

mercyhurst equestrian club

Mercyhurst College • 501 East 38th Street, Erie, PA 16546 • (814) 824-2202 • www.mercyhurst.edu

The Mercyhurst Equestrian Club was founded in April 2004 to provide Mercyhurst students with opportunities to pursue their interest in horses and equine sports. Club members can participate in a hunt seat lesson program, an intercollegiate team, and multiple activities on and off campus such as trail rides, field trips, fundraising and volunteer activities. As a recognized student club at Mercyhurst College, the Mercyhurst Equestrian Club has elected officers and a posted constitution. The lesson program and team stables are located at Brenric Stables, Edinboro, Pa.

About the Team

The Mercyhurst Equestrian Team is an Athletic Department formally recognized club team. Team competition occurs within the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). The IHSA was founded on the principle that any college student should be able to participate in horse shows, regardless of his or her financial status or riding level. Emphasis is on learning, sportsmanship and fun. The IHSA encompasses more than 300 member colleges in 45 states and Canada, and represents more than 6,500 riders in the disciplines of hunter seat equitation, equitation over fences, western horsemanship and reining. Student tryouts for Mercyhurst College Equestrian Team positions take place every fall.

IHSA Competition

The Mercyhurst Equestrian Team competes in Region 3, Zone 3, of the IHSA, which includes 16 colleges and universities throughout Pennsylvania, West Virginia and New York. Competitions include walk/trot, walk/trot canter, intermediate and open contests. Riders of all skill levels compete both individually and as teams at regional, zone and national levels. IHSA Coach Halli Bidwell of Brenric Stables, Edinboro, Pa., coaches the Mercyhurst Equestrian Team. She has received numerous state and regional awards in Hunt Seat competition, and has trained and worked with a variety of known experts in the equine industry, including international trainers and Olympic Equestrian team members and trainers Bernie and Christine Traurig.



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