

# Showing with River Mist Equestrian

## Expectations and how things work @ Horse Shows!!

At River Mist we attend (and host) a variety of horse shows such as Dressage (USDF), Eventing (USEA) & Schooling Shows (GDCTA & GHJA).

A great place to get started in your showing career is a River Mist hosted GDCTA (Georgia Dressage & Combined Training Association) Schooling Show! It's lower cost and home environment gives you a taste of the competition life to see if it's for you! And no stress if it's not! Outside of the River Mist Schooling Show we attend other farms schooling shows as well. At the GDCTA schooling shows the classes are Dressage, Combined Training & some even have a Cross Country phase as well. If you participate in several shows throughout the year you could even be eligible for Year-End Awards through GDCTA! Every January they host a banquet and give out their awards! It's a lot of fun and a fabulous way to wrap the year up and have some fun with the River Mist Barn family!

Once you have a good grasp of the Schooling Shows and are ready for a tougher competition, you have the option to move up to the National level. We attend BOTH USDF and USEA competitions. For this level of competition we require that you either lease or own a horse as these shows are a bigger test of the partnership between you and your horse! Riders at this level should be able to get themselves prepared for competition with less direction than at the schooling shows. Trainers are still on hand for course walks and warmups! These shows also allow you to be eligible for Year-End awards through GDCTA, USEA/USDF & USEF! Now that you've decided to join the Horse Show fun this document is to help you navigate what is expected of you as a competitor (parents too!)

Most horse shows will require that we register and pay before hand, this means you will be responsible for gathering the horses documents and requirements from Jen in order to get your entry in ON TIME to the show secretary. The shows typically have a hard closing date so that they can organize the competition for us! Please try to be as close to the opening date with your entry, this ensures that if they run out of space in the show you still make it in! In the event that something happens and we are unable to attend the horse show, we are able to get our money back IF we cancel before the closing date, though they might charge an office fee. SOMETIMES, we are able to get a refund IF they are able to fill our spot from a waiting list. In the event we are unable to go after the closing date, in MOST cases we do forfeit our entry fee.

The day before the horse show riders will be expected to either load their tack and trunks in the trailer or in their own vehicles. Riders also need to check to make sure that hay and grain has been loaded for their horse. This is typically done by RME staff, however, it's always good to check! Before horses are loaded on the trailer it is preferred that they are at least groomed so that they are not traveling coated in mud/dirt or anything else they may have rolled in. If you are unable to be on hand the day RME leaves for the show please let us know what you have vs what still needs to be loaded in the trailer. If this is more than a tack trunk (ie we are running around the farm collecting all the equipment and bath buckets) there will be a charge for this service. Some horses will require ulcer-guard before getting on the trailer, to help avoid ulcers as travel can be very stressful for horses.

Once at the show grounds, whomever arrives first will find the stalls and un-bag and spread any shavings that the show has provided or that we purchased. If it's planned out well enough, the first person arriving will have the water buckets and hose to get the stalls prepped for the horses. Getting to the show and being able to unload right when we get there is very helpful for the horses anxiety about being in a new place! All riders present at the show at the time of the horses arrival are expected to help unload and setup as a TEAM! In the event we have several horses going, sometimes we can split the duties up!

Once the horses are settled in, we will check in at the office to get numbers, courses and any other information needed from the show office. Once we have our numbers we are able to school horses in

the shows approved schooling areas. In the event you are not able to arrive in time to school your own horse, RME staff will either school it for you or if time does not allow it will be lunged.

After schooling, the horses will be given their dinner, MOST of the time it will be pre-bagged and you will just need to add water. If you are giving your horse it's dinner, it's a good idea to make sure that all horses are cool and ready to eat, as they do like to eat as a group! When you give the horses their dinner it's also good to check their hay and water intake/levels. When checking your horses' water, check all of the other horses' water as well. If you notice a horse is not eating or drinking, notify RME **IMMEDIATELY!** Before leaving your horse for the night, all riders must clean their stalls of any urine or poop.

Night check will need to happen after we get our own dinners (sometime between 7&10pm ideally). This ensures that the horses have plenty of water and hay to get through the night and are also wearing the correct clothes if the weather requires it. Those who do night check will also ensure wraps on any horse who is wearing them are in good shape for the night.

