



## **INTERCOLLEGIATE CORNER - VIRGINIA TECH:**



**Virginia Tech is located in Blacksburg, Virginia. There are currently twenty-two members on the Eventing team with five currently competing. This year celebrates their ten-year anniversary as the team was established in 2015.**

**Jillian Newman took time to share about the team and her time on it. She moved to the east coast in 2023 for school while her parents relocated to Aiken. Jillian said, "It was definitely a huge adjustment and a good one for sure. We have met wonderful friends and coaches who made this change smooth. I am currently competing at the 2\* level with my horse Curraghgraigne Freeman (Quincy) who I have been with for the last 5 years. He has especially enjoyed moving to the East Coast with the grass and ample space for turnout and hacking. We love Stable View and are**

lucky to spend a lot of time here throughout the year."

Team members are allowed to stable wherever they wish. There are limited options in Blacksburg. Most of the team boards at Paris Mountain Stables. The team rides with Mark Combs during the school year. Jillian shared, "He has dedicated a great deal of time and effort to the team, and he is a crucial part of our success."

Virginia Tech came to the USEA Intercollegiate Eventing Championship at Stable View last spring. They brought four riders and six horses to complete one full team and contribute to a scramble team. Jillian said, "We may have only come with a few riders, but we had the spirit and dedication to compete. Stable View offered the intercollegiate and interscholastic riders a fun-spirited competition that brought students together through the sport. It is not like any other event as everyone participates at every step, and school spirit is no joke."

This year, Rose Schild is the President of the team. Alaina Fisher is the Vice President, Cara Whitaker is the Treasurer, Bailey Archibald is the Secretary, and Amelia Young is the Social Chair.

When asked what the team's favorite part of Stable View is Jillian responded, "I recently relocated to Aiken, so my favorite part is seeing my family and friends when I come home. However, I think our whole team can agree that the professional atmosphere and competition comradery inspire young riders. Additionally, the outstanding facilities make Stableview an event we never miss."

Jillian's final words were, "Riding horses in college is never easy, it takes dedication, discipline, and responsibility. In Blacksburg, this is

**definitely no easy feat for any of our riders. They all put in the time and put in loads of work to make sure their horses are fit, cared for, and happy." Stable View looks forward to welcoming Virginia Tech back to champs this May.**