

Ella McKnight

My Horse Experiences and Interests

Throughout my whole life, I've always loved horses. I started Pony Club when I was 5 years old, it helped teach me a lot of foundational skills from leading and grooming to the basics of riding and showing. When I was six I started riding lessons, and my passion and love for horses only grew bigger. For the last 7 years, I've been riding at cadence stables with my coach Nicole Beaulieu. I ride a few times a week and have been showing since I was 8 and off-property for the last 2 years. Since then I've leased multiple horses and shown around New Brunswick. I've helped with lessons and chores at my barn along with doing volunteer work with the Therapeutic Riding Association where I was able to help and watch other people's love for horses grow along with mine.

I've competed up to 2'6" jumpers but plan to work on the hunters this show season. Along with my hunter goals, is my goal to work on my EC level hopefully completing level 5 and maybe level 6 as well so I could get my instructor certification.

One of my biggest accomplishments in the 2023 show season was placing as the 0.8 jumper champion for the NBEA championship as well as being the pre-beginner reserve champion.

What I would do With the NBEA Bursary

If I were to be awarded my NBEA 2024 Bursary I would be spending it on my show season I'm planning to attend 5-7 shows this season ill also spend it on extra lessons. I'm riding a new horse this season and getting extra lessons helps me understand her "buttons" and what works for her more every ride. With the remainder of the money, I would spend on my show season. This would include trailering fees, arena rentals, show attire and stalling for overnight shows.

With not doing much hunters in the past and planning to do a lot more during the 2024 show season I would probably want to buy some hunter attire including a shaped pad, leather brow bands, new breeches, and more.