



18205 Darnestown Road
Poolesville, Maryland 20837
301-349-2011
NFFStables@aol.com
www.NFFStables.com

Show Team

2009

**We're Going to
SHINE
in
2009**

SHOW TEAM 2009

This is the tenth season of the NFF Show Team! Each year we get bigger and better, and Show Team 2009 promises to be great.

Our show team is comprised of current lesson students at NFF, both children and adults, beginner through advanced riders. This means that anyone can join the team. Our season runs from January through November, with several shows scheduled each month throughout the season. All team members are required to show in at least three shows for the season – but you may show in more, if you'd like!

Horse showing is an individual sport, but by forming a show team, we work together to not only help each other at the shows, but to cheer for each other as well.

Being a member of the NFF Show Team has several benefits: discounted use of horse if you don't own your own horse, free use of equipment like saddles and bridles, free stalls for horses to use before a show, discounts on shipping and coaching at the shows, clinics, a banquet at the end of the season, and a year full of lots of fun!

Following are the rules and requirements to be on the NFF show team, as well as an application for membership. If you have any questions, please talk to Amy or Jen. We'd like everyone to return their membership and team fee by January 15, 2009.

SHOW TEAM 2009

Rules/Requirements

1. Each team member must pay a \$150 membership fee per person per season. New members will receive a team polo shirt.
2. Each team member must attend at least three shows during the season, which runs from January through November 2009.
3. Each team member must remain enrolled in lessons through NFF throughout the season.
 - Lessons may be group or private.
 - Team members must attend their regular lesson within one week before date of any show attending, or schedule a make-up lesson for that week.
4. All team members must have proper show attire.

Depending on your age, height, and showing level you will need:

 - Paddock boots or tall black leather boots
 - Jodhpurs or Breeches (neutral colored - tan/beige, no white)
 - Straps for jodhpurs for over boots to hold jods down
 - Garter straps if using jodhpurs and paddock boots
 - Hunt coat (properly fitted, green, navy, black, dark grey)
 - Black Gloves
 - Belt
 - Show Shirt with stock collar (no pin, may be monogrammed). Long sleeve shirts required when and if they excuse jackets in the summer.
 - Black velvet ASTM/SEI hunt helmet (no schooling helmets or helmet covers)
 - Hair net if you show in tall boots
 - Hair net or small bows for pigtails if you show in paddock boots

All team members must have their own attire. No sharing.
5. Each member must own the following equipment/supplies:
 - White hunt show pad that fits saddle, to be used only for showing; or half-back pad
 - Shampoo, including Quick Silver for white areas
 - Bathing supplies, including sponge and sweat scraper
 - Flyspray
 - Neatsfoot oil, saddlesoap and steel wool (for cleaning tack and bits)
 - Tail bag
 - Miracle Groom (one bottle should last the season)
 - Leather or break-away average horse-size halter and a cotton leadrope
6. Tack Use:

You may use your own tack, or borrow NFF's tack.

 - Saddle must be hunt seat only, leather (Wintec not acceptable), no black.
 - Leather girth (fleece or padded ok)
 - Bridle

- Martingale and/or breastplate (if needed for horse).

If you are using NFF's tack, you are responsible for loading it into the trailer, unloading it from the trailer, and returning it to its proper place after the show. Tack must be cleaned before and after use.

7. Optional Supplies/Equipment:

- Cooler (to use after baths)
- Slinky (to use when horse gets braided, or to keep him clean if he is light-colored on face and neck)
- Irish Knit cooler (to use after baths in warmer weather)
- Dress Cooler (to use at shows – can be ordered through NFF)
- Quarter sheet (to keep horse warm in fall/winter)
- NFF logo-embroidered saddlepad (for lessons and to use at show for schooling)
- NFF winter jacket
- NFF windsuit (which is great to wear over show clothes so they don't get dirty while at show)
- NFF flannel pajama pants (another great item to wear over breeches/jods so they don't get dirty)

8. Signing up for shows:

- A schedule of shows will be posted on the bulletin board and via e-mail each month. Team members must sign up for the show they wish to attend no later than one week prior to the date of the show. This is so the show team staff has time to prepare horse, prepare entry forms and pre-register if available, and organize coaching and shipping. Please note that some rated shows have deadlines of more than one week — we will let you know in advance of those deadlines.

9. Preparing for show:

- The day before the show, you will be responsible for bathing horse, cleaning tack, preparing stall if horse doesn't have one, organizing all supplies needed for show. You may take your own tack to the show, or you may load in the dressing room of the trailer. If you are using NFF's tack, you must load it in the trailer (at no time is NFF's tack to go to your house).

