

September 15, 2022

Dear Prospective Coach,

I had the pleasure of meeting Emily in December of 2021 while assisting her in finding a new horse. I set up a weekend of trials in Ocala and by the end I put her on 16 to 18 horses of all different ride types, she quickly figured them out and never once complained even when they weren't the most ideal type. We ended up making several trips and I have probably seen her on close to 40 different horses at this point.

As a former college IHSA coach, this is the type of kid you want on your team. Not only do her riding abilities naturally lend to the NCAA format, her work ethic and attitude is also stellar. She is very coachable and readily can apply techniques given going forward to build upon. Her horse show resume may not be very long but as we know, the most decorated rider isn't always the best team rider.

Unfortunately the horse she bought ended up with a tendon injury shortly after their purchase and her show season was cut short. Since then I have seen her go forward and catch ride whatever is available to her. She has gained some experience on my daughter's Eq horse whom is not easy and you have to ride every stride on. She also has assisted another trainer bringing along a very green young horse and successfully competed him in his first horse shows in America.

I understand that you may have already filled your scholarship quotas for the 2023-2024 season but I encourage you to consider adding her to your roster. I have watched her overcome personal tragedy that no child should ever have to encounter and her resilience and dedication to the sport have shown years beyond her age. I believe Emily would be an asset to any NCAA roster and will be quite successful. Please feel free to reach out to me to discuss any questions.

All the best,

Waverly A. Ernst