

Tejas Rider Leadership Team

The Tejas Riders is a leadership program of the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas. To be considered for the program, girls must be 12 years of age by September 1, submit an application, and go through the interview process.

The Tejas Riders are essential to the success of the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas equestrian program. Members attend monthly practices where they learn new information, develop their leadership ability, and improve their horsemanship. They are also required to complete Saturday workdays at the EQ Center throughout the school year. During these workdays, Riders assist with catching, feeding, and saddling horses, teaching badgework, moving horses for trail rides, and cleaning the barn. The Tejas Riders in the program will tell you that it is a lot of work, but it is fun and rewarding!

All new Tejas Riders are placed on the entry level team, yellow team. Girls will be moved up to other teams as spaces become available. Move-up usually occurs only once a year, at the end of the season, to prepare for the next year.

Transportation to and from all events is the responsibility of the girl's parent or guardian. There is no annual fee for this program aside from Girl Scout membership, but the program does entail a commitment from the girl and her parents/guardians.

Requirements are as follows:

- Attend monthly practice. The Tejas Riders have an 80% practice requirement, meaning that two practices per season may be missed without being removed from the program.
- Work the required number of days at camp as specified by team color. Yellow team is required to complete 2 Saturday work days per school year, one in the fall and one in the spring.
- Attend 1 team training weekend (Boot Camp).
- Sell a minimum of 36 boxes of cookies for the Tejas Riders.
- Must exhibit conduct consistent with the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law and abide by the Tejas Rider Code of Conduct.

Application Process:

- Applications available online: January 4th
- Applications accepted online: January 4th – February 2nd
- Applications will be reviewed by Tejas Rider Committee and no more than 40 applicants will be selected to attend an interview session. (Applicants will be notified via email on February 6th.)
- An informational Zoom meeting will be held for interviewing applicants on Thursday, February 9th at 7:00 pm. (Link will be sent via email.)

- The applicant and her parent(s)/guardian(s) will be asked to sign up for an interview. Interviews will be held on February 11th, February 12th, and February 26th. (Girls will select an interview time on one of those dates on a first come, first served basis.)
- Interviewees will be notified whether or not they have been selected via email around June 1st.

Team Practice Schedule:

1st Sunday of the month: Red team 9:00 am to 1:00 pm (Arrive at camp at 8:00 am.)

Blue team 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm (Arrive at camp at 12:00 pm.)

3rd Sunday of the month: Yellow team 9:00 am to 1:00 pm (Arrive at camp at 8:00 am.)

Green team 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (Arrive at camp at 12:00 pm.)

***These dates can change for holidays, cookie pick up, and other activities.

Please use discretion when deciding if the weather is not suitable for driving to camp. If practice is cancelled due to severe weather, you will be notified via Rallyhood.

Dress code for all Tejas Rider activities and workdays:

- Boot-cut riding jeans that go over your boots; high enough waist to NOT show skin when riding or mounting
- Boots or a shoe with a defined heel
- Shirts with a sleeve and appropriate neckline
- Shirts that cover the midsection
- An approved equestrian riding helmet (while horseback)

Boots and helmets are available at the barn for the girls to borrow. Please do not feel obligated to go out and purchase a helmet or boots.

For questions about the Tejas Riders please email tejasriders@gsnetx.org.