

*EQUESTRIAN TRIALS, INC.
NATIONAL JUNIOR AMBASSADOR
CONTEST
2023-2024*



CHAIRMAN
Cheri Ovayan
818-335-2884
covayan97@icloud.com

Mail Applications to:
Cheri Ovayan
9978 Wheatland Ave
Shadow Hills, CA 91040

~CALENDAR OF EVENTS~

Sunday, April 30, 2023

Application Due Date

*Tuesday, April 25, 2023
(Zoom)*

Contestant Meeting

*Saturday, June 3, 2023
(Location and Time to be determined)*

*Horsemanship Test
Written Test*

*Saturday, July 28, 2023
(Location and Time to be determined)*

*Poise & Personality
Crowning*

~E.T.I. NATIONAL EVENTS~

June 8-11th~ ETI National Springride
(Location to be determined)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9~ Back To School Event
(Location to be determined)

SATURDAY, October 28~ C-20/ETI Terry Kaiser Memorial Trail Trial
(Hansen Dam)

All TBD dates and times will be clarified and confirmed at the contestants meeting on April 25

Equestrian Trails, Inc.
Junior Ambassador Contest
General Rules & Information
2023-2024

Who is eligible?

1. Age: The E.T.I. National Jr. Ambassador contest is open to all young women and young men who have reached the following ages as of **January 1, 2023**. Each contestant 18 years of age or younger shall have a legal guardian, parent, or chaperone over the age of 21, who shall be responsible for that contestant during their reign.

Queen/King.....16-21 years of age
Junior Miss/Junior Prince.....12-15 years of age
Little Miss/Little Prince.....7-11 years of age

****Jr. Miss/Prince and Little Miss/Prince may be combined if not enough entrants****

2. Marital Status: All contestants must be unmarried at the time of the competition and shall remain unmarried during the time of their reign. All contestants must not have any children at the time of competition or during the time of their reign.
3. Membership: Each contestant must have been an active member of E.T.I. for a minimum of six months prior to application to the Jr. Ambassador Program. All contestants' membership must remain current during program duration. No members at large.
4. Outgoing Queen/King, Jr. Miss/Jr. Prince and Little Miss/Little Prince may not succeed themselves. Except when status is "pro-tem" then that individual may run again for title.

To Apply:

5. Application forms may be obtained from your National Ambassador Chairperson, E.T.I. Office or Corral President.
6. Entry: Contestants are responsible for their own entry. Applications shall be submitted with ALL REQUIRED SIGNATURES, APPLICATIONS FEES, SPONSORSHIPS, PROOF OF HORSE OWNERSHIP OR LEASE, AUTOBIOGRAPHY, COPY OF E.T.I. MEMBERSHIP, AND (1) 5 x 7 COLOR PHOTOGRAPH to the National Ambassador Chairperson or the E.T.I. office and a copy of the same picture emailed to eti-@etinational.com no later than the due date.
7. ***Deadline: All applications must be received no later than April 30, 2023. The Jr. Ambassador program has the right to return any applications that are not completed; and to close a division if there are not enough entries.***
8. Application Fee: A fee of \$100.00 shall accompany each application. This fee includes the cost of the contestant's participation in the Crowning Dinner, and one box stall for their horse for the length of convention. **This does not include tack rooms.** This can be done by sponsorships also. **Make all checks payable to the E.T.I. Jr. Ambassador Program.**

9. Sponsorships: To be eligible to compete, **each contestant must furnish a minimum of \$150.00 in sponsorships-minimum amount of \$10.00 for a sponsor (\$25.00 sponsors receive a business card ad in the Equestrian Trails Magazine.) There is a minimum for sponsorships but no maximum. Please collect business cards from sponsors that donate \$25.00 or more.**
10. Photographs: **Each contestant shall submit (1) 5 x 7 COLOR portrait style photo and email same photo to equestriantrails@outlook.com.** The picture shall be of the contestant in their show attire, that included; according to the horsemanship division the contestant has entered. ***A professional will judge the photographs and a special Photogenic Award will be given.***
11. Horse Ownership or Lease: The horse ridden by the contestant shall be owned by that Contestant or a member of the immediate family, or shall be leased by the contestant. Proof of ownership or lease must accompany the application. In case of illness or injury to the horse, which has been sustained by a veterinarian's statement and submitted to the National Ambassador Chairman, a substitute may be used. In the event of a substitution, E.T.I. may have the injury independently verified at no cost to the contestant.
12. Corral Contestants: All corrals planning to send contestants may send as many in each category, as desired. It is also recommended that corrals conduct their contestants according to, and in compliance with these rules.
13. No stallions shall be ridden in the contest or at any of the Jr. Ambassador events.

