

SILVERS STABLES ACADEMY AND PERFORMANCE TEAMS
2025 Information and Meeting Schedule:

1. RANDOM ANNOUNCEMENTS:
 - a. Underpass links:
 - i. https://www.amazon.com/willwin-Adjustable-Stirrups-Motorcycle-Suspenders/dp/B0937KZB61/ref=sr_1_11?crid=2AVPN7J8EWNG8&keywords=jod+straps&qid=1674917132&srefix=jod+%2Caps%2C244&sr=8-11
 - ii. https://www.amazon.com/Boao-Pieces-Elastic-Adjustable-Stirrups/dp/B07DXT6Y22/ref=sr_1_2_sspa?crid=2AVPN7J8EWNG8&keywords=jod+straps&qid=1674917132&srefix=jod+%2Caps%2C244&sr=8-2-spons&psc=1&spLa=ZW5jcnlwdGVkUXVhbGlmaWVyPUEwODc2MjIwMjg4NUVWVkRlZlRlZjZ3aWRnZXROYW1lPXNwX2F0ZiZlY3Rpb249Y2xpY2tSZWRpcmVjdCZkb05vdExvZ0NsaWNRPXRYdWU=
 - b. Make sure you understand the policies
 - i. Policies: <https://www.silversstables.com/lessons>
 - ii. Please avoid awkward situations by knowing the policies
 - c. ASAC AWARDS
 - d. Tail Sets – billing info
 - e. Horse Need - Emails
 - f. BUY SHOW APPAREL; appropriately sized pin
 - g. Commotion clothes
 - h. Social media – YouTube, FB, etc
2. Auto Draft Reminder – UPDATE PLEASE AND IMMEDIATELY
3. Weather
 - a. Latex gloves under riding gloves
 - b. Closings - We will always choose safety first.
 - i. Understanding how a farm works/operates and how the daily tasks work/time and how that orchestrates around weather
 - ii. Additional closings due to emergencies (horse emergency, etc)
4. Hair: Performance v. Academy – Link: <https://www.silversstables.com/show-team-information>
5. Memberships:
 - a. ASAC (all show riders and drivers) - <https://www.asacsaddlebred.com>
 - b. ASHA (All show riders and drivers) - Link: <https://www.asha.net>
 - c. USEF (ASB and PONY performance riders/drivers only) *Safesport – Link: <https://www.usef.org>
 - d. AHHS (Hackney Pony owners and riders only) – road ponies have a second additional membership as well – Link: <https://www.hackneysociety.com>
 - e. The American Road Horse & Pony Association (ARHPA) – Link: <https://roadster.show/home>
6. Arriving on time to lessons: 30 minutes minimum – sometimes you need 45 minutes; DO NOT BE A LUMP ON A LOG -- BE 10 MINUTES EARLY TO THE ARENA FOR GROUP AND PRIVATE LESSONS – DOES NOT APPLY TO PERFORMANCE HORSE LESSONS
 - a. Performance Horse Bridle Rack and TailSet Rack
7. Required Summer Camp:

Silvers Stables Academy Team and Pre-Team Summer Camp:

----Show Team and Pre-Team 3-Day Camp: August 11-13, Friday – Sun DATES TBD

A summer camp catered to Performance, Academy, and Pre-Team riders in which riders will ride multiple times during the camp, practice on multiple horses, and utilize multiple drills. **THE MAIN FOCUS OF THIS CAMP IS TEAM BUILDING AND COMRADERIE.** This camp is a very different experience than the regular riding camps held during summer. **All Silvers Stables Academy and Pre-Team Riders must attend while it is optional, yet strongly encouraged, for the Performance Team.** Friday, 5:00-8:00, Sat and Sun, 3:00-6:00. (Performance and Academy Fee = \$225, Pre-Team Fee = \$250, No deposit; pay in full by first day of camp). **THIS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR ACADEMY AND PRE-TEAM RIDERS,**
**Make sure to bring a snack / lots of Gatorade each day.*

8. Winter Intensity
 9. Summer Camp Dates – Coming Soon
 10. Horse Show Expectations:
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Team Parents and Student Show Expectations:
HORSE SHOW EXPECTATIONS - PARENTS

Here are a list of expectations and guidelines to make sure that our shows run smoothly:

1. Please remember that horse shows, horses, and circumstances are unpredictable. Adaptability, grittiness, and perseverance are key in the horse show world. Some days, horses are great in the ring while some days they are not. Each arena is different and each crowd is different.
2. **Parents are expected to sit together and show comradery.**
3. **All parents and teammates are expected to be there to support each rider in Academy – from first rider to last rider.** This makes for a very long day. Be prepared to eat on campus (there are usually vendors on site) and please be prepared to sit in uncomfortable seating for some time (bring blankets, cushions, etc).
4. Attitude is everything. Please do not tear down other barns, other riders, the judge, our barn, or our riders. Voices carry and riders and trainers can hear the crowd from the ring and rail. We do not want other people to see us in a negative way.
5. **Parents are not allowed in the warm up ring or on the rail at horse shows. In the arena, please take your seat in the stands. If a child falls and needs parental assistance, we will call for you. If we do not call for you, please do not enter the ring.**
6. Please do not coach your child. Support them. They know what they need to do and will be reminded by us. When they're in the ring, it is hard to do all of the things they need to do when the pressure is on, especially in their first few seasons of showing. Please encourage them and let them know they've done well as long as they're trying their best.
7. Please support your rider on their best or worst ride.
8. Celebrate the little victories, which are genuinely more important than blue ribbon rides. "Wow, you did so great for your first time. I saw your heels down the whole ride!" "I know you did not place today, but you made a great pass going second direction!" "Wow, (insert horse name) was really fresh today and a little hard to ride, but you really learned something today about controlling your horse. Think about how good this experience was in learning how to control a big time show horse."
9. Please make sure your rider is on time to their practice rides and their show day. Running late creates anxiety which may hinder a good performance or stress the entire team. Please give yourself more time than you think you need. Being early is always better.
10. Show skills are learned through showing and experience in the ring. Some people catch on to this quickly. Others do not. Sometimes it takes one or two ring appearances for the jitters to go away and sometimes it takes many years. We do our best to put pressure on them at home but repeatedly getting in the show ring is what really builds show skills and confidence in the ring.
11. Kids and parents do not get to choose the horse their child shows. Your rider may not get to ride his/her favorite horse but there is a really good reason Justin and Kati have put them on that horse. Please encourage your rider to ride hard no matter who they're riding and to remember there are far more aspects to showing than anyone besides Kati or Justin understand in the program.

HORSE SHOW EXPECTATIONS – EXHIBITORS

Here are a list of expectations and guidelines to make sure that our shows run smoothly:

