

Naomi Buschhaus

Essay #1

My equestrian journey is rooted in the Canadian Pony Club, where I have achieved my C Flat and complete D2 Jumping levels. These milestones provided me with a solid technical foundation, while my competitive spirit led me to place 4th at Pony Club National Quiz last fall. This achievement reflects my deep commitment to horse management and theory, which I apply every day when working with my retired mare Tia, and green pony, Jack.

Jack is a Welsh pony who is smart but green and still learning the ropes. While we spend much of our time refining the basics and enjoying trail rides together, I am eager to challenge us both by trying something entirely new: Eventing. I have never competed in a horse trial before, but I believe Jack's bold athleticism and my Pony Club background are a perfect fit for the sport. Moving into eventing represents a significant step up for us as a team. I am excited to transition from the arena and the trails into the start box, developing Jack's potential while growing my own skills in a new and demanding discipline.

Essay #2

Exploring a new discipline with my green pony requires a high level of consistent, professional support. I plan to use this \$500 bursary to facilitate our entry into the LTED Eventing Program, which will provide the structured environment Jack, and I need to debut safely.

The first \$300 will be dedicated to travel and stabling costs for LTED clinics and training camps. Because Jack is still learning, exposing him to new venues and cross-country courses under the guidance of top coaches is essential for his confidence and my development. The remaining \$200 will go toward regular lessons and development opportunities. These sessions will focus on technical schooling to help a green pony understand the specific demands of dressage tests and the jumping phases. This bursary would directly support our transition from Pony Club into the competitive eventing circuit, ensuring that my first year in eventing is built on a foundation of safety and correct training for both me and my pony.