

Horse Showing 101

So Exciting! You're going to a horse show! The challenge of testing the horsemanship skills you have learned against the skills of other competitors can be very rewarding. Here are a few suggestions to help you get started:

Step 1: Choose one of the 3 options you wish to participate in and speak with your instructor about the guidelines.

- 1. Full Training Class A shows with your own horse
- 2. The Academy division on Kardia Mounts
- 3. Schooling Show Participation

Step 2: Choose a division (English or western) and talk with your instructor about the requirements, attire and equipment for the show.

Step 3: The day of the show, you will have your horse bathed and clipped, your tack cleaned and conditioned, and yourself dressed and ready at the designated time. Remember to be patient. Horse shows often require you to wait many hours before it is your turn to compete. Your coach may be busy helping many other students, so sit back and enjoy watching the competition before and after you compete. You will learn a lot!

Step 4: Understanding the costs involved in showing is a large part of your commitment. The use of a Kardia school horse at an away show is \$25-\$50 per day depending on how many riders per horse. If we trailer your horse to an away show, the cost is \$1.50 per mile or a \$65 Minimum if the horse is shared for an Academy mount a \$25 minimum. Entry fees typically run around \$10-\$30 per class. Some shows have extra charges add-ons such as stalls for overnight stays and other minimal charges for services provided.

Step 5: Invite your entire family to share this experience with you! Competing is a wonderful confidence builder and it's fun to have people who love you cheer you on! Mark your calendar. We will see you at the horse show!

