

Here are a couple of things that I learned from the lessons I had using the scholarship money! Thank you so much for granting it to me!! The timing was so perfect as I prepared for NAJYRC! Our Region 9 Junior teamed earned the bronze medal at the Championships!

In preparation for Kentucky we practiced the centerline in a collected canter with a halt at a certain spot. Not always at X to keep my horse from trying to do it on his own.

Yvonne placed two poles left and right around 1 meter away from the centerline to help me get a better feeling for straightness while preparing for the transition.

Like in the JR Individual test, Yvonne had me practice a lot of halt - rein back - canter transitions so the horse and I could get a feeling for the exercise.

When he got tight, we had him rein back and count steps, then halt and let him find a relaxed neck position, than a few steps rein back and so on until he stayed supple to transition into the collected canter without tension in the topline.

Yvonne said: "Allison's horse is very talented but can be tricky to get to go forward into the contact with a supple back. Before we started working on collecting exercises, Allison had to stay on big bend lines for at least 25 minutes to get his back to relax. This gave both confidence in staying relaxed in preparation for the competition ;) "
Again, thank you for granting me this scholarship!

Thank you,
Allison Hopkins