



# UConn

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES

### ANIMAL SCIENCE

For further information about the  
UConn Equestrian Team

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## UConn Equestrian Team



### Our Success

Our team has a strong tradition of top performance. In the 2010, 2012 and 2016 seasons, the team was the Region I Champion High Point College. In 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022, and 2023 the team won Reserve Champion High Point College in Region I. Every year, the equestrian team takes riders to Nationals. At Nationals in 2016, one of our riders were 5th in the country in their division, another was 8th and one rider placed in the top fifteen of the prestigious Cacchione Cup.

The UConn Equestrian Team is also often invited to compete at the Tournament of Champions in various parts of the country.

# UConn

EQUESTRIAN



## About Our Team

### Team Selection

There are approximately 24 members on the UConn Equestrian Team. To be a member of the team is an honor and an achievement. Many friendships are formed, and riders learn lessons of good sportsmanship and commitment.

Riders are selected through the tryouts. Members who make the team will be placed into a team lesson with other members of the team taught by the coach. Students riding once a week pay a fee for the semester. Students may ride twice or even three times a week for an additional cost, but additional lessons will not be with the team coach.

During the trials, the Equestrian Team coach evaluates riders on their skills and the effort they exhibit in class and tryouts, matching that with team needs at the various level of Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) competition. Many of our Walk-Trot riders began right here in our program. Good position is a must and show experience is definitely a plus, but not required. Students do not need to have their own horse to be on the team.

### IHSA

The UConn Equestrian Team competes at Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association (IHSA) shows in hunt seat classes including Walk-Trot, Walk-Trot-Canter, Novice, Intermediate or Open divisions. Alumni on the Flat/Fences level is open to alumni that have ridden in IHSA shows as an undergraduate in Novice level or above. The levels Over Fences are Novice, Intermediate or Open. The show competition is for all skill levels who compete individually and with the team. We have approximately 10 shows a year and riders have to accumulate 35 points. Once riders acquire the points, they will go on to Regionals. Our region currently consists of 10 schools in the Connecticut and Rhode Island area. At the Regionals, the top 2 riders go to Zones and from the Zones the top 2 riders from each level will go on to Nationals. The team hosts 2 shows a year at UConn's facility.



### Team Commitment

To be a team member requires a significant commitment. Members are required to make up all of their missed lessons, attend all shows UConn participates in, community service, and attend weekly meetings. Team members are an integral part of planning and executing the two UConn hosted IHSA shows each year. Team members also spend the evenings before home shows with their team preparing the horses and barn for the show the next morning.

### Our Show Days

On a typical show day the team departs from UConn between 6:30 a.m. and 7 a.m. and, to support everyone on the team, the team remains at the competition until the conclusion of the show. Transportation is provided to each show. Parents have provided great breakfasts and lunches for the entire team!

Dress is critical for a professional presentation at the horse shows. ASTM approved hard hats and black boots must be worn. It is desirable to have proper breeches, dark blue or dark colored coat and a clean shirt.