

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H SADDLE CLUB

SECTION A. PROTECTIVE ATTIRE

- 1.) I am hereby required to wear a well fitted, SEI approved riding helmet, which must be securely fastened under the chin to prevent injuries while working or riding horses.
- 2.) I am hereby required to always wear hard-soled, fully enclosed shoes or boots, with a heel, and socks to protect feet and long pants to protect legs while working around or riding horses.

SECTION B. THE NATURE AND PHYSICAL CHARACTER OF THE HORSE

While domesticated, well trained horses are usually obedient, docile, and affectionate, it is important to understand that their survival instincts are what has allowed the horse to survive from prehistoric times to the present day.

- 1.) I am advised that horses are unpredictable by nature, with minds of their own, as are all animals, both domestic and wild. The horse is often somewhat high strung or nervous by nature. Horses are extremely strong and powerful physically. Horses are extremely heavy weighing from 600 to 1300 pounds on the average. These characteristics deserve a human being's utmost respect.
- 2.) I am advised that when a horse is frightened, angry, under stress, or feels threatened, it is his instinct to jump forward or sideways, to run away from danger at a trot or a gallop of speeds up to 35 miles per hour.
- 3.) I am advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from behind, it may kick straight back, sideways, in either direction, or even forward with either of its hind legs with tremendous force.
- 4.) I am advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from above it or on its back, it may hunch its back and buck in a way that could throw a rider to the ground with tremendous force. A fall from a horse will usually be from a height of 3 to 6 feet.
- 5.) I am advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from the front, it may naturally react by rearing up with its front legs, strike with one or both front legs, bite with its teeth, throw its head up or from side to side, or run directly over whatever it fears in front of it.
- 6.) I am advised that a human must always approach a horse calmly, quietly, and cautiously, preferably from near its shoulder or lower neck, talking soothingly to it.
- 7.) I am advised that loud and/or sudden unexpected movements such as the dropping of objects near a horse, approaching vehicles, animals or people, ill-fitting equipment or physical pain, can provoke a domesticated horse to react according to his natural protective instincts.
- 8.) I am advised that the first signs of anger or fear in a horse are the sudden tensing of muscles of the body, possibly laying its ears flat back against its head, or quickly tossing or raising its head, or sudden snorting through the nostrils accompanying at least one other warning sign.
- 9.) I have been advised that a horse can see independently with each eye, actually looking in one direction with one eye and another direction with the other eye, or it can focus both eyes on one object in front of it; that usually the direction the ear is pointing will tell an observer where the eye is looking on the same side, and consequently on what the horse is likely concentrating on at that moment.
- 10.) I have been advised that a horse has two blind areas around it which it cannot see. It cannot see directly behind it, nor what it is eating. This is a reason that it is best to approach a horse close to the shoulder, and never to surprise a horse from the rear, or to reach into a horse's mouth.
- 11.) I have been advised that while a horse is very sure-footed by nature, it may accidentally step on an object such as a human foot, when it is balancing itself or turning about; also that if a horse is ridden or worked on unstable ground, slippery grass or footing, it could fall down injuring a rider or handler.

SECTION C: WISCONSIN STATUTE

A person who is engaged for compensation in the rental of equines or equine equipment or tack or in the instruction of a person in the riding or driving of an equine or in being a passenger upon an equine is not liable for the injury or death of a person involved in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, as defined in section 895.481 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin statutes.

SECTION D: RELEASE WAIVER

That I hereby, for myself and my family members release and discharge Washington County 4-H Saddle club, the owner of the premises on which events are held, and all directors and officers of Washington County 4-H, UW Extension, and Washington County Ag and Industrial Society, and all other participants of and from all claims, demands, actions and causes of action for and all injuries sustained to my person, or that of my child, spouse or legal ward and/or property.

4-H MEMBERS NAME: _____ **DATE** _____

4-H MEMBER SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT AND/OR GUARDIAN PRINT NAME: _____

PARENT AND/OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

EMERGENCY PRE-CONSENT FORM

I, _____ of _____
(Parent or guardian) (Child)

hereby consent to and authorize emergency treatment which you judge as necessary for my child. Additionally, I authorize the release of medical information required by any third party in connection with the payment of or any portion of the related hospital bill. I also authorize payment be rendered directly to the medical facility for benefits otherwise payable to me by any third party.

Signed: _____ DATE: _____

HEALTH INFORMATION

Child's Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Home address: _____
Street address city zip

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Phone: _____
Cell phone: _____ pager _____

Second Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone _____
Cell phone _____ pager _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Child's Physician: _____

Family medical/hospital insurance carrier: _____ Policy or Group No. _____

Child's Allergies: Circle those that apply
Animals Medicines/drugs insect stings food Hay Fever
Pollen plants other: specify _____
Nature of the reaction; _____

Medication currently being taken: _____ Dosage _____

Date of last Tetanus booster _____

Other medical information or special requests you wish to make to help us aid your child in case of an emergency: _____
