

## Activity Plan (Revised and Expanded)

I am Kenta Hiranaga, an eventing athlete from Japan. I am a team member of the Japanese eventing team at two Asian Games, Jakarta 2018 (where we won Team Gold) and Hangzhou 2022 (postponed to 2023 due to COVID, where we won Team Silver). My ultimate goal is to represent Japan in the Los Angeles Olympic Games 2028 and win a medal. To achieve this, I plan to move my training location to the United States from 2025 to train under Mr. Boyd Martin, a renowned American Olympic eventing rider, at his stable, Wi...

Mr. Martin is a prominent figure in the equestrian world, both in the U.S. and internationally, including Japan, where I had the opportunity to attend his clinics. His training profoundly inspired me, and I am eager to learn from him directly. My primary objective in moving to the U.S. is to dedicate myself fully to eventing by training with Mr. Martin and competing in top-level competitions. This opportunity will allow me to gain state-of-the-art training techniques and stable management skills, as well...

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### Goals Under Mr. Martin's Guidance

1. I aim to acquire cross-country skills at the CCI4\* and CCI5\* levels, which are difficult to master in Japan. These advanced techniques are crucial for competing at the world stage, and Mr. Martin's expertise offers an unparalleled opportunity to refine my abilities. Additionally, I will focus on learning world-class horse training methods that align with international standards.
2. Participating in major American competitions such as Elkton, MD, Lexington, KY, and Kentucky

will not only provide invaluable competitive experience but also offer an opportunity to learn about the culture and history of these regions, which have a rich equestrian tradition. By expanding my knowledge of equestrian history and culture through these events, I will further my personal growth and professional development.

3. Engaging in interactions and exchanging ideas with local young riders in these regions will also be instrumental. For example:

- Conducting cross-country course walks together to share perspectives and insights.

- Discussing the characteristics of horses and riders to identify strengths and areas for improvement, fostering mutual growth and learning.

These exchanges will help me bring back practical advice and insights to support the next generation of young riders in Japan, further contributing to the development of Japan's equestrian community.

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## 2025 Competition Plan

Under Mr. Martin's guidance, my focus for 2025 will be to achieve the Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER) for CCI3\* (both short and long formats) by competing in the following events:

1. May 3-4, 2025: USEA Intercollegiate and Interscholastic Eventing Championships (Stable View, South Carolina).
2. June 2025: Bromont CCI (Quebec, Canada).
3. August 26-31, 2025: USEA American Eventing Championships (AEC) (Galway Downs, Temecula, California).
4. Late September 2025: Area Championships (various U.S. locations).

After obtaining the CCI3\* MER, I plan to progress to CCI4\* by 2027. By 2026, I aim to qualify for the World Equestrian Games (WEG) in Aachen, Germany. In 2027, I will target CCI5\* events to further hone my skills and competitiveness. By 2028, I intend to meet the qualification standards for the Los Angeles Olympics and earn selection to represent Japan.

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### Funding and Financial Plan

While I will cover my personal living expenses through employment income, additional funding is necessary to secure and prepare competitive horses capable of excelling at high-level events. To achieve this, I plan to launch a crowdfunding campaign with a target of \$120,000. This funding will be allocated to:

- **Horse acquisition costs**: Purchasing suitable horses for high-level competitions.
- **Transportation expenses**: Ensuring horses and equipment can be transported to competition venues.
- **Training costs**: Covering expenses related to professional coaching and facility use.

This comprehensive funding plan will enable me to focus on achieving competitive excellence while managing the financial demands of international eventing.

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### Broader Goals for Japanese Equestrian Development

In addition to personal athletic success, I am deeply committed to advancing the equestrian community in Japan. One of the key reasons I wish to train under Mr. Martin is to learn his

innovative approach to developing retired racehorses into elite eventing competitors. Japan's horse racing industry is significant, but challenges persist regarding the future of retired racehorses. By mastering Mr. Martin's methods, I aim to bring this knowledge back to Japan to promote better utilization and care for reti...

Through my training at Windurra USA, I will gain invaluable insights into high-level eventing techniques, horse management, and competitive strategies. These skills will enable me to not only achieve my Olympic ambitions but also contribute to the growth of equestrian sports in Japan. My interactions with local young riders and the knowledge gained through participation in major American competitions will allow me to offer practical guidance and inspiration to Japan's aspiring equestrians.

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## Conclusion

My ultimate goal is not just personal success but also to leave a meaningful legacy for Japan's equestrian community. I am committed to bringing the knowledge, techniques, and experiences I gain in the U.S. back to Japan to elevate the sport and inspire future generations. Furthermore, I hope to use my broadened perspective and enriched experiences to support individuals who face difficulties in pursuing new challenges, offering them encouragement and guidance based on my journey.