

Parent Information Sheet

Welcome to the Huron Valley Middle School Equestrian Team informational meeting. This is a unique and exciting experience for our middle schoolers to be able to participate in a school team sport while enjoying the opportunity to spend time with and learn from horses. Becoming a participant in the Huron Valley Middle School Equestrian Team (HVMSET) offers each child the ability to play a school sport, have individual, specialized coaches for each discipline of riding and also have a show where judges teach as they judge so everyone can learn how to show from the professionals all while enjoying team camaraderie. The HVMSET was brought about as a fun way to learn and experience the many different disciplines of riding and prepare for the high school equestrian team roles and responsibilities. All of the middle schoolers, regardless of what school they attend, will practice together. Although the kids practice together, at the MIHA show, they will be showing as a team with the school in which they attend. Also the high school equestrian team members from both Milford and Lakeland High Schools will be active participants in each step of the process. The middle school team members will get to know those members and get a firsthand look at how the high school meets and teams are run. Each rider also has the unique opportunity to declare two horses for the middle school season. This is highly suggested, even if there is no intention of showing a second horse, in the event of horse illness, injury or suitability for rider and event.

Costs: \$80.00 Due by February 7, 2013. No refunds. Includes: MIHA FEE, Ms Team Meet, Open Mic Show, Practices Fees and Administrative Fees. Optional Fees: Team Pictures and Team shirts.

Time: **Each rider must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian at all events that involve horses. This adult must remain on site for the entire duration of the event that is taking place. This is for legal and safety issues and will be strictly enforced. Any rider that does not have an adult present will not be able to participate in that activity with a horse.**

- Grounds work bee day- TBD
- 16 practices - Tuesdays and Thursdays (6pm-8pm) starting April 9,2013
- Open Mike Show- May 18, 2013
- Middle School Equestrian Team Meet- June 8, 2013

Paperwork: Due tonight - Rider Information Sheet. Due TBD – Signed code of conduct statement, MIHA Permit for Treatment of Child form, MIHA Horse Registration form and MIHA Disclaimer Form. Due April 9, 2013 - Negative Coggins test for each horse being declared for 2013 and a School Physical. 8th graders that are participating in a High School Team Sport may wait to have their physical done until after April 15th but must have it completed before May 2, 2013.

Proper tack and attire:

- Helmets, proper riding boots and long pants are required practice clothing. Speed riders will be required to use western style tack to participate in speed events at practice and at shows.
- Each participant will be required to use proper show clothing and tack for each discipline in which they show.
- HVMSET does not provide tack and/or show clothing for riders nor do they participate in the acquisition or negotiation of tack and/or show clothing. It is the responsibility of the participants to borrow, lease or purchase the necessary tack and clothing from outside sources.
- Team shirts may be purchased by speed riders and used as proper attire for speed events.
- Team shirt will be available for purchase for any equestrian team rider and their family members.

Horses:

- No ownership of a horse is required to participate in the HVMSET. If participants want to have a horse to participate in the activities, horses may be borrowed, leased or purchased from outside sources. HVMSET does not provide horses for riders nor do they participate in the acquisition or negotiation of horses for riders.

Horse Transportation:

- This is the responsibility of the participant bringing the horse to the planned activity. HVMSET does not provide transportation of the animals for any reason. The mode of transportation for each horse must remain onsite of each activity for the duration of the activity. This is for the safety and care of the animal. Horses will not be allowed to be dropped off unless another means of transportation has been arranged and will be onsite for removal of the animal at any time.

Behavior:

- All riders must behave in an orderly fashion. Riders that are causing disruptions to practices, clinics or during events and activities will be excused from the activity and must leave. A code of conduct statement must be signed by parents and riders to participate on the equestrian team.

Rider Qualifications:

- Each rider must have a cumulative 2.0 GPA to be able to participate.
- Each rider must be enrolled at either; White Lake Middle School, Muir Middle School or Oak Valley Middle School.

Websites for forms and further information:

- www.miha.org www.hvec.info www.oakhc.org