

Jr/Yr Report- July 2023

Region 9 has had two fundraisers

The Raffle in March. We made approximately \$300

The Tack sale at the CDI. We made approximately \$800

Teams have not been announced yet. The riders have been announced. We have no Juniors that qualified. We had four Young Riders qualify, two withdrew.

Our two definite Young Riders are on a combined team, with at least one other Region. We are proud of our Young Rider representatives:

Sydney Lipar and Madison Manis

Madison volunteered at the CDI tack sale. Sydney actually resides in Florida and will switch to that region after this year. The kids that volunteered for fundraising were mine and the kids they rallied to join in the money making, which was quite a few. The kids are very active together and have a good time.

I have Becky Brown to thank for the swag our Young Riders will have for the NAYC. And once teams are announced we can fully appreciate and thank the Regions we are partnered with as they are fulfilling the Chef responsibility for our two riders.

The good news is that Region 9 has four out of the top five FEI pony riders that will be likely invited to the Festival of Champions at Lamplight. Region 9 also has four children FEI riders in the top 12 and also will likely be invited. Invites for Festival of Champions go out July 28. This means our future is bright.

Also, the new venue for NAYC will be announced just before NAYC begins this year.

I have been in contact with Ben Winger, Ben Albrecht, and Nancy Hinz. They are willing to work with me and come up with a plan to rally riders, horses, and trainers for future Junior/YR teams through seminars/zoom with interested people in the region to help everyone understand what it takes to get to the NAYC and the value. I plan to put together a Google Form survey that I can have Region 9 members complete to find potential athletes in addition to the athletes we know.

A future need will be someone to help with fundraising including someone to obtain corporate-type sponsorships etc. to support full teams.

We definitely have ambitious riders and I plan to encourage and support them.

I will be at Lamplight Festival of Champions and will network there. I have been in contact with Roberta and the staff for NAYC at USDF and USEF and USADA. I think this has been a learning year for me since it is my first-time hands-on and next year will be the start of an upswing.

Marsha Lewis
Region 9 Jr/YR Coordinator