

Essay 1

I became interested in horses at an early age. I started riding at the age of seven with my current coach Monika Saulnier. I was a very timed rider at the start, and I was trying to find a hobby that was right for me. In the past I was involved with my extra curricular activities like gymnastics, soccer, basketball, baseball, dance etc. All of which I enjoyed doing but was never in love with. This was not at all how I felt about riding. In the beginning I rode different horses before I made my bond with the horse that I currently ride Elmo. I find complete solace while I am at the barn and with Elmo. It is my safe space and I know that I am always welcome there and I can always find the clarity that I am usually looking for. During the past two years Elmo and I have competed at several shows and in several jackpot competitions where we are only growing a stronger connection. Though It has not been all fun and games with us as we have had a few little upsets during our time together including a pretty scary fall while being the opening for the RCMP musical ride which resulted in my first ambulance ride, I have always felt that I could trust in my horse, and that hiccups were a part of the riding experience and always got back on. My Most recent bond building exercise was completing a two liberty work clinics with Danique Henderson in hopes to start our 2023 season off with a closer bond than ever. In the future I hope that we can continue to build our connections making them stronger on competition at a time in hopes to one day go to the NBHA world championships.