Competition: Awards will be given for Photogenic, Friendship, Written Test, Personality & Poise, and Horsemanship.

14. Areas of Competition: Each contestant will be judged in 3 categories: Written Test (40 points), Personality & Poise (80) Points, and Horsemanship (80 points).
15. Scoring: The scoring will be based upon the highest possible score of 200 + bonus points.
16. Written Test: Each contestant will complete a test on knowledge of equine's equestrian related activities, and E.T.I. The information will be passed out to each contestant at the first contestant meeting. Areas of study will include: parts of horse, tack, horse care, equine health, E.T.I. and the history of E.T.I.
17. Personality & Poise: Each contestant shall appear in an open interview at the Jr. Ambassador Banquet before a panel of 3 to 4 judges.
18. **Horsemanship: Each contestant will enter a horsemanship division but all divisions will ride a pattern based on the discipline chosen by the applicant. Little Miss/Prince will complete their pattern at a walk/jog/trot only.**
19. Protests: Protests concerning the eligibility of a contestant and/or their horse shall be in writing to the E.T.I. National Chairperson, accompanied by a deposit of \$100.00 cash, and submitted no later than two hours following the horsemanship test. The protest shall state the full name of the protester and shall contain a complete and definite statement of the allegations. A protest committee, consisting of the Jr. Ambassador Chairman, and 2 members of the E.T.I. National Board of Directors (appointed by the Convention Chairman) will investigate and rule upon all protests. If the protest is not sustained, the \$100.00 deposit will be forfeited to the Jr. Ambassador Program.

20. Withdrawals: If, after the closing of the National Jr. Ambassador entries, a contestant must withdraw, all fees and sponsorships will be forfeited.
21. Disqualification: Violation of any contest rule shall automatically disqualify a contestant. Inappropriate behavior, i.e., language or conduct may be subject to review and disqualification. Contestants or members of the Jr. Ambassador Court shall not consume any alcoholic beverages or use any form of tobacco products, regardless of their age, at any E.T.I. event. See Code of Conduct.
22. The final decision regarding the eligibility or disqualification of a contestant is vested with the National Ambassador Chairman and National Board of Directors.
23. Each Contestant and their chaperone are expected to attend all functions and meetings required for the Jr. Ambassador contest. There are no allowances made for make-up tests. Therefore, should a contestant and their chaperone not attend each of the required functions, they would automatically become ineligible to continue in the contest and forfeit all fees and sponsorships. Contestants are required to help at the E.T.I. National Horse Show & Convention, if contestants are competing at convention, we ask that the contestant help between events or when there is a break.

When Selected for the National Court:

24. Representing E.T.I. the newly selected ambassador's and their courts will be expected, as part of their duties, to represent E.T.I. at official functions and events, such as dinners, meetings, parades, trail trials, shows, etc.... these functions will be selected and approved by the Jr. Ambassador Chairman.
25. **Service Hours: During their reign, each member is required to donate a minimum of 10 volunteer hours in the community and 50 volunteer hours of E.T.I. events service.** A report of progress/hours will be due in February 2024. Please contact the Jr. Ambassador Chairman with any questions on what counts as volunteer hours. The schedule of events will also count towards these hours. **A maximum of 2 unexcused absences is allowed-anymore and you may be removed from the court. Excused absences may include illness etc.**
26. Next Year's Contest: It is required that all reigning Jr. Ambassadors and their courts attend the following year's competition events: the Jr. Ambassador Luncheon, E.T.I. Convention, and any others that may arise.
27. Costs: There will be no costs to reigning Queen/King, Jr. Miss/Jr. Prince, and Little Miss/Little Prince at National dinners and the following years Luncheon. These will be covered by the Jr. Ambassador program. All other court members' cost will be determined depending upon the Jr. Ambassador Budget. There is no other monetary compensation.
28. Appropriate attire must be worn while attending E.T.I. events. Clothing must be in good taste and good repair. Good grooming is a must. Your appearance in public is important and you should appear neat and clean. Any obvious body piercing (excluding earrings) or tattoos shall remain not visible to others. See Code of Conduct.
29. The Queen/King, Jr. Miss/Jr. Prince, and Little Miss/Little Prince shall not hold any other titles from other contests/pageants during their reign, which might conflict with the duties of the E.T.I. Jr. Ambassador Program.