10. Morning of the show:

- You may meet us at the barn to help load your horse in the trailer, or you may meet us directly at the show. Times for meeting at the barn or meeting at the show grounds will be posted prior to the show. If you are meeting us at the show, make sure a nice halter and leadrope are outside of horse's stall so that we may load him in the trailer. We actually prefer for you to just meet us at the show.
- If you are meeting us at the barn, please do not load your horse into the trailer yourself. We will tell you when we are ready to load your horse – just have him ready to go. If you are following us to the show, please do not drive between the trailers if we have more than one trailer going. If you are directly behind a trailer, please stay back because braking time is slower with a large trailer.

11. When you get to the show:

- Do not unload your horse from the trailer – just be ready to take your horse when we unload him.
- Unless you are told otherwise, begin tacking him right away so that we can begin schooling. Be courteous as to where to park at a show – some shows will not allow cars to park with trailers except to unload equipment. Many shows have a separate parking lot for cars. If you can park with the trailers, don't park too close to our trailers (or anyone else's), but try and park as close as possible to cars from our barn so we don't take up space needed for parking trailers.
- At no time will you need to go to the show office. We take care of registering and picking up your back numbers, as well as handling any class adds or scratches.

12. Warm-Up/Schooling:
 - Most riders are required to warm-up and/or school their horse prior to the show. Many shows only offer schooling before the show starts. Schooling is a chance to ride your horse in the ring where you will be showing him, and get him over the jumps you will be jumping. Some shows offer a schooling break in the middle of the day. We will let you know ahead of time if you must school first thing in the morning, or can wait until the mid-day schooling break.
 - No rider may school on their own. A trainer will be in the ring and will give you instruction. Sometimes the schooling ring is very crowded with riders and trainers from other barns, so use proper ring etiquette and listen to your trainer for instruction.

13. After Schooling/Before You Show:
 - NFF staff will take care of registering you for all classes and will pick up your back number.
 - When your trainer tells you that you are finished in the schooling ring, return to the trailer to take care of your horse. If you are not showing until later, untack horse, blanket (if necessary), and we will tell you whether you may tie him to the trailer and give him hay, or if he should be loaded back into the trailer. If he needs to go back into the trailer, please check with NFF staff before loading (or unloading) him yourself.
 - The well-being of our horses is most important at the show. Take care of them all day by making sure they have hay and water. Offer water to your horse frequently, especially if it is hot. Some shows have a nearby water source; others do not and for those we will bring water jugs or the water tank. If using the jugs/tank, please do not waste the water – it is for horses to drink, only. Use flyspray frequently if it is hot outside.
 - If you have lots of time before you show, check back frequently on your horse; otherwise, stay at the rings to watch and assist your team members.

14. Getting Ready for Your Classes:
 - Your trainer will tell you when to start getting yourself and your horse ready to show. Do not get ready too early (you don't want your horse to stand around waiting), but don't put it off until the last minute.
 - Your trainer will help you enter the ring, or get your order of go if you are in a jumping class. Your trainer will watch you throughout your class, but they cannot help you once you are in the ring. After each class, see your trainer for comments and suggestions. Your trainer will assist you in learning your course if you are jumping. Do not go in the ring without your trainer present (even if the gatekeeper, your parent, someone else's parent, or a fellow show team member tells you to!)
 - Parents: although we know you just want to be helpful, please do not interfere with your trainer giving instructions to your child. Do not coach them either while they are in the ring or outside waiting to go in. That is what you are paying us for! Please give them and the other riders lots of cheers and encouragement, but leave the coaching to us.

15. When You Are Done Showing:
 - Make sure horse is properly cooled down, and offer him water and hay. Make sure all your supplies and equipment are gathered up and loaded NEATLY back into the trailer. Check on your horse frequently, but otherwise, stay at the rings to watch and assist your team members. You will be required to stay at the show until all team members are done showing for the day. Special permission may be given to leave the show early depending on the circumstances.
 - Re-roll your leg wraps, and wrap horse if you have been approved to do so.
 - Return your back number to a trainer.
 - When everyone is done showing, be on hand by the trailers to have your horse ready to load.

