



Get to Know Ally Penic

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Get to know:

How old were you when you started riding?

7 years old

Where did you ride growing up?

I started out at Simpsons equestrian as an eventer.

Were you a good student?

I remember when I was little in lessons I was always trying to be a good student, but me being so young my version of a good student now vs. then could have morphed.

When did you start showing?

I started competing in the show jumping world when I was in grade 9, so 14 years old.

Did you always want to be a professional rider?

First time I saw a horse it became a dream of mine to train a black stallion and go to the Olympics. Now I am aware at how ridiculous that is but even now it is still a passion of mine to ride horses, and my goal in life is to always be surrounded by them.

Do you get nervous?

All the time, I am a wreck at the gate, always questioning if it's worth it to go in front of a crowd of people and perform a sport where you have 1 min to show everything, and a mistake that could cost you your round can be made in a split second. Although once I walk into the ring my answer is always yes, it is worth it.

What do you do to help with your nerves?

I focus on what my job is in the ring and what I need to accomplish to make it a good round.

What would you do if you weren't riding?

This has always been my everything in my life, I couldn't imagine a life without horses.

When did you buy your first horse?

My parents bought me my first pony named Freckles for Christmas when I was in grade 3.

What horses do you have now? What are they all like?



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I technically have my one horse named Claro 4 and he is the love of my life, I have owned him for 4 years now and he is solely responsible for taking my riding career to the next level. He is a spicy gelding with lots of quirks but all the scope and patience in the world to make up for it. I have passed him down to my sister now, and am riding a newer ride named Lady Quin, who is I would say an even spicier small hot mare. She is always making sure I'm aware when I make a mistake, but is super fun to ride with how enthusiastic she is about her job.

Do you have any advice for young riders?

Never get discouraged us equestrians do not get nearly enough credit for this sport, the amount of dedication, risk, and pressures in this sport are surreal. A cliché piece of advice but never give up, and remember why you started.

What do you do in your spare time?

At the moment I am a working university student trying to manage my one horse Lady Quin, so what spare time?

What could you not live without?

Tea, it's my go to make me feel better, and give me a quick re-boost when I'm down in life.

What is your most embarrassing horse show moment?

Oh where to start, but something that just happened recently to me was my trainer was out of town so I just finished a lesson with Gail Greenough, who I obviously wanted to impress. We had an amazing lesson Lady and I were less than a month back into jumping, so our lessons were usually very eventful, but that day lady was well behaved and I managed to make a majority of the right decisions while I was riding. Then we were completely done our lesson and just talking, I stupidly was sitting super relaxed, with long reins, and no stirrups. Lady though she saw a monster and took off galloping the other direction so I flew off. I just had to fall off in front of a new trainer, in the stupidest way possible after we were completely done our lesson.

Name 3 things most people don't know about you:

I have a tattoo, I know I'm a rebel. As messy as my life or tack box can be at times I am very organized, I even have an order for what clothes to wear. Then as ironic as it is I'm quite allergic to horses, hay, and shavings.

Describe yourself in 5 words:

I think of myself to be a very independent, determined, fierce, enthusiastic, and funny individual.