

UBC THUNDERBIRDS

EQUESTRIAN SPORT CLUB





Flat and Intermediate Fences. 2015-2016 show season, two riders qualified to compete at both Zone and National Finals.

> Contact the UBC Thunderbirds Equestrian Sport Club Executive

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UBC THUNDERBIRDS SPORT CLUBS

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UBC TSC: Your Community on Campus

UBC Thunderbirds Sport Clubs are opportunities for highly competitive students to officially represent the university in sports at the non-varsity level, to build community, and to gain leadership and sport management skills. If you trained in one of the available sports in high school, or are looking to diversify your athletic skillset find out more about how to join at sportclubs.ubc.ca.



TRAVEL FOR COMPETITION

Teams travel locally, across Canada and internationally to compete against other universities and clubs,



STUDENT LED TEAMS

Each Sport Club is managed by a team of student executives that take care of all the administrative tasks, finances, marketing, travel and safety logistics, and everything in between.



TRAIN AND COMPETE WITH FRIENDS

Most Sport Clubs athletes train and compete on a weekly basis with their teammates during the year. UBC TSC also hosts socials and events to mingle with 300+ student athletes.



THE SPORT CLUBS EXPERIENCE

"We are the only competitive collegiate equestrian team in western Canada! Through local connections in the Vancouver area, we have established a network of student-riders at UBC, allowing us to continue competing in the sport we love, while also pursuing our academic goals at a great university. There are 4 executive positions per Sport Club that students can take on, and these positions give athletes a chance to take on a greater amount of responsibility and allows them to create an environment that would be desirable as a team member. Furthermore, as we primarily compete in the United States, joining our team gives the opportunity to travel and build team relationships with other student riders, as we engage in team practices, activities, and of course, the shows."

— Megan Ross

UBC Equestrian Sport Club

ACADEMICS

Open to undergraduate students, full-year exchange students, and post-graduate students who have previously competed in IHSA. Athletes must maintain the academic minimums of 9 credits per semester (3 courses) with a minimum total average of 60%.

Practices/Competitions and Academics

Thunderbirds Sport Club athletes are students first, and athletes second. Athletes are expected to balance their sport and their academics in a responsible and organized manner. Since competition schedules require that the team leaves for away competitions over the weekends, athletes should look ahead to coordinate competitions alongside their academic commitments. It is ultimately up to the individual athlete to choose how to manage their time. It is important that the student works with their professors to make up for any missed assignments or exams in advance.

COMPETITION AND TRAINING

It is expected that students on the roster will train and ride at least once per week. Additional practices on a variety of horses are encouraged to prepare for the catch riding format of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) shows. Riders will also be expected to attend monthly mandatory Team Meetings to prepare competitors for upcoming shows.

The roster capacity for the Equestrian Sport Club is 3 riders per division, with 6 divisions, for a total of 18 riders. Student athletes are required to participate in every horse show, assuming there are no rider limits, and are responsible for their own basic show attire; including: black tall boots, tan breeches, white show shirt, black/navy hunter show jacket and a black riding helmet.

Competitions are typically held on Saturdays and Sundays with the season comprised of 5-7 regional shows from October to March.

Regional and Zone Finals typically occur at the end of March and early April, with Nationals hosted in early May.

UBC TSC Equestrian competes under the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) in Zone 8, Region 4. The conference includes colleges and universities from Oregon and Washington, including: Western Washington University, Central Washington University, University of Washington, Washington State University, Oregon State

University, University of Oregon, Linn Benton Community College and Willamette University.

Yearly Calendar

Practices: Competitions:

September - April Regional Shows (October - March,

5-7 shows)

Regional/Zone Final (March - April)

Nationals (May)

Time Commitment

Team/Individual Activites: Individual Activities:
6 to 10 hours per week 6 to 10 hours per week

Try-outs and Requirements

All students are welcome to attend tryouts, however, it is recommended that prospective athletes have some previous riding experience and will be asked to send their horse show record. If riders have never competed in a recognized event and do not have a show record, their placement is decided by the UBC TSC Equestrian Coach at tryouts. Tryouts are set up in the IHSA style format: athletes are given a short amount of time to adjust to an unfamiliar horse, and are asked to perform at the walk, trot, and canter, and/or jumping, depending on their level. Those wishing to try out for Over-Fences will be expected to send videos of their jumping prior to completing a jump course at tryouts.

OUTSIDE OF THE SPORT

Fundraisers

The Equestrian Sport Club aims to raise additional funds to financially subsidize students on the roster. In the 2017-18 season, the team raised over \$2,000 in funds, which was allocated towards lesson packages, competition fees and mock practice shows.

Philanthropic Work

UBC TSC Equestrian participates in UBC Thunderbirds Sport Clubs
Philanthropy events, which includes the annual Spin-A-Thon. Proceeds
from this event support Right to Play programs centered on helping
Aboriginal Youth in their pursuit for sport.