



SEAPONY FARM RIDING LESSON CONTRACT

Date: _____

I (Parent, Guardian) _____ (print legibly)

have contracted with Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc. located at SeaPony Farm, 21 Crooked Lane, Nantucket, MA

to give (rider's name) _____ riding lessons.

Riding Lessons are to be paid in full prior to the start of each session. If payment is not received before the start of each session, the above mentioned rider will be dropped from the session and put back on the waiting list.

.....
I understand that it is my responsibility prior to entering the lesson area to inform the Head Riding Instructor of any new medical or physical problems which may impact my safety or ability to perform correctly during my scheduled riding lesson. I further agree to handle all other questions or suggestions according to Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center's Policy.

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I understand that lesson times are planned and that I need to be on time. If I am late more than 15 minutes from my scheduled time, my mount will be un-tacked, unless I have made prior arrangements. I further understand that even if I am late the time for ending the lesson will remain as scheduled. The only condition for extending my lesson time is if the Head or Assistant Riding Instructor is not present at the scheduled lesson beginning time.

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I further accept that the Head Riding Instructor is the only person with authority to cancel any lesson. The only considerations for approved cancellation of a lesson are bad weather conditions (heat advisory, thunderstorms, extreme cold, etc.), schedule conflicts with the Head Riding Instructor's commitments, a rider's medical absence with a written doctor's excuse, or a death in the family. Make-up lessons will only be scheduled for the above described lesson cancellations. **All approved make-up lesson scheduling will be at the discretion of the Head Riding Instructor.**

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I understand that proper attire must be worn for riding lessons which is to be pants, shirt, shoes/boots with at least a half inch heel (this is a requirement unless medically approved by a physician) and an SEI-ASTM approved riding helmet which fits properly with an attached harness. A safety helmet will be provided by Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc., unless the rider has his/her own approved safety helmet. A rider must wear a helmet whenever horses are present.

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I further understand that Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center's Head Riding Instructor reserves the right to discipline a rider in the form of a documented verbal warning for the first offense. Second offense will be a written warning. For third offense, a final written warning will be documented. Some examples of reasons for disciplinary actions: disruption to lesson, behavior problems that are unacceptable or unsafe, sexual comments and conduct, disrespect to instructor and/or volunteers, failure to follow program stated policies, rules or instructions, etc.

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I further accept that Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center's Head Riding Instructor reserves the right to release a rider due to unsafe situations, physical stress to the rider resulting from riding and/or any safety/medical problems that may arise. This type of release from the program will require a prorated refund be issued.

Rider's information files will be held in confidentiality and only shared when necessary to insure the safety of a rider in the lesson or during an official incident review.



MASSACHUSETTS LIABILITY LAW

Under Massachusetts Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in an equine activity resulting from an inherent risk of equine activity, Pursuant Chapter 128, Section 2D of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

I am aware of the inherent risks of horseback riding. I further understand that I must be careful while on the property owned and operated by Catherine E. Conte of Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc. and Seapony Farm and particularly while horses are being handled. Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc. and Seapony Farm cannot and does not assume any liability for accidents, injury, or death to person or persons. I further have reviewed and understand the content of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Liability Law which is posted at drive entrance, barn, and riding ring. Likewise I accept full responsibility for friends and visitors accompanying myself on Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc. and Seapony Farm property.

NANTUCKET THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER Inc.'s POLICIES AND RULES**Program Enrollment Policy:**

Enrollment in the Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s program begins upon the program's receipt of a fully completed enrollment packet. At this time the rider's name will be put on the present waiting list. Official acceptance into the program will only take place after the rider completes an on site evaluation by the Head Riding Instructor and the OK is given to complete a program riding contract.

Riders Goal Setting Policy:

Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s policy is that each rider will have a personal set of documented goals, which will be set on a 3-6-month time frame.

- The goals will be set and documented for each rider after the second lesson of a new rider.
- In the case of a continuing rider, the goals will be set and documented upon their 3-6 month anniversary in the Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s program.
- Documented riders goals will be located in the rider's file.
- Head Riding Instructor will be the sole responsible party for setting each rider's goals and may use input from the rider, assistant instructor, volunteers, and parent or guardian in setting the monthly goals.
- Head Riding Instructor is responsible for maintaining the weekly progress record on each rider, which will be transferred at the end of each session into the rider's file.

Lesson Policy Standard:

A lesson is 50 minutes in length and is to consist of mounting each rider and tack adjustments, exercises while mounted; 20-30 minutes actual riding time, cool down time, and dismounting. Please note we consider a lesson starting when the riders enter the mounting holding area. For those riders who are skilled enough and the facility can provide the needed safety for the special needs rider, grooming, tacking up, and putting up the horse may be included into the 50 minute riding lesson. The Head Riding Instructor additionally has the responsibility of safety for riders, volunteers, and horses at all times so therefore, the instructor has the right to deviate from the above lesson outline when safety is a concern.

Example: the lesson could be full time as barn management-classroom activities, grooming, tacking up, types of tack, tack cleaning, etc.



General Conduct Policy for Parents, Riders, and Guests during a Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc. Lesson Time:

Important areas used during riding lesson:

- Parent/Rider waiting area is located outside by the outdoor riding ring area, or in the tackroom in the barn.
- Rider holding area is located in the waiting area of the barn, or by the riding ring area.
- There is a bulletin board in the tackroom.
- A message board is located outside the tack room. Any information that does not concern the immediate lesson should be written on a question / suggestion card located next to the message box and place at front of the cards for the staff to read and make needed contacts on questions, concerns, and suggestions.

