

2023 ACADEMY INFORMATIONAL MEETING

November 6, 2023

ASAC: “Academy classes are a very important part of the North and South Carolina horse industry...Riders should be entering their first years of showing. **These classes are for growing and learning experiences and exposure to the ‘horse show business.’** These are our future show riders and owners...”

The goal of the Academy Program is to:

- Learn the ins and outs of showing horses
 - Experience fun and comradery
 - Expose riders to situations where they can practice grit and determination
 - Build confidence to increase rider’s performance
 - Ride multiple horses at varying levels to increase rider skill and horsemanship
 - Gain experience in the show ring before entering the show horse/performance division
 - Prepare rider and family for the next step in horse ownership and/or performance riding/driving
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Qualifying for the Silvers Stables Academy Team:

You have been selected due to your riding level, hard work, and readiness to perform in the show ring. In addition to the above listed qualifications, you have qualified for this selection based on these requirements:

1. Academy riders must be able to canter or will be able to canter before February of the competitive show season.
2. Academy riders must have been riding for a minimum of one year with Silvers Stables or two years with another Saddleseat barn.
3. Academy riders must have either seen or attended at least one Saddleseat horse show.

**Some exceptions can be made by Justin and/or Kati based on participant circumstances and ability.*

Silvers Stables Academy Team Commitment:

Riders must commit to:

- a full season of training (minimum Nov 2023 - last day of November 2024); to be restarted November through November the following year
 - show in at least five horse shows during the season
 - ride twice weekly; once in their private lesson and once in a group lesson/drive once weekly in a private lesson
 - Riders must ride in the Academy and Academy Pre-Team Riding Camp held for three days during summer.
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Show Team Instructors: Justin and Kati Silvers

Perks of Being on the Academy Team:

Riders who join Academy and Performance Teams:

- Get to be part of the Performance and Academy show family.
 - A serious comradery and friendship group is formed within the show family.
 - Many of these teammates go on to become great friends outside of the barn as well.
- Get to be involved in an awards banquet at the end of the show season and recognition at the Christmas party.
- Get to be involved in “Team Only” activities and events.
- Get to experience part of the industry most people do not get to partake in.
- Get to make friends all across the industry – meet friends within Silvers Stables and make friends at other barns.
- Get to show and compete with your barn friends as well as with other barns.
- Get the opportunity to show in multiple states and to qualify for the National Academy Championship (and a chance to win a national title)

Training Schedule:

- At minimum, Academy Riders ride in one scheduled private lesson and one scheduled group lesson each week.
 - Scheduled Academy Group Lesson (please tell Kati your choice of group lesson):
 - Monday 5:00-6:00 pm
 - Wednesday 7:00-8:00 pm (TO BE CHANGED TO EARLIER)
 - Thursday 6:00-7:00 pm
 - Saturday 1:00-2:00
 - **Please schedule your riders for two separate days of riding.*
 - *Group and private lessons are to be the same each week.*
 - **All group lessons canceled for horse shows will be rescheduled or made up in a separate group ride.*
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Communication:

A set form of communication is the Facebook Group Chat (team only). Also, **please make sure you have Kati's phone number saved in your phone: (864)-554-4674.**

ACADEMY SADDLES:

- Unless an Academy rider owns their own saddle, they cannot be guaranteed to show or practice in any certain saddle. There are only so many saddles within the lesson program with adjustable bars or of certain sizes. **IT IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT EACH ACADEMY RIDER HAVE THEIR OWN SADDLE. IT IS REQUIRED THAT BY THE BEGINNING OF THEIR SECOND SEASON (DECEMBER/JANUARY), THEY HAVE THEIR OWN SADDLE.** All saddles must be properly fitted. Only Kati and Justin can do this. Once a student is ready to own their own saddle, Kati will locate an appropriate saddle for you within your budgeted range.
 - Saddle sizes can range from sizes 17.5 to 22 and can vary between \$850-3500 (used to brand new). Most used saddles will need to be budgeted at around \$1500-\$2000.
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Refunds:

- **There are no refunds for tuition, show fees, or any other fees.**
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Make Ups:

- All riders are expected to make up their missed lessons. Please be flexible as horse shows and weather can cause cancellations.
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SHOW TEAM Registration Fee:

- **A \$250 registration fee is due by January 22nd, 2024.**
- *If a rider joins late or moves from a different barn to Silvers Stables, the registration fee is required to be paid in full before the rider can show.

