



Coach Haley Dale
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Tryout/Application Checklist-

- Complete Athlete Application
 - Read and Sign the Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Teams Rules & Requirements
 - Read and Sign the Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Team Code of Conduct/ Zero Tolerance Policy
 - If you LEASE your horse, include a copy of your signed lease
 - Attach a current copy of your horse(s) coggins
 - If you are in need of a current coggins Union County Saddle Club's Annual Equine Health Expo is scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd. Dr. Beverly Hargus will be onsite providing veterinary services.
 - Current Union County Saddle Club Membership
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- A parent/guardian must be present for an introductory meeting at 5 p.m. if you are under 18.
 - This is a Non-Gaited drill team. Your horse must trot or lope (not pace or gait) to qualify to perform on the Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Team.
 - Due to safety concerns for all riders and horses NO gaited horses will be permitted to perform on the Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Team. With patterns being executed at higher rates for speed, non-gaited horses are best suited to perform maneuvers required.
 - **NO** Stallions Permitted
 - It is your responsibility to have a prepared and well mannered horse present. A horse that kicks at, runs into other horses, or exhibits other uncooperative behavior is dangerous to his rider and riders/ horses around him. Your horse must be able to comfortably carry a flag at all speeds.

Union County Saddle Club

Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Team

2024-2025 Athlete Application Form

Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Date Of Birth: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Current UCSC Member: YES NO

Emergency Contact: _____
Relationship to Athlete: _____ Phone: _____

Person Responsible for Horse Transportation:
Name: _____ Phone: _____
Do You Lease Your Horse? YES NO (If YES, please include a copy of your signed lease agreement)

Have you ever performed on a Equestrian Drill Team Before: YES NO

What equestrian events do you participate in?

Please complete this section if Athlete is under the age of 18:
Parent/ Guardian: _____
Relationship to Athlete: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Consent for Athletes under the age of 18:

I, the parent/ guardian of the Athlete named above, hereby, give permission for my child to try out for the Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Team, and participate in all team activities. I understand my child's participation in this activity is voluntary. However, if selected, I understand that my child and equine partner will be required to attend practices, fundraiser events, performances, and competitions scheduled for the Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Team. I, the parent/guardian, understand that I am responsible for arranging transportation for my child and equine partner to and from scheduled practices and events.

Parent/Guardian
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

Union County Saddle Club

Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team

RULES & REQUIREMENTS

The Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team works under the auspices and direction of the Union County Saddle Club.

Director/Coaching

- Team Director will also serve as the Team Head Coach.
- Team Director of UCSC Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team must be at least 21 years of age. (Assistant Coach does not have an age requirement, but must be mature enough to handle coaching responsibilities)
- Team Director and Assistant Coach are required to meet any and all Union County Saddle Club requirements in order to qualify for the Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team Director and Assistant Coach positions. Some requirements may include but are not limited to:
 - Union County Saddle Club Membership
 - Background checks
 - Fingerprinting
- Team Director and Assistant Coach are to read, sign and abide by the UCSC Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team Code of Conduct, and Rules & Requirements for the current season. (Director, Coaches, Athletes, and Volunteers may be disqualified from competition or removed from the team should an infraction occur.)
- Team Director will oversee the direction and management of all aspects of the Team.
 - The Team Director position is not a riding position except for the purpose of demonstrating maneuvers in practice.
- Team Director is to select an Assistant Coach (who may or may not ride on the team)
- Team Director and Assistant Coach should have similar goals and standards for the team
- Assistant Coach is to report to the Team Director.
- Team Director and Assistant Coach are to work together to build a strong team
- Team Director
 - Responsible for team strategy and goals – be specific, aim high.
 - Responsible for planning and choreographing routines.