30. Crowns and Sashes: It is the responsibility of the Jr. Ambassador to keep their sash and crown in good condition. Any cost for the breakage of crowns or disrepair of their sash will be the responsibility of the Jr. Ambassador.
31. Consequences: Any non-compliance with the rules, after being named on the Jr. Ambassador Court, will be reviewed by the Jr. Ambassador Chairman and Co-chairman and the E.T.I. National Board of Directors. Removal from the court will be considered at that time.

PERSONALITY & POISE

There will be an award given for Personality & Poise for three divisions.

APPROPRIATE ATTIRE:

Girls: Formal Age Appropriate Dresses. No strapless, backless, or plunging necklines. No black dresses or spaghetti straps allowed!! Exception: Queen's contestants ONLY- are allowed to wear spaghetti straps and/or black dresses.

Boys: Nice Dress Slacks, Dress Shirt & Tie: No jeans, T-shirts or casual wear.

Contestants shall also wear Corral sashes provided by the Jr. Ambassador Program only. No other sashes, flowers, crowns or tiaras shall be worn.

COMPETITION:

Each contestant will be publicly interviewed at the Jr. Ambassador Luncheon by a panel of 3 judges. You will have an opportunity to answer 4 to 5 questions. You will receive 1 question from each judge that will be taken from your autobiography that was turned in with your application. Also, 1 question pulled out of a hat and read to you by the MC. This question will be a fun question.

SCORING:

General Appearance	20 points
(Carriage, Manner of dress, neatness & grooming)	
Animation	10 points
(Facial expression, use of hands, voice modulation)	
Expression of Ideas	25 points
(Sense of Humor, logic, common sense)	
Stage Presence	10 points
(Eye contact, apparent comfort level)	
Conversation Flow	15 points
(Manner of speaking, ease of response)	
Total:	80 points

HORSEMANSHIP TEST

There will be an award given for Horsemanship for each division.

RULES:

The following rules will apply to the contestants in all divisions of the horsemanship test. Unless otherwise specified, USEF and CA Gymkhana Association rules will prevail.

In all cases, emphasis will be placed on the methods used by the rider in obtaining a good, smooth performance.

Contestants using any unnecessary roughness with hands, legs, spurs, or crops shall be penalized.

Use of both hands on reins will not be permitted in stock seat, except in the case of a junior or green horse (See breed or USEF rules). (We will also discuss this rule if needed)

Tack for all contestants will be judged on the following:

- Appropriateness of tack for the division entered
- Condition and Cleanliness of Tack
- Fit of tack to horse & rider
- Silver is not to count

Presentation for all contestants will be judged on the grooming, cleanliness, and overall preparation of the horse and rider.

All contestants and chaperones are expected to attend the entire riding portion of the competition.

In the event of a tie score, an additional riding test may be given. Therefore, please do not leave the area or untack your horse until you have been dismissed.

ATTIRE:

Any form of "Western" riding;

Black pants, plain white shirt (appropriate for the division), appropriate boots, belt, hat or helmet, gloves optional. NO chaps.

Any form of "English" riding;

Appropriate breeches or jodhpurs, plain white shirt (appropriate for the division), appropriate boots, belt, helmet or hat, gloves optional. NO coats or vests.

HELMETS MANDATORY FOR LITTLE MISS/LITTLE PRINCE DIVISION!!!!

Division of Competition: Queen _____ Jr. Miss _____ Little Miss _____
King _____ Jr. Prince _____ Little Prince _____

Name: _____ Corral: _____

Parents Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Birth date: _____ Age as of Jan. 1, 2023 _____

Horsemanship Division: Dressage _____ Trail _____ Hunt Seat _____

Saddle Seat _____ Gymkhana _____ Stock Seat _____ Other _____

Horses Name: _____ Age: _____

Breed: _____ Sex: _____ Color: _____

Owner of Horse: _____

Send completed application to:
Cheri Ovayan
@ ETI OFFICE 9978 Wheatland Ave
Shadow Hills, CA 91040

Applications must be returned **NO LATER THAN April 30, 2023**

The following must accompany your application: For Chairman's Use:

Contest Fee:	Received: _____
Release Form:	Received: _____
Sponsorship's:	Received: _____
Photos:	Received: _____
Autobiography:	Received: _____
Proof of horse ownership or lease:	Received: _____
Copy of E.T.I. Membership:	Received: _____

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
(Please email a copy to dustysriders@sbcglobal.net)

Contestant Name: _____ Age: _____

Horse's Name: _____ Corral #: _____

Division: Queen/King___ Junior Miss/Jr. Prince___ Little Miss/Prince_____

Horsemanship Division: Hunt Seat_____ Stock Seat (Western)___ Trail_____

Dressage_____ Gymkhana_____ Saddle Seat_____ Other_____

Please give a **ONE PAGE** autobiographical sketch of yourself. You may include any information on school, community, and horse activities as well as your personal likes, concerns and interest.