The registration covers administrative time and costs, needed show acquisitions for Academy horses (poms, Academy horse sheets and coats, polish, hoof black, strings, ties, black tape, etc).

Academy Tuition:

ALL SHOW RIDERS ARE ON TUITION. RIDERS MAY NOT PAY BY LESSON OR ASK FOR REDUCTIONS DUE TO VACATIONS, SICKNESS, ETC. MAKE UPS ARE EXPECTED AS SADDLE TIME CANNOT BE REPLACED.

IF any price increases are to occur at any level, that will be announced before December of 2023 to begin on January of 2024.

Tuition for Academy Riders and Drivers who DO NOT Own their Own Academy Horse:

- Rider Monthly Tuition: **\$400**
 - Includes 1 scheduled group lesson and 1 scheduled private lesson each week
- Rider Tuition Upgrades:
 - Option Two Academy Tuition: **\$500**
 - Includes 1 private lesson and 2 group lessons each week
 - Option Three Academy Tuition: **\$600**
 - Includes 2 private lessons and 1 group lessons each week
 - Option Four Academy Tuition: **\$700**
 - Includes 2 private lesson and 2 group lessons each week
 - PERSONALIZED OPTION – want 3 privates and 1 group or some other variation not listed, let Kati know and she will get the pricing for you.

Tuition for Academy Riders and Drivers who OWN or LEASE their Academy Horse:

- Rider Monthly Tuition: **\$650**
 - Includes 1 scheduled group lesson and 1 scheduled private lesson each week as well as care and board for your horse
 - Rider Tuition Upgrades:
 - Option Two Academy Board Tuition: **\$750**
 - Includes 1 private lesson and 2 group lessons each week as well as care and board for your horse
 - Option Three Academy Board Tuition: **\$850**
 - Includes 2 private lessons and 1 group lesson each week as well as care and board for your horse
 - Option Four Academy Board Tuition: **\$950**
 - Includes 2 private lessons and 2 group lessons each week as well as care and board for your horse
 - NOTE ABOUT ACADEMY HORSES: In order for an Academy horse to qualify for Academy shows and for Academy tuition (rather than Performance pricing), Academy horses should be giving multiple lessons a week (*this is why those who own an academy horse receive a discount in the lesson portion of their tuition*). At Silvers Stables, we expect Academy horses to give a minimum of 6 lessons per week. Also, Academy horses owned by an Academy rider must be shown by at least two other riders in the Academy division. Owning a horse does not necessarily mean you will show that horse each time.
 - HORSE OWNERSHIP: For safety, the best fit for the rider, as well as understanding the Academy program, all horses will be picked out by Kati and Justin. Before stepping up to purchase a horse, there are other fees that need to be discussed (blankets, transport, farrier, vet, etc)
 - **Trainer's Fee – 10%, with minimum of \$1000 (at sale or purchase of horse)**
 - Example 1 – Horse cost = \$25,000; Trainer's Fee = \$2,500
 - Example 2 – Horse cost = \$2500; Trainer's Fee = \$1,000
 - TUITION AND TUITION UPGRADES: All show riders are on tuition and cannot drop lower than the basic tuition. If the barn closes for shows, weather, etc, then Kati and Justin will work with you on rescheduling. We will also work with you on a reasonable amount of rescheduling for missed lessons on the part of the rider (sickness, vacation, etc). Please note that you are paying for a time slot which is limited and eliminates the ability for someone else to ride in that slot so it must be paid for whether you are present or not. Riders may upgrade tuition to get more practice during certain parts of the year. Saddle time is very important. Please try to ride as much as possible. **You must be enrolled in the auto debit system for all tuition and lessons.**
 - ACADEMY HORSE LEASE/OWNERSHIP: There are many benefits to horse leasing and ownership including riding the same horse at horse shows and building a relationship with your horse.
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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.

*****NOTE: Photos, social media (and footprint), be careful of your association**

Removal From Team:

- All students are invited to team, which is a privilege.
- If a student or parent displays behavior at shows which is seen as unethical, immoral, or is displaying poor sportsmanship, students may be removed from the team. Any behavior that does not benefit Silvers Stables and that is a detriment to the culture of our barn, will not be tolerated. Student removal has only occurred due to parental behavior up to this point. Students removed from the team may also be removed from the riding program in its entirety.

