

NEDA FLEXTIME MOUNTED EDUCATION PROGRAM 2012
For Junior/Young Rider and Adult Amateur NEDA Members

The Flextime Mounted Education Program is a great membership benefit NEDA offers for JR/YRs and Adult Amateur member. NEDA has some of the most talented instructors in the nation among its membership -- Olympians, World Cup riders, National Championship participants, internationally known judges, and gifted teachers -- who volunteer one to three lessons each. The list of Flextime Instructors along with their biographies is published in the December and January editions of "Tip of the Hat" and all year on the NEDA website (www.neda.org) under *Clinics/Education*.

Applications will be accepted this year with the opening date of February 15. The lessons are to be taken between April and October of the current year. The proceeds benefit the USDF Region 8 Junior/Young Rider Team at the North American Young Rider Championships and other NEDA programs. Each lesson is \$45. for Junior/Young Riders and \$50. for Adult Amateurs. **The definition of Amateur status for purposes of the Flextime program can be found in the USEF Rule Book - SUBCHAPTER 13-B AMATEURS AND PROFESSIONALS, GR1306 Amateur Status.**

Additional instructors continue to be added to the program to offer as many members as possible the opportunity to work with exceptional instructors throughout all of NEDA's geographical area. **It should be noted that the instructors have very busy schedules and may have restrictions on dates they are available, especially during show season. Plenty of lead time should be planned when scheduling, especially if you are limited in days or dates you yourself have available.**

These dedicated instructors welcome the chance to help JR/YR and Adult Amateurs with their dressage training. The Flextime Program gives riders the chance to try an instructor they may have thought about working with in a clinic or on a regular basis but were not sure of the 'fit'. **Please don't be shy. This opportunity is for riders and horses of all ages and ability from training level up.** Some instructors have school horses available, so you do not need to own your own horse or trailer. All Adult Amateurs, Young Riders and Juniors are encouraged to apply. The availability of stabling or school horses has been listed with the biographies.

To take advantage of the Flextime Program, review the list of the participating instructors and instructions on the application form. Your application can be sent anytime before the opening date, but will be marked as though it was postmarked February 15. If several applications for the same instructor are postmarked on the same day, the recipient will be chosen "out of a hat". Every effort will be made to match the riders not selected in that drawing with their second or third choices. Applications postmarked later than February 15 are welcome, but remaining slots with some instructors may be limited. **You can apply for up to 3 separate lessons, but please be realistic regarding travel distances and scheduling when choosing an instructor. It is disappointing to an instructor to never have their assigned student contact them or follow through, and other people lose out.**

If you are not currently a NEDA Member, you can download a membership form from the website and mail that with your Flextime application. Applications will be accepted until the lessons fill, but for your best chance, send it in early! If you have not been one of the lucky ones to receive a lesson, you will be notified by email, and your check(s) will be either returned to you or shredded, whichever you prefer.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me: Nancy Marsh Terry, flexitime@neda.org, 845-559-3636.