PLEASE TYPE!

~Junior Ambassador Agreement~
& Code of Conduct

Contestant Name: _____ **Corral #:** _____

I accept and will fulfill to the best of my ability, the many responsibilities of the E.T.I. National Court to which I may be selected. I understand that I may be asked to attend various horse shows, rodeos, parades, trail rides, dinners, meetings, etc. I understand and have not violated any of the E.T.I. Ambassador Contest Rules.

Date: _____ Signed: _____
(Contestant)

It is fully understood that the above applicant has been an ACTIVE member of the above named corral for a minimum of six months. We the officers of the above named Corral are approving this application, knowing that any violation of the Ambassador Contest rules shall disqualify our contestant.

Date: _____ Signed: _____
(Corral President)

Date: _____ Signed: _____
(Corral Secretary)

As the Parent (s) of _____, I (we) agree to see that he/she will be available to attend any functions which E.T.I. may request him/her to attend. I (we) accept the responsibility of seeing that they are chaperoned, and I (we) will make all necessary arrangements for their transportation and for that of the horse and equipment.

Date: _____ Signed: _____
(Parent Signature)

Equestrian Trails, Inc. agrees to see that all functions and activities attended by our Jr. Ambassador Court shall not interfere with school, and that said functions will be suitable for young adults.

Equestrian Trails Inc.
2023-2024 Junior Ambassador Court
Code of Conduct

- 1 – Represent ETI with dignity and pride. ETI is about horsemanship and sportsmanship. Junior Ambassadors should always display a positive attitude.
- 2 – Never gossip or slander members of the ETI Junior Ambassador Court, ETI chairpersons, ETI board members, ETI’s general members or their families. This applies to any form of verbal, written, or electronic means.
- 3 - Never use profanity or inappropriate language while attending ETI events or while representing ETI at any event or location.
- 4 - No harassing of any member of the ETI Junior Ambassador Court, ETI chairpersons, ETI board members, ETI’s general members or their families.
- 5 - No inappropriate attitude or behavior toward any member of the ETI Junior Ambassador Court, ETI chairpersons, ETI board members, ETI’s general members or their families.
- 6 - No smoking, use of tobacco products, drinking alcohol or use of any type of illegal drugs.
- 7 - Wear clean and appropriate attire at all ETI events. No tube tops, revealing or ragged clothes. Ear piercing are okay. Any type of body piercing or tattoos should remain covered.
- 8 - When representing ETI, be sure that you and your horse are presentable. Your horse should be clean, free of debris and ready for the appropriate event.
- 9- No inappropriate pictures or behavior on any electronic means such as “My Space”, “Face Book” etc. this will not be tolerated.

* * * *

By signing below I, _____, understand that failure to comply with this Code of Conduct rules will result in my removal from the ETI Junior Ambassador Court. As to any subsequent years, my behavior might be grounds for disqualifying me in any future Junior Ambassador Court competitions. I also understand this Code of Conduct is supplemental to the rules agreed to upon applying for the ETI Junior Ambassador Court.

Jr. Ambassador Sign Name Print Name Date:

Parent of Junior Ambassador Sign Name Print Name Date:

EQUESTRIAN TRAILS, INC.
JUNIOR AMBASSADOR ~ SPONSORSHIP FORMS

Please attach one sponsorship form for each received, and enclose with your application to assure proper credit. If possible, please include a business card for advertising use.

Sponsorship Form

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Contestant Name: _____ Division: _____ Amount : _____

Sponsorship Form

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Contestant Name: _____ Division: _____ Amount : _____

Sponsorship Form

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Contestant Name: _____ Division: _____ Amount : _____

Please attach one sponsorship form for each received, and enclose with your application to assure proper credit. If possible, please include a business card for advertising use.

Sponsorship Form

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Contestant Name: _____ Division: _____ Amount : _____

Sponsorship Form

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Contestant Name: _____ Division: _____ Amount : _____

Sponsorship Form

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Contestant Name: _____ Division: _____ Amount : _____