Silvers Stables Team and Pre-Team Summer Camp:

A summer camp catered to show riders will occur each summer. Riders will ride multiple times during the camp, practice on multiple horses, and utilize multiple drills. This camp is a very different experience than the regular riding camps held during summer as it is focused on team building as well. Price = **\$225 for Academy and Performance (mandatory for Academy and Pre-Team, strongly suggested for Performance), \$250 for Pre-Team (mandatory).**

Camp dates: August 5-7, 2022 (Friday—Sunday)

Times:

- ~~Friday, August 6: 4:30 pm—7:30 pm~~
- ~~Saturday, August 7: 3:00 pm—6:30 pm~~
- ~~Sunday, August 8: 3:00 pm—6:30 pm~~

**Make sure to bring a snack / lots of Gatorade each day.*

THESE DATES ARE FROM 2022. Left this so you can have an example of camp times. Dates for camp will be posted with the finalized show schedule.

Show Attire:

- Custom is an option.
- Those who do not want an entire ensemble custom made, need to let Kati know and your attire can be purchased via consignment.

Apparel and Accessories Needed:

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| Apparel: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Collared Shirt2. Vest3. Tie4. Kentucky Jodhpurs5. Socks6. Show Paddock Boots (polished) – show set7. Show Gloves (clean) - show set8. Helmet (matches your jods – most likely black) Apparel Accessories: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Underpasses (Gayle Lampe style preferred)2. Tie Bar3. Number Magnets4. Jod Savers5. Hangers for clothes / Garment Bag6. Black Electrical Tape7. Lent brush8. Safety pins (in case of broken buttons, etc) | Hair and Makeup: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Caboodle / Makeup Bag2. Show Bow / Bun Bow3. Bobby pins4. Elastic pony tail holders (clear)5. Elastic pony tail holders (regular)6. Hair net (matches hair)7. Hair brush8. Boar Bristle Hair Brush (one-sided, not round)9. Hair Spray10. Earrings (sparkly studs)11. *Foam Hair Bun Maker (no donuts)12. Makeup (foundation, blush, lipstick, eye shadow, mascara, etc)13. Makeup brushes and sponges14. Makeup remover wipes |
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Where to Find Needed Accessories:

Underpasses, Show Bows, Tie Bars, Magnets, Jod Savers-

Hartmeyer: <http://stores.hartmeyer.com/> (Gayle Lampe Underpasses here)

Show Ring Outfitters: <https://www.showringoutfitters.com/>

Midwest: <http://www.midwestsaddleseatconsignment.com/index.html>

The Patchwork Pony: <http://thepatchworkpony.shoprw.com/home.php>

Winner's Circle: <https://www.wcircle.com/>

Garment Bag-

I order all of mine through a fundraiser program and get them monogrammed. If they are still available, we can organize to do this for the team.

Bun Bow –

These are found at Walmart on occasion. Also can be found at Ulta sometimes in the store.

Online at Ulta or Walmart or Amazon. Can buy them from Kati (limited supply) for \$7.50.



Boar Bristle Hair Brush

This is very important. Can be found at Walmart or Ulta or bought online.

*Paddock boots, helmet, and gloves need to be clean and in pristine condition to show in. Having a pair of gloves and paddock boots set aside just for showing in is necessary. Jods, helmet, gloves, and attire should be traditional.

Optional Show Accessories:

- Show Whip: *See Kati before ordering
 - Show Pins: These cannot be overly large or colorful. They must be small and not overly noticeable. A simple initial is preferred. Pins are not required.
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Silvers Stables Academy **PAST** 2023 Show Schedule:

****Estimated prices and dates below – prices and actual dates will not be known until the shows confirm their prices and schedules. Academy will always show on Saturday (except for Midsummer and Nationals).*

