

Area III Young Riders

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From the YR Coordinator -

Our Eventing Young Rider Championships (YRC) has come and gone. We sent one 1* team and one 2* team to Tryon. After Dressage we were on a high sitting in first with one team and second with the other team. Area III also stole the show for jogs taking the best turned out for the 1* competitors and also for the 2* competitors. Congratulations Chloe and Bree respectively!

The monsoon from the hurricane made the cross country course challenging for all riders at the competition and it took its toll on us. Unfortunately, we had two rider falls, one elimination, and one retire on course between both teams knocking us out of the ribbons, but I did see the teams come together over that week and form strong bonds (mostly from pictures because sadly I didn't get to stay up there because of trailer issues).

Lee Ann Gilson

Thoughts ---

From a team groom -

I was lucky to be able to groom for Area III during championships; I learned a lot about grooming and riding, as well as team events. I listened a lot to the coaching, and I use it in daily rides with my horse. My favorite moments were when the teams, grooms, and families were all together supporting one another through ups and downs. I wouldn't trade the experience for the world.

Ruby Davis Douglas

From a stand-in team groom -

The rain worked against us during cross country, everyone worked together to do their best under the conditions of the weather. I'm glad everyone made it off safely. I had a fun time helping Lilah.

Rhett Frangos

From a YR competitor -

Had an amazing week at the Young Rider championship with amazing people and horses! Although the weather worked against us, the rings held up great. The footing out on XC definitely made things difficult, but definitely made me feel so lucky for my horses giving everything and getting me around safe!

Rory Frangos



Congratulations -



Congratulations Chloe and Bree for being named the best turned out for jogs for the 1 and 2* competitors!*

Stall Plaques for the Horses





Coaches Corner

As Jimmy Wofford would say, 'The highs are high, and the lows are low.' Area III started off the week in Tryon in great form. After a miserable day of rain on Friday (I think every rider got poured on), the 1* team was in first place and the 2* team was in second place. The Area III ladies really put in some fantastic performances. As the week went on, the footing and schedule changes took their toll. We had strong riders in all three phases on each team, but unfortunately out of our eight rides, on cross country we had two riders fall, one retire, and one get eliminated just four from home! It wasn't our day. In the end, neither team placed, but Rory Frangos and Bree Robinette placed individually in the 2* and Rory Frangos and Chloe Paddack placed individually in the 1*. These ladies deserve a round of applause! The competition was steep!

One of the best parts of the weekend was having these Area III riders come together. The area is spread out, and we don't often all get to spend time together and compete together. I feel like we now have our next generation of athletes that the younger riders in the area can look up to. We haven't had that in awhile! Well done to these ladies for putting it all on the line, and well done to our Area III support crew and grooms for their excellent help and attitudes. Even with the mixed results, I saw hard work, teamwork, new friendships and each of the Area III team members rise to the occasion. In some way this weekend. I know we will come away stronger!

Ashley Johnson
Area III Young Rider Coach