1. Please remember that horse shows, horses, and circumstances are unpredictable. Adaptability, grittiness, and perseverance are key in the horse show world. Some days, horses are great in the ring while some days they are not. Each arena is different and each crowd is different.
 2. Be positive and ready. Having a positive attitude can mean the difference between a bad ride and a good ride.
 3. Don't worry about the ribbon, push for a better ride each time.
 4. All parents and teammates are expected to be there to support each rider in Academy – from first rider to last rider. This makes for a very long day. Be prepared to eat on campus (there are usually vendors on site) and please be prepared to sit in uncomfortable seating for some time (bring blankets, cushions, etc).
 5. Attitude is everything. Please do not tear down other barns, other riders, our barn, or our riders. We do not want other people to see us in a negative way.
 6. Support your teammates. Give them words of encouragement and let them know when you see something great.
 7. Make sure you are on time and understand when your class is, what number you are, and when you're supposed to enter the ring.
 8. Show skills are learned through showing and experience in the ring. Some people catch on to this quickly. Others do not. Sometimes it takes one or two ring appearances for the jitters to go away and sometimes it takes many years. We do our best to put pressure on exhibitors at home but repeatedly getting in the show ring is what really builds show skills and confidence in the ring. Understanding that is key to moving forward.
 9. Celebrate the little victories, which are genuinely more important than blue ribbon rides. "I got my whip switched correctly at the trot in the ring!" "I finished all of my straight-aways during that ride!" "I got my diagonals correctly!"
 10. Ride the horse you have that day and remember you do not get to choose who you ride. You may not get to ride your favorite horse but there is a really good reason Justin and Kati have put you on that horse.
 11. Make sure your clothes, hair, and make up are presentable – check the mirror before you leave the stalls. Let us know if you need any help.
 12. **USE TONS OF HAIR SPRAY**
 13. Ask questions if you need to. Please don't hesitate to ask for a better understanding of how something works, how to do things, or when to do things.
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11. Representation: Remember when you wear our attire, or show under our name, or sit in the stands and cheer for our riders, you are a representative of Silvers Stables. When you are at our farm, you are a representative of Silvers Stables. Be conscience of what you say and how you say it.
 - a. At horse shows – wear Silvers Stables gear, riders should wear appropriate boot cut jods to watch shows (if wearing riding gear) and to practice (if we have it) – to practice, should have clip on or added button underpasses
12. Team Culture and Cooperation:
 - a. Manners and help
 - b. Grace during group rides; do not forget where you came from as a young/inexperienced rider
 - c. Your attitude = how people perceive you; can ruin culture
 - d. Don't overanalyze interactions or lack of interactions
 - e. THIS IS A GROUP OF PPL WITH DIFFERING MINDSETS; people will not always agree, have grace and understand there are different perspectives, perceptions, emotional intelligence levels, and cognitive levels
13. REMEMBER OUR GOALS:
 - a. Chase the progress, not the ribbons, and the ribbons will chase you.
 - b. Different flowers, different blooms.
 - c. The person you are is the type of rider you are – be the BEST person you can be and strive to be better.
14. Understanding the process: There is a “method to the madness”, trust us in this process
 - a. A lot of times people think they know where they need to go or what they need to do to get there and they genuinely don't.
 - b. Trust us always if we say -- *Not the right horse, Need a different horse, not the right class, Not the caliber horse, Not the right fit, Show this class instead, Don't ride your show horse this week, You need more lessons, Best to buy a smaller saddle, Best to sit out the next show, etc, etc.*
15. Variables in everything:
 - a. Person, horse, weather, time of day, moods, bit, competition, type of arena, footing, other riders' mistakes
16. Problem with the groom help/staff? Do not EVER correct a groom/staff member. This is Kati's and Justin's job. Talk to them and they'll fix the situation.
17. **Communicate if you have a problem.**
18. Remember your place and role in the team.
19. Ready to buy? We facilitate all searches.
 - a. **Saddle:**
 - i. You will also need:
 1. name plate
 2. Leathers
 3. Irons
 4. A radon saddle cover and a dust cover
 - b. **Horse:** Show horse ownership is difficult because you own something but have limited access to it and limited control over it; Justin and Kati work very hard to make sure your horse has the best care and training. **This is NOT boarding, this is show horse training.**
 - i. You must also purchase / remember these yearly payments (all estimates):
 1. Trainer's Purchase Fee – 10% with minimum of \$1000
 2. Hauling (varies by distance)
 3. Supplements (varies by horse, is not always permanent)
 4. Deworming program - \$40 at least twice a year
 5. Dental estimation (\$200-\$300 twice a year)
 6. Regular Vet Work (\$200-\$250 twice a year)
 7. Farrier Bills (\$100- \$150 and up, every six weeks)
 8. Halter – show halter and work halter (\$150) and Fleece (black for show, white for barn)
 9. Show Lead
 10. Bridle and Bits
 11. Horse Insurance
 12. Monthly Tuition (Academy starts at \$675, performance starts at \$1025)
 - a. If an academy horse becomes unusable or can no longer do academy, needs to move up to performance to be trained/returned, changes in tuition/board apply (horse must meet certain requirements for board/lesson decrease and to qualify for shows as an academy horse)
 13. Radon Sheets / Coat for Horse
 - a. We are a team: Every owned horse in the barn is to wear the same clothes, have the same attire.
 14. Acavallo Pad (required for all horse owners/leases, \$300)
 15. Switches/ Switch Rental Fees (performance)
 16. Possibly others
 - ii. Personal Requirements:
 1. In order to have or lease your own horse, you must be:

- a. Reliable with your weekly appointments
- b. Able to ride through entire group and private lessons with no breaks / stops

20. BARN STORAGE:

- a. What should stay at the barn that goes with my horse?
 - i. Radon Sheets / emergency sheets / blankets
 - ii. Your groom box – not required
 - iii. Acavallo pad (on your saddle)
 - iv. Radon Saddle cover needs to stay in your box (if you own a horse; if not, it needs to store at home)
 - v. Two yellow and black tubs of items at maximum
 - 1. These tubs must stack and hold all of you and your horse's personal items. You really should only need one tub.
 - vi. PLEASE REMEMBER: As more and more clients buy horses and need storage, it is important to remember that room needs to be made for new members. Also, the barn should not be a storage unit for personal items even if they are horse related. Only items used for training your horse, required by us, or asked by us to be kept here should be in storage here. Please make sure you tidy up your items and take home anything that should not be stored here. Please make sure what should remain is properly stored in the two tubs.
 - vii. Don't just buy stuff; ask first.