16. Back at the Barn:
- You may choose not to come back to the barn after the show, but you will be charged a \$20 handling fee to cover unloading, feeding and turn out horse, and returning any NFF-owned tack. If the horse you are riding is a field boarded horse, you will also be charged \$20 for stall cleaning. If you choose not to return to the barn after the show, you MUST leave a check made out to NFF Show Team with the amount blank with one of the trainers. If you used NFF-owned tack, it must be cleaned and stored neatly in the trailer.
 - If you decide to come back to the barn after the show, you will need to feed your horse, and turn him out depending on the season. If the horse you are riding is a field boarded horse, you will need to clean the stall he was in the night before, and empty his water bucket. If you own the horse and he is full-care boarded, stall cleaning is not necessary. You will also need to unload all your equipment from the trailer, and if you used NFF-owned tack, it must be cleaned before putting it away. Before you leave the barn, please make sure to leave a check made out to NFF Show Team with the amount blank with one of the trainers. A copy of your bill will be available the day after the show, and sent to you by email, including the total of your check.
 - If your horse was braided for the show, you will need to take out the braids either at the show when you're done showing, back at the barn, or no later than 12 noon the next day. We charge \$20 to remove braids for you (it's actually harder than braiding!).
 - If you fail to leave a check, you will be charged a \$15 late-payment fee. We take care of paying all the show team's entry fees from the show, the trainers, the shippers, the braiders, etc. They expect to be paid immediately after the show, so we need to collect from you right away.
17. Expenses:
- Aside from the \$150 membership fee, you will be paying for class entry fees (which range from \$6 to \$40 a class, with \$12 being the average – at most shows you will show in at least 3 classes). Some shows charge an office or membership fee as well.
 - You will also be paying for coaching at the show, which not only covers working with you in the schooling ring and observing your classes, but determining what classes to enter you in, registering you for the show, and helping you at the trailers. The coaching fee is \$65 per rider per show for two or more riders (\$80 per rider for one rider attending show).
 - Shipping rates vary depending on the show location. We will let you know how much shipping will cost when we post the sign-up sheet for the shows. Shipping charge is to be shared between two or more riders on the same horse. Shipping will always be a minimum of \$75.
 - If you do not own your own horse, or if you are not leasing or half-leasing an NFF horse, you will be charged a horse use fee for each show of \$30, which is to be shared between two or more riders on the same horse.
 - Braiding is not required at all shows. It is required for some rated shows.
 - Clipping and mane pulling: all horses must have their manes pulled to no longer than four inches, and they need to be clipped (muzzle, bridlepath and ears) before each show. The cost for keeping all NFF-owned horses show-ready is included in your horse-use fee. Team members who own their own horse may pay to have their horse show-ready, or of course can do it themselves.
18. Miscellaneous:
- Do not put any of your belongings (saddle, blankets, etc.) on the sides of the trucks. The paint can get chipped and scratched and we will hold you responsible for damages.
 - The only riding at the show will be during the schooling session, and during your classes. No riding around the show grounds for fun, no bareback riding, etc. It is stressful for horses to be at a show; give them a break!
 - Horses owned by anyone other than the rider may not be shipped to the show by anyone other than NFF staff, unless prior permission is given.

19. Sportsmanship:

- All NFF show team members must exhibit excellent sportsmanship at all times. Any team member not behaving, acting rude or disrespectful to their parents, crying, whining, etc. may be asked to leave not only the show, but the team as well.
- The well-being of our horses is most important at the show. Take care of them before you take care of yourselves (don't go to the snack bar if your horse hasn't received water and hay).
- No NFF show team members may get mad at their horses. If we see you take your anger out on a horse, you will be taken off show team. Horse show stewards do keep an eye out for abuse of horses.

- Team members need to stay all day at the show. This is so we can work together as a team, helping each other and cheering each other on. Showing is a learning experience – not only while you're in the ring showing, but while watching other riders in other classes.

- Winning is great, but that's not why we show. If the only reason you're showing is to get a ribbon, please find another barn. Parents, don't put pressure on your child to win, and don't compare them to other riders. Don't compare their mount with other mounts – each rider rides horses differently. The NFF show team is for fun and education, not for snots! We are a team, we work together and help each other as a team, and any team member's ribbon is a ribbon for the whole team!

2009 Non-Show Team Member Rates

Coaching: \$125 per show

Shipping: \$2.00 per loaded mile

Horse Rental: \$75 per show

Equipment Rental: \$50 per show

Stall Rental: \$15 per night

Show Team 2009 Team Membership Application

Rider's Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Team Member's e-mail address _____

Date of birth _____ Age as of December 1, 2008 _____

Parents Names _____

Parent e-mail Address _____

Parent Cell Phone Number _____

New Members: size for show team polo shirt: Adult s-xl _____ Youth s-xl _____

All Members – additional polo shirts can be ordered for \$25 per shirt (in case an old member outgrew theirs, or perhaps a parent wants one)

Additional shirt name and size: _____

Additional shirt name and size: _____

(include \$25 per shirt with application)

**Please include the \$150 membership fee, check made payable to NFF Show Team,
with this application by January 15th, 2009**