- Schedule team practices – UCSC reserves the right to reserve the arena for Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team Practices.
- Have practice schedule outlined early (Have a schedule together before team try-outs, practices will begin promptly after the team members are chosen)
- Additional practices may be added if needed close to performance dates.
- Practices must be reserved on the UCSC calendar a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the practice time unless emergency conditions exist warranting additional practices
- Observe riders for **safety** and **ability**
- Determine events/ competitions best suited for the team to attend.
 - Responsible for all scheduling needs associated with these performances. For example: reserving team stalls (for overnight performances), making sure appropriate team needs are met for all outings.
 - Responsible for deciding the structure and execution of practices
- Team Director and Assistant Coach(es) are to provide encouragement and support to all athletes
- Team Director and Assistant Coach will choose a Team Captain
- If the Team Director is unable to attend a practice the Assistant Coach is responsible for conducting and overseeing practice in a safe manner.
- Team Director or Team Representative (selected by the Director) is required to attend the monthly UCSC meetings to keep the club members and officers up to date on team Events/ Accomplishments/ Fundraisers/ Financial Transactions Etc.
- Team Director and Assistant Coach are expected to organize parent/athlete volunteers needed to assist in team duties (volunteers for these duties must be 21 years or older)
 - Team equipment record keeper - all items each team member is issued
 - Team Bookkeeper (must be 21 years or older), financial transparency with the UCSC and members of the Drill Team will be enforced.
 - Uniform & Tack Repair/ Maintenance
 - Fundraiser & Sponsorship Coordinator
- Number of Athletes for competition and exhibition riding will be decided upon by the Team Director and Assistant Coach.
- Working TOGETHER as a TEAM is a must!

Athlete

- Prior to team tryouts, the Athlete must be a current member of the Union County Saddle Club.
- Read, sign and abide by the UCSC Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team Code of Conduct, and Rules & Requirements for the current season. (Director, Assistant Coach, Athletes,

and Volunteers may be disqualified from competition or removed from the team should an infraction occur.)

- Minimum age requirement for Athletes is 10 years of age with a maximum of 40 years old. Most importantly the Athletes are to meet the standards outlined in this document (Team Rules & Requirements), especially those specifications relating to riding ability. Athlete and equine safety is a priority.
- Rider and horse must be able to safely trot and lope with a flag, demonstrate lead changes, lope small and large circles, stop from a trot and from a lope, trot and lope in a single file line with other horses/riders, trot in a line abreast with other horses/riders, trot and lope side-by-side with another horse/rider (all while maintaining proper spacing between riders)
- Athlete/Parent is responsible for transportation for athlete and horse
- Attend and participate in team practices/meetings
- Missing practice(s) may result in not being able to perform at the next event
- Be prepared and on time for practices, events and fundraisers
- Be on your horse, in the arena, warmed up, and ready to practice/perform at the stated “be ready” time.
- Be a positive role model and representative of the Union County Saddle Club
- Team Members are responsible for maintenance, laundry, and/or care of their Team issued uniform(s) and equipment.

Parent/Guardian (Athlete under the age of 18)

- Read, sign and abide by the UCSC Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team Code of Conduct, and Rules & Requirements for the current season. (Director, Coaches, Athletes, and Volunteers may be disqualified from competition or removed from the team should an infraction occur.)
- Provide the encouragement and support needed by your athlete
- Displaying a positive relationship with the Team Director and Assistant Coach(es) demonstrates respect your athlete will see
- Plan to volunteer for events, fundraisers, and other operational duties
- A record of Team transactions and balances will be provided to each parent/ athlete monthly.

Horses

- This is a non-gaited drill team. Your horse must trot or lope (not pace or gait) to qualify to perform on the Drill Team.

- Due to safety concerns for all riders and horses NO gaited horses will be permitted to perform on the Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Team. With patterns being executed at higher rates for speed, non-gaited horses are best suited to perform maneuvers required.
- **NO** Stallions permitted
- You must own or formally lease your horse you plan to perform on the Drill Team.
- It is your responsibility to have a prepared well-mannered horse present for practices and performances.
- A horse that kicks at, runs into other horses, or exhibits other uncooperative behavior is dangerous to his rider and riders/ horses around him.
- Your horse must be able to comfortably carry a flag at all speeds.
- If a member's horse becomes uncooperative or is injured and cannot perform, it is the rider/ parent's responsibility to find an acceptable replacement.
- If there is an instance where a rider cannot find an acceptable replacement horse, he/she can still remain an active member of the team if he/she chooses to attend practices, performances, and any other events the Drill Team is involved in to provide assistance where it is needed.