21. UNDERSTANDING HORSE OWNERSHIP:

- a. Investment horses (*currently have a few good to great investments in barn)
- b. Academy / Show horse v boarding horse
- c. No guarantees

22. SEARCH ETIQUETTE: Horses:

- a. Kati and Justin do the search; no one else should be looking for horses for any other client or themselves. No one should be suggesting what another rider should or should not have.
- b. No monies should be discussed with anyone beyond Justin/Kati and rider/parent we are purchasing horse for. Pricing of purchased horses should always be kept between the parties. Discussing horse pricing or budgets for a horse search is both a bad business decision and seen as unmannerly. A horse increases and decreases in value over time depending on the phase of its life, record, health, rider level, rider ability, and circumstance.
 - i. Do not ask someone what they paid for or lease a horse for. This is unmannerly; a similar question as to asking a woman her age or weight.
- c. No other trainer/instructor should have any input or be asked anything by any of our clients. All professional input and communication should happen through me and Justin
 - i. We know people you do not know and we know about trainers you don't want to be involved with.
 - ii. No one else knows what your rider's skill level, weaknesses, strengths, needs, and projections are more than we do.
 - iii. Not all trainers know what they're talking about. In reality, fewer people know what they're talking about than you would realize.
 - iv. There are a thousand rules and limitations to show and academy horses based on their age, your rider's age level, the class they're best suited for, their shoeing regulations, medical regulations, and a thousand other little bits of info...not only do we have to know our own region's rules (ASAC), we have to know the national rules (USEF), and show regulations as well. THESE ARE ALWAYS CHANGING AND EVOLVING.
 - v. You should trust us in this purchase. If you feel you need a ton of other input on a horse or your/your students ability to ride it then you are not ready to purchase a horse with us. There should be no other clients or trainers/instructors involved with the search/purchase.
 - vi. Justin/Kati should facilitate all communication with other instructor/trainer we are purchasing from.
 - vii. REMEMBER: MUDDIED WATER = CONFUSION FOR YOU
 - viii. No horse will be brought into Silvers Stables for any customer without being a product of Justin/Kati's search.
- d. Horse Budget = prices vary and outcomes vary
 - i. Rescue Horses not allowed

23. Coaching vs. Encouragement

- a. Please make sure you know your place
- b. Parents, do not coach children
- c. No coaching other riders EVER, encourage them but DO NOT COACH THEM EVER
- d. Do not put another rider into a hard spot by asking them to watch you to help you or give you critiques, etc
- e. Want to know how to ride a horse? Ask Justin or Kati – what we tell one rider to do might not be what is right for you to do on that same horse... no one else besides Justin or Kati should be coaching
- f. Muddied Water = Confusion for rider
- g. Also – same with horse (don't distract training horse)

24. Bandwagoning

25. Skillset and Progress of All Riders varies

- a. Understanding catch riding and showing horses for others

- b. How you feel, what you see, vs reality (there are 100 things going on you don't know about/don't know how things operate from a business standpoint)
- 26. Grooms / Caretakers: As grooms and caretakers are added, tipping at shows is customary (\$50 a class minimum for performance, \$25 a class minimum for Academy)
- 27. Treats - Reminder
- 28. **Team Wear**: Price will be finalized soon (Here is what we have done in the past).
 - a. Embroidered Vest
 - b. T Shirt
 - c. Long Sleeve T Shirt
 - d. Team Jacket
 - e. Tournament Shirt (3/4 zip)
 - f. Nationals Wear
- 29. Horse Show Choices
 - a. Whatever show does not "make" will be cut from schedule
 - b. Whatever you sign up for today is your commitment and will dictate prices
 - c. National Academy – must qualify and must show at least 6 times BEFORE Nationals
 - i. Requirement numbers going up to limit amount who make it to show
 - d. Worlds – must qualify via points (will be calculated / discussed on one-to-one basis)
 - e. We want to do this all the way – put best foot forward and show as much as you can