VIII vet inspections during the Area's observation period (January 1 thru June 21, 2019)
  - Demonstrated ability of the athlete/horse combination to succeed in competition; showing consistency as well as improvement/progress throughout the observation period, as well as demonstrating fitness, boldness, and rideability
  - Acceptance of the commitment that the success of the Team comes first
  - Reliability, demonstrating an ability to support and respect others
  - Demonstrating professional conduct and manner whenever representing Area VIII in any activities.
- Maturity, composure and confidence under pressure.  
Demonstrating the commitment to putting the horse's health and well-being first

The 2019 Selectors are:

Wayne Quarles  
Sharon White  
Elissa Gibbs  
Alexandra Knowles

Additionally, Area VIII will appoint several Candidate Observers – trainers and upper level riders who will be present at many of the Area's horse trials and will be able to observe and evaluate riders and share their observations with the Selectors.

#### FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is critical and all candidates are required to participate in fundraising activities, either group activities or personal. Fundraising EFFORT is considered of utmost importance. For 2019 we have set a fundraising goal of \$3,500 per rider, which can be through group or personal fundraising efforts, family monetary support, or a combination of all.

#### MANDATORY TRAINING SESSIONS

Candidates must attend the Mandatory Training Sessions during the observation period:

Camp South/NAYC Training Session: June 11 – 13, 2019 at Flying Cross Farm, Louisville. Details will be forthcoming. Area VIII has no official selection trial but all horse trials will be observation trials for Selectors and Candidate Observers. In particular we will have Observers at Ocala International, Paradise Farm, Pine Top, Carolina International, Virginia and MayDaze.

If there is any reason that a candidate is unable to attend the Training Sessions or are unable to meet the \$3,500 fundraising goal, they must apply to be excused by sending an email to the Young rider Coach and the Young rider Coordinators explaining the reasons that they must be excused and any plans they have in place to make up for the missed training session or what efforts they have made for fundraising.