Uniform(s) & Equipment

- Team Members/ Parents are required to read, understand, sign, and abide by the Equipment Issuance Agreement (Athletes/Parent/Guardian will be held responsible for missing or damaged uniform(s) and/or equipment). This agreement will be provided when items are issued.
- Uniform(s)/ Equipment issued to each team member will be recorded during time of issue and also upon return of item(s).

Team Monies

- Sass N Saddles Precision Drill Team monies are to be deposited into the Union County Saddle Club bank account. Deposits are to be presented on a monthly basis to the UCSC Treasurer during the Clubs monthly meetings.
- Withdrawals can be made only by the Team Director for approved expenditures such as change for fundraising, purchase of team uniforms/clothing, equipment or supplies, payment of entry fees and expenses for competitions.
- Decide upon an adult/parent (age 21 or older) who will be responsible for handling petty cash, fundraising, donation, and sponsorship money. This will be the Team Bookkeeper.
 - Keep a paper record of all transactions related to team/athlete monies

- Keep a record of Athletes fundraising efforts and earnings towards travel and competition fees
- Write receipts for cash or copy checks received
- Keep a list of all team bills paid
- Receipts for all transactions are to be presented during the Drill Team updates at monthly UCSC meetings
- Team Bookkeeper is required to meet with the UCSC Treasurer at least quarterly to make sure their accounting of Drill Team monies match.

Team Meetings

- The Team Director, Assistant Coach, and Team Captain will be responsible for creating an agenda and running meetings.
- Team members should have the same philosophy as the Team Director and Coaches regarding goals for the Team.
- Critical/ Major decisions for the Drill Team are to first be approved by the UCSC Board of Directors. Contact any current Board Member with any request.
- Drill Team Athletes/Parents should respect and support decisions made by the Team Director and Assistant Coach.
- Team Director and Assistant Coach are to confirm meeting format and record decisions for team meetings in writing.
- The Assistant Coach will serve as the secretary to keep minutes for the meeting.
- Minutes from meetings are to be presented to the UCSC Members and Officers during the Drill Team report at the Club monthly meetings.

Tryouts

- Team tryouts will take place at the Union County Saddle Club Arena on posted date
- Athletes MUST obtain UCSC Membership prior to the tryout date
- Listed Forms must be signed and presented on the day of tryouts:
 - Athlete Application Form
 - Rules & Requirements Form
 - Code of Conduct/ Zero Tolerance Policy
 - Copy of current coggins
 - Copy of signed lease agreement (if your horse is leased)
- Flags and flag holders will be provided
- Athletes who are active on the Team are not required to try out again, but are encouraged to attend and assist during tryouts

Finances

- Upon acceptance to the Team, each athlete is required to pay a \$100 membership fee per season (seasons begin promptly after tryouts are held)
- Each Athlete is responsible for their individual fees per competition (approx. \$200)
- Fundraisers will be held throughout the year. Athletes who participate in fundraisers will earn credit toward traveling/competition fees.
 - Team Bookkeeper will keep a record of each Athlete's fundraising participation/contributions
- Each Athlete will receive one team shirt at the beginning of the season
 - Additional Team shirts may be purchased at the expense of the athlete/parent

What the Team is looking for:

- **Dedication** - to practices, performances, team and club duties
- **Availability** – rodeo performances and competitions (most are on weekends), practice, fundraisers, team meetings and activities, website, photos, videos, music coordination, and advertising.
- **Commitment** - fully understanding the team's purpose! You are representing the Sass N Saddles Precision Drill Team, Union County Saddle Club, and Yourself!!
- **Ability** - walk, trot, canter, ride safely on trails as well as roads. Must be able to safely ride at all speeds while carrying a flag or other prop (lower level riders come on as alternates to learn more and develop their skills).
- **Versatility** - you will be performing high level routines with precision while carrying a flag or prop.

