

# Organization is Paramount

NRHyA PRESIDENT CLAIRE DITTRICH



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GREETINGS EVERYONE, THE NRHA DERBY IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER! AS I WRAP up my final year of high school I would like to leave you with this advice. Stay organized. If you're not—get that way! It is useful in the show pen more often than not. Use your interest in competing to drive yourself in organization. To do justice to the competition we have to be organized in our school work and lifestyles. The equestrian lifestyle isn't something that can be possible without a little planning so keep up to date and on the ball.

Our officer team recently traveled to the American Youth Horse Council (AYHC) Symposium in Lexington, Kentucky, where they were able to meet many horse lovers from different associations and disciplines. Unfortunately I was not able to attend, however I understand the rest of the team had a fabulous time. NRHyA Secretary Kenleigh Wells found the trip impressive stating, “I enjoyed it and met a lot of new people and the tours were awesome!” The officers were able to represent NRHyA in a professional way and encouraged others to join our organization.

In addition to the AYHC, the officers were a part of the Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) National Finals. IEA's mission is to promote equestrian sports to secondary, public, middle, and private schools. It gives student riders the opportunity to compete in organized competitions. The nice part about IEA is that you don't need to own a horse and you don't have to start by yourself. IEA is all about team effort, with everyone pushing towards a defined goal. I would like to give a big shout-out to this year's Reining Individual Champion, Olivia Maxey, and the Reserve Champion, Caroline Gute! This is quite an accomplishment to be proud of. Congratulations also go to the Autumn Rose Farm Equestrian Team for being the Champion Western Team! Way to go!

Is it safe to say that we are all super pumped for the 2016 NRHA Derby? I know I am! I hope you can all attend, and I wish you the best of luck competing with your horses. Don't forget, NRHyA has a lot of activities planned such as the youth meeting, Art & Photo Contest, Speaking Contest, and the Ultimate Catch Ride competition for both high school and collegiate riders. And there may be even more planned by the time you arrive in OKC! You can cast your ballots for the Art & Photo contest right on the fairgrounds. The Speaking Contest award winners will be announced during a drag at the time of the non pro finals. I cannot wait to see you all at the Derby and be reunited with my favorite friends!

*Claire Dittrich*

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