Example: rider will be absent for next lesson, need to talk to instructor about something other than medical or physical problems which may have a safety implication for the current lesson.

Riding Instructors and volunteers need to stay focused on current lesson for safety reasons.

Arrival to lesson:

- If previous lesson or dismounting is in progress please go quietly to parent/ rider waiting area.
- All riders are to wait at parent/ rider waiting area until volunteer or instructor comes to escort them to the barn or rider holding area. The only people who are to be in the rider holding area are the instructors, volunteers and riders that are getting ready to ride in current lesson.
- If you need to talk to the Head or Assistant Riding Instructors about medical or physical problems which may have a safety implication for the current lesson, please do so before the mounting phase of the lesson gets started.
- If parent or guardian leaves the premises during the lesson time you are required to leave a number where the Seapony Farm staff can contact you, put your name date and number on dry erase board by the tackroom door.

During lesson:

- While a riding lesson is in progress all parents, family members, and guests must stay in waiting area. You may only enter fenced areas and arenas if asked by an instructor or volunteer.
- No loud noises (clapping, door slamming on cars, loud talking/ laughing, calling to riders, etc.)
- No umbrellas, flash cameras while horses are present.
- No ball playing, tag games, or fast type movement games allowed before, during or after lesson scheduled times.

After lesson:

- After lesson the rider will be returned to their parent, guardian or ride.
- Water is available are in the refrigerator for the rider to have after a lesson.

Question and suggestion policy:

It is Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s policy that all instructors and volunteers will not accept any questions or suggestions prior to, during, or after scheduled lesson times. If a rider or parent/guardian has a question or suggestion pertaining to a rider, problem, complaint, suggestion, etc.

- Please fill out a question/suggestion card which are located next to the message box in the waiting area and drop in the message box located there.
- A Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc. Staff member will review cards and make contact with the card owner.

This policy is for the safety of all. During a scheduled riding lesson our instructors and volunteers must maintain lesson focus at all times for the safety of our riders.

Attendance Policy:

Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s attendance policy is any rider missing 3 consecutive lessons will be dropped from the riding program, unless absences are for medical reasons with a doctor's signed excuse or death in one's family. Additionally any rider missing 3 lessons during a session for non-acceptable excuses without prior notification to the Head or Assistant Instructor will not be allowed to enroll in the next session. If said rider wants to re-enroll in the program he/she may speak to the head instructor.



Make-up Lesson Policy:

Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s make-up lesson policy is a make-up lesson will only be rescheduled for a lesson missed for the following reasons;

- Lesson canceled by Head or Assistant Riding Instructor (bad weather, heat index, instructor schedule conflict, etc.)
- Rider's medical absence with a doctor's signed excuse.
- Death in the immediate family.

Disciplinary Policy:

Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s disciplinary policy has been developed to ensure a safe and conducive environment for all involved in our therapeutic riding program.

Warning Policy:

Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s Head Riding Instructor has the right to discipline a rider, parent/guardian, and/or volunteer

1. First offense a documented verbal warning. If this is a rider, he or she will be removed from the horse and will sit in waiting area until lessons end.
2. Second offense a written warning. If a rider, he or she will be dismissed from the riding lesson for that day.
3. Third offense is final warning. The rider will be removed from horse and dropped from the program.
4. Likewise if the offender is a parent, guardian or volunteer, they will follow the same disciplinary policy and can be dropped from the program on the third offense, in the case of a parent or guardian this will include the rider.

Examples of reasons for disciplinary actions: disruption to class, behavior problems that are unacceptable or unsafe, disrespect to instructor and/or volunteers, failure to follow program stated policies, rules, and instructions.

Immediate Termination Policy:

A rider, parent or guardian, volunteer, or instructor will be immediately removed from the program for inappropriate sexual comments or inappropriate sexual conduct.

General Rules:

- All gates and stall doors to be keep closed.
- No entry into feed/hay storage areas without program staff's permission.
- No climbing, sitting, or standing on stall doors, fences, or gates (this includes ring).
- Smoking is prohibited.
- No consumption of alcohol beverages or drugs while on Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc. or Seapony Farm property.
- You are responsible for your friends and visitors conduct and safety while on the property of Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc. or Seapony Farm. Infractions will follow the Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s disciplinary policy.
- No personal dogs are allowed on Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc. or Seapony Farm property.
- No running around horses or riding areas.
- All trash to be disposed of in trash barrels.
- No horses to be handled in or out of the stalls without program staff's permission and/or supervision.
- Always respect others when speaking or socializing.
- No entry into tack room areas unless accompanied by program staff or directed to by program staff.



I, the undersigned, have read and understand the above contract plus all the Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center Inc.'s and Seapony Farm policies and rules which I agree to abide by in total and I have received a copy of this contract which includes the policies and rules. I further understand that if any of the policies or rules are not followed Nantucket Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc. and/or Seapony Farm has the right to cancel this contract in full without any refund of moneys remaining for this session.

ACCEPTED BY:

Signature Rider: _____ Date: _____

Signature Parents or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Signature Witness: _____ Date: _____

Rider's Name: _____

Rider's Address: _____

Phone (Home): _____

Phone (Parent or Guardian): _____

Phone (Cell or Emergency): _____