I thoroughly understand the Expectations outlined in this document. By signing this document I agree to abide by the indicated terms, rules, and requirements. Should I fail to abide by any of these terms or violate the code of conduct/ zero tolerance policy I am aware my actions will be grounds for suspension or immediate dismissal from the Sass 'N Saddles Precision Drill Team.

Athlete: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

(Parent/Guardian signature required if athlete is under the age of 18)

Union County Saddle Club

Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team

Code of Conduct

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to establish and outline the expectations for members, parents, and volunteers of the Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team. As ambassadors of the Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team, this Code of Conduct applies to the following individuals at all times: director, coaches, athletes, athlete parents, team volunteers, and any other person who chooses to act on behalf of the Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team.

- Adhere to the Rules and Requirements of the Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team.
- Respect the authority and decisions made by the Director/ Coaches
- Respect fellow team members and opposing team members
- No foul language when you are at events as a representative of the Team (remember there are children who are looking up to you)
- Place the health and safety of athletes and their equine partners above all other considerations, including level of routine difficulty.
- Adhere to rules and regulations posted at visiting facilities, including governing laws concerning the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and/or providing of drugs and alcohol to any person/minor.
- Verbal or physical threats against others are strictly prohibited.
- Be a positive role model and representative of yourself, the Team, and the UCSC.
- Your actions should not bring embarrassment, or be detrimental to the reputation or image of the Team and/or UCSC.
- Promote the Team and the UCSC in a positive manner.

I have read and understand the above Code of Conduct. By signing this document I understand that violation of this Code of Conduct may result in suspension or immediate dismissal from the Sass ‘N Saddles Precision Drill Team.

Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Parent/Guardian signatures are required for athletes under the age of 18)

Zero Tolerance Policy

I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY, READ AND AGREED TO ABIDE BY THE UNION COUNTY SADDLE CLUB RULES AND REGULATIONS ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY.

LIABILITY RELEASE: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Under Georgia law, an equine Activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for any injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities. Pursuant to Chapter 12 of Title 4 of the official code of Georgia annotated.

Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Parent/Guardian signatures are required for athletes under the age of 18)



Zero Tolerance Policy

In an effort to uphold the integrity of the sport as well as promote a professional and family oriented environment, the following Rules and Regulations are being implemented to operate in conjunction with the Union County Recreation Department's Zero Tolerance Policy implemented on 3/1/01, amended on 10/16/03.

- Any contestant competing at any Union County Saddle Club event must have signed a waiver statement releasing the Union County Saddle Club and County from any liabilities associated with equestrian sports. The waiver is part of the event sign up sheet.
- **NEGATIVE COGGINS REQUIRED AT ALL U.C.S.C. EVENTS!**
- All membership fees must be paid prior to competing for points to count toward year end awards.
- Decisions made by judges are final, in all aspects of judgment.
- U.C.S.C. staff may ask anyone to leave the premises if they observe any poor sportsmanship, and/or destruction of club equipment or arena properties. These behaviors are not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Refunds WILL NOT be offered.
- When competing at a U.C.S.C. event, you are representing the club as well as the sport and NO excessive abuse of the horses or any other animal will be tolerated. The interpretation of abuse will be at the discretion of the judge and/or any elected officer of the club. An immediate conference will be called between the judge, club officers and Board Members in attendance to make a final ruling. The contestant may be disqualified from the remainder of the event.
- Riders and observers at U.C.S.C. events understand that they ride and/or observe at their own risk, and do not hold Union County Saddle Club or Union County, its staff or members liable for any accidents that may occur. This is the pursuant to Georgia Equine Liability Law, Chapter 12 of Title to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated which outlines the limits of liability for equestrian events, and the companies or associations that operate the events and facilities.
- Any member of the U.C.S.C. suing, attempting to sue or seek monetary damages for any expense or injury while participating, or as a spectator, at any U.C.S.C. function, shall be barred from the Union County Saddle Club in perpetuity.
- No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the U.C.S.C. grounds. The Union County Saddle Club reserves the right to refuse participation to any person for actions including, but not limited to abuse of alcohol, drugs, the use of profane language, or fighting at an event.
- Any situation that arises for which the U.C.S.C. does not have a rule, the Board Members in attendance will make a decision on the situation.