The day of the show, we will time feeding based off of the first ride time of the day, but no later than 8am. In the event you are the first one at the show you will be the one feeding. Some horses will get ulcer guard before their breakfast, if you are unsure how to do this WAIT until the next person comes so they can show you! New horse show people will NOT be left to feed on their own! We will have ride times posted on a white board if there are enough showing so that we can all keep track of where everyone needs to be and when! For example if your ride time is 10:23am you should be in the warmup area by 10am. Each horse is different and some may need more warmup while other may need less, check the board for when you need to be on and where you need to be headed! Keeping your tack trunk and stall front organized is a MUST. After all horses have been fed, clean your horses' stall and make sure all horses have water.

Before your first ride of the day, you will be required to make sure your horse is clean!! That could mean a very thorough grooming or a bath. If you are unable to do this (ie you're a little and your horse is grey and now covered in their own poo) RME is happy to help!! If this is a National show, you will be required to braid or pay to have your horse braided for Dressage! If it's a Championship, you will want to be braided for show jumping or awards if you are in them! After your final ride of the day, depending on how hard your horse worked, you may need to do some horse care. Horse care can include, icing legs, poulticing, wrapping, liniment baths etc, please check with RME on what needs to be done.

If there are enough people going to the local shows sometimes we do a pot luck style buffet. Sometimes its just snacks and drinks, this is usually organized by a parent since the riders and trainers are too busy to organize. The travel shows we tend to eat on our own at the concessions stands. However, if anyone wants to organize food we can all bring something to the table or contribute financially!!! Get with RME if you'd like to be the one to organize!

During Horse Trials, riders are **not permitted** to look at their dressage scores until the end of competition! This helps ensure that we stay focused on the phase at hand vs the highs or lows of the previous! Trainers will make sure that scores are being tabulated correctly and approach the secretary or TD as needed. Parents are **NOT** to approach the TD or Secretary on the riders behalf!!! In the event, a discussion with the show is necessary and if the rider is a minor the Trainer, Parent and Rider will approach together!

As the show wraps up, you will be responsible for gathering your tack and getting it home, either in your own vehicle or in the trailer. If you have paid for stall stripping — GREAT, if not, please be sure that you start this process early on departure day, so that we can all hit the road together. Equipment will be loaded back into the trailer as neatly as possible so that in case of an emergency on the drive, we can get to what we need and not rummage through things tossed in a rush to leave.

Once we arrive back to the farm, riders available to help will unload the trailer, remove horses, all tack and trunks and clean the horse portion of the trailer. Sometimes, the shows run late and we do

understand getting home at a reasonable hour, riders unable to help unload will be charged for the service, if they have been unavailable for other shifts (loading/unloading).

## Horse show Check List!

Required	Schooling Show	Rated Shows & HT	USDF Shows & AEC's
<b>For the Rider:</b>	Black, Navy, or Grey helmet with black helmet cover	Black, Navy, or Grey helmet	Black, Navy, or Grey helmet
	Hair net or bun cover for long hair	Hair net or bun cover for long hair	Hair net or bun cover for long hair
	Light colored britches	Light colored britches	Light colored britches
	Plain polo (RME logo OK!)	Plain polo (RME logo OK!)	White show shirt
	Boots	Boots, Stock tie & pin (if wearing coat)	Boots, Stock tie & pin, show coat of solid color
	Gloves	Gloves	Gloves
	XC Vest if competing or schooling XC	XC Vest if competing XC phase	XC Vest if competing XC phase (AEC's)
<b>For the Horse: (These items are provided by RME if leasing the horse for a show!)</b>	Clean, solid colored saddle pad	White, Black, or Grey dressage pad, square pads of your choice *SOLID COLOR* for SJ & XC	Clean, tame *SOLID COLOR* square dressage pad, monochromatic with your show coat
<b>(1/2 &amp; full leasers, it is highly suggested you provide your own tack!)</b>	Clean jump and/or dressage saddle	Clean jump and/or dressage saddle, girth, breastplate and/or martingale (horse may require)	Clean dressage saddle, Jump saddle (AEC), girth
	Bridles for dressage, SJ & XC	Bridles for dressage, SJ & XC, schooling bridle if needed	Bridles for dressage, SJ & XC, schooling bridle if needed
	Show jumping boots (if jumping), XC boots (if competing XC)	Show jumping boots (if jumping), XC boots (if competing XC)	Show jumping boots (if jumping), XC boots (if competing XC), white polo wraps or boots for awards
	Blankets/Sheets	Blankets/Sheets	Blankets/Sheets
	Coolers	Coolers	Coolers

