

August 26, 2019

Dear Dressage4Kids Scholarship Committee:

Thank you for choosing me as one of the lucky riders to be given this award. I used the scholarship money to attend Riding Right Farm's three-day Boot Camp. The camp is to help us mentally and physically prepare to do our best at D4K. We started each day with an hour of Balimo.

On the first day of camp I got a 45-minute private lesson with Krystal Wilt. We worked on perfecting our Dressage tests and making simple changes. For my horse Tidbit and I, Krystal helped me realize that when tracking right I don't put weight evenly in my stirrups which throws Tidbit off balance which is something he struggles with, so me being off balance makes it worse. When I wasn't riding, we were scheduled to do some book work and practice tests. We also practiced some of the prompts that could be asked if we were eligible for the stable management contest.

On the second day I rode in a group with Hollie working on getting us ready to do our best in equitation class. We started by evaluating each other. When it came to me getting evaluated, I was told I hold my shoulders up and that I need to have a longer leg which I completely agree with. After my ride I was scheduled to clip and groom Tidbit and more book work.

On the final day, we did a big group ride that helped us practice for riding with others in the warm up ring which could be a challenge at D4K. While riding we implemented what we learned with Krystal and our equitation ride. After our group ride, we made stall cards as well as took a practice test.

Going to Boot Camp helped me and Tidbit mentally and physically. I worked very hard and ended up placing 10th in my division and my team won a pink ribbon medal. I am thankful for being selected to receive this generous award.

Thank you again!

Sara Stein