

## **Alfred University to host IHSA Western Equestrian Semi-Finals**

2/14/18



<http://www.ihsainc.org/>

HAMBURG, NY Alfred University is the host team for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Western Semi-Final championship show, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 17 and 18, in Hamburg, NY.

The IHSA holds three Western Semi-Finals each March, which serve as qualifying shows for the IHSA National Championships in May. Alfred University will host one Semi-Final show, at the Showplex at the Hamburg Fairgrounds; the other two, also scheduled for March 17-18, will be in Galva, IL (hosted by Black Hawk College), and Reedsville, WV (hosted by West Virginia University).

Show managers for the AU-hosted Semi-Final are Steve Shank, director of the Alfred University Equestrian Program and assistant Western equestrian coach, and Harry Hurd, head Western equestrian coach.

Teams and individual riders qualify for Semi-Final shows by competing in their respective regional championships. The winning team at regionals advances to the Semi-Final show, as do the top two individuals in each class. Alfred University's Western equestrian team is hosting the IHSA Zone 2, Region 1 championship on Feb. 25 at Bromeley-Daggett Equestrian Center at Maris Cuneo Equine Park in Alfred.

Alfred University added a Western equestrian team to its existing hunt seat team in 2006-07. The Saxons have qualified as a team for Western Semi-Finals each of the 10 years of the program's existence, moving on to the IHSA National Championships twice (2008 and 2012).

The top four individuals in each riding class and the top three teams at each Semi-Final show qualify to compete at the IHSA Nationals, which this year are scheduled for May 3-6 in Harrisburg, PA. In addition, the high point riders in each region during the regular season automatically qualify for the national championships.