| SHOW NAME AND LOCATION | DATE | ESTIMATED COST FOR ACADEMY NOT PERFORMANCE |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| Silvers Stables Practice Horse Show at Silvers Stables | TBA | \$50 per student *REQUIRED FOR TEAM *ACADEMY MEETING AFTERWORDS* |
| ASAC Horse Show T. Ed Garrison Arena Clemson, SC | Beginning of March | Estimated Cost = \$450 |
| JD Massey Classic T. Ed Garrison Arena Clemson, SC | April 12-15 | Estimated Cost = \$475 |
| Asheville Spring Warm Up Western Carolina Ag Center Fletcher, NC | May 4-6 | Estimated Cost = \$425 |
| Dallas Summer Classic Dallas Park / Biggerstaff Arena Dallas, NC | May 26-27 | Estimated Cost = \$425 |
| Blowing Rock Charity Horse Show Broyhill Equestrian Preserve Blowing Rock, NC | June 8-11 | Estimated Cost = \$650 favorite show of the year (besides Nationals) |
| Asheville Summer Fun Show Western Carolina Ag Center Fletcher, NC | July 12-15 | Estimated Cost = \$425 |
| ETSA Midsummer Classic Morristown, TN | First weekend in August | Estimated Cost = \$650 |
| UPHA Ch 12 NC State Championships Governor James B Hunt Horse Complex Raleigh, NC | Sept 9 | Estimated Cost = \$500 |
| Southeastern Charity Horse Show Georgia International Horse Park Conyers, Georgia | September 21-23 | Estimated Cost = \$500 |
| Dallas Fall Classic Dallas Park / Biggerstaff Arena Dallas, NC | October 20-21 | Estimated Cost = \$425 |
| National Academy Championship Finals Tennessee Miller Coliseum Murfreesboro, TN | November 2-5 | Estimated Cost = Approximately \$2000-\$2500; <i>depends on how many qualify / attend this show</i> ** Must show 5 times minimum in 2023 season before this show and be invited/qualify to attend **IF YOU WANT TO QUALIFY AND BE SUCCESSFUL AT THIS SHOW, SHOW AS MUCH AS YOU CAN BEFOREHAND |
| Clemson Fall Classic T. Ed Garrison Arena Clemson, SC | November 10-11 | Estimated Cost = \$425 |

NOTE: This is the PAST SCHEDULE AND ESTIMATES. THE SHOW SCHEDULE WILL CHANGE THIS UPCOMING SEASON. SCHEDULE WILL BE FINALIZED JAN/FEB 2022.

****RIDERS MUST COMMIT TO AT LEAST 5 SHOWS (EXCLUDING PRACTICE SHOW AND NATIONALS) PER YEAR****

NATIONALS = ** Must show 5 times minimum in 2024 season before this show and be invited/qualify to attend

Practice Show Meeting:

Will go over (*Approximate Meeting Time = 1-1.5 hours*):

1. Clothes try on – if there are boxes in
2. Show Attire / how to wear clothes properly
3. Show Expectations for parents and riders
4. Horse Show commitments, pricing, and schedule (hopefully horse show schedules will be published)
5. Normal Routine of Horse Show
6. Make Up – not too much

Hair tutorial (must know how to properly do an Academy show bun) – is online

Paying for Horse Shows:

- All horse shows must be paid for before attending.
 - Shows will require a specific number of riders to attend. If a show does not make it due to too few of riders signed up, a conversation with signed up riders will take place in order to move riders to a horse show with enough riders attending. Besides Nationals, we will not take only one rider to a horse show.
 - THERE ARE NO REFUNDS FOR HORSE SHOWS. Once you have committed, you are expected to pay the full price as the show expenses are still required to be paid for by us to the show office (even if student gets sick and cannot attend, etc).
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Interested in Buying or Leasing an Academy Horse?:

**See Justin or Kati to ask further questions*

- Please note: Price of Academy Board includes lessons, daily care, feed, and board. It does not include farrier and vet bills nor supplies (blankets, sheets, halter, salt blocks, wormers, etc).
 - Also, when buying a horse, there is a trainer's commission (10% is standard in the industry) and the horse will most likely have to be transported (\$2 per mile minimum).
 - This is not to discourage you from buying an Academy horse, but to be honest with you so you understand the full cost.
 - Any horse bought for one of our riders is chosen by Kati/Justin with the rider's current ability and future goals in mind. Finding the right horse is difficult and requires careful consideration. Sometimes it takes days and sometimes it takes weeks to find the right horse.
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National Academy Boot Camp:

- Those who qualify for the National Academy Championship will have an extra practice on the Sunday before the National Academy Championships.
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Photography Sessions:

- Before Nationals, all qualifying riders who choose to attend will have a photo session for the Nationals Team.
 - There will be a photography session with Caitlin Reason throughout the year.
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Advertising:

- PROPER campaigning is an important part of rider success.
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SADDLE TIME – CAMPS AND EXTRA LESSONS ARE VERY, VERY, VERY IMPORTANT TO RIDER SUCCESS