Required	Schooling Show	Rated Shows & HT	USDF Shows & AEC's
<b>Grooming:</b>	Brushes & hoof pick	Brushes & hoof pick	Brushes & hoof pick
	Showsheen	Showsheen	Showsheen
	Fly Spray	Fly Spray	Fly Spray
	—	Braiding bands matched to your horses' mane color	Braiding bands matched to your horses' mane color
	—	Mane Comb	Mane Comb
	Tiger Tongue	Tiger Tongue	Tiger Tongue
<b>*Recommended for SS required for others*</b>	Minor wound care cream	Minor wound care cream	Minor wound care cream
	Hoof Oil	Hoof Oil	Hoof Oil
	Scissors	Scissors	Scissors
<b>Required for Bathing:</b>	Bucket	Bucket	Bucket
	Horse Shampoo	Horse Shampoo	Horse Shampoo
	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge
	Hand Towels	Hand Towels	Hand Towels
	Sweat Scraper	Sweat Scraper	Sweat Scraper
<b>Post Ride Care:</b>			
<b>Required:</b>	Liniment	Liniment	Liniment
<b>Required if competing XC @ Rated:</b>	Poultice	Poultice	Standing Bandages
	Poultice Paper	Poultice Paper	No-Bow Bandages
	Standing Wraps	Standing Wraps	Standing Wraps
	No-Bow Bandages	No-Bow Bandages	
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	Fan is required if hot	Fan is required if hot	Fan is required if hot
	Bungees for Fan	Bungees for Fan	Bungees for Fan

## River Mist Show Fees:

### Costs for Shows -

The Venues Registration Fees vary from show to show, and if you need help signing up please feel free to reach out to River Mist staff to get you pointed in the correct direction!

### Horse Lease Fee -

This fee is waived if you are currently leasing or own a horse!  
\$75/day off the farm (Fri-Sat show is \$150)

### Coaching Fee -

Can depend on location and number of riders attending but the following is what one can expect the costs to be.

### Fees are for horse and rider combinations/day

	<u>1-3 Clients</u>	<u>4+Clients</u>
XC Schooling days	\$100	\$75
Local Horse show coaching fees (WPEC)	\$75 per day	\$65 per day
Local Show @ Chatt Hills	\$90 per day	\$80 per day
Travel show with 1 overnight w/pre show schooling	\$175	\$150
2 day Travel show w/pre show schooling	\$250	\$225
3 day Travel show w/pre show Schooling	\$325	\$300
Groom/Assistant	\$150/day among Clients	
Accommodations (for all staff split amongst #of client horses/riders)	Varies on destination	
Transportation(in the event a horse is being shared between riders this fee is split)	Varies on destination (\$75/min)	
Tack room (split amongst #of client horses/riders) required @ 4 horses or more)	Varies on show	
Horse care	\$50 per day*	
Set up/tear down of stalls or trailer	\$25 per occurrence	

Invoices for RME's services will generally go out the following Monday following the show. If it's close to the time of the usual monthly invoice then it will be added to the regular invoice.

Showing is a great way to show off the skills you've learned over time and to see how much more there is to master! Hint—no matter how good you are, there is ALWAYS more to learn!!!

### Other possible Horse Show Expenses:

These fees will be split between the number of client horses

Lodging for staff  
Meals for staff  
Golf Cart rentals when applicable  
Tack stall if more than 4 horses attending  
Feed stall if more than 8 horses attending  
Any additional travel expenses for staff  
Yearly Association Membership dues (GDCTA, USEA, USDF, USEF, GHJA etc)

Hauling Expenses - Depends on location, but starts @ \$75/horse and go up from there depending on location of the venue.