



Wisconsin Interscholastic Horsemanship Association Frequently Asked Questions

Mission Statement: This constitution is established to facilitate interscholastic competition, promote a sound program of educational enrichment value and encourage a cooperative, democratic process of fair and good horsemanship.

What is the purpose of the WIHA? The purpose of the organization is to promote continuous growth in programs fostering horsemanship education, sponsor activities to encourage interscholastic participation and to have cooperative adult supervised leadership (coaching) for all students in grades 6-12 who are desirous to participate regardless of race, creed or national origin and meet the association rules and regulations.

Who governs the WIHA? WIHA is its own governing body and is not affiliated with any other group or organization. WIHA is also completely self-funded, but will accept sponsorship from outside sources.

When is the WIHA season? The WIHA season runs from August 15th through November 1st of the current year. Each district is required to have 3 shows per season.

What riding disciplines are involved? Western, Hunt Seat, Saddle Seat and timed events are the major types of riding. Riders compete as a team and are judged on horsemanship, not the horse.

How is the State of Wisconsin divided up? Wisconsin is divided up into 6 separate districts. The current WIHA district map is located on the WIHA website.

Does your school have to approve the WIHA in order to participate? No. It is not mandatory to have the school's approval, but it is appreciated by the WIHA.

What is the school's involvement? The only involvement of the school is the use of a meeting space for students on the team. Perhaps use of school's colors and/or logo on team clothing, to help with the team spirit. Although not mandatory, WIHA encourages the school to accept the team as a sport or group that is eligible for lettering. The team might want to display their trophy in the school's trophy case and be in the school yearbook.

What about insurance? The WIHA has its own insurance coverage for all WIHA sponsored events.

How are teams formed? Teams are formed in each school district by an adult volunteer and/or coach. The coach is responsible for the team. There are no special qualifications to be a coach, like being a horse trainer, you just need to be organized and enjoy working with students.

What is the cost to join WIHA? There is an annual membership fee of \$35 of which \$5 from each membership goes into the scholarship fund. Each student/parent is responsible for the cost of participating in all shows. The cost of each show is determined by the District Chairperson and is dependent on the number of riders in each district.

For more information, visit our website www.wiha.us or email: info@wiha.us
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