

# THE STABLES AT CREEKSIDE GLEN

**Riding Class Information Packet** 

#### **OUR MISSION:**

Our mission for the riding lesson program is to share the gospel with our students, while teaching them about horses. We seek to connect with our students through forming friendships, reading Bible verses, and praying with them.

"We love because he first loved us."
1 John 4:19

## **Riding Class Information**

The Stables Directors: Drew & Leah Baldwin Head Riding Instructor: Lindsay Moore Riding Instructor: Tanner Marshall

- A student can sign up for 1 Riding Class per semester.
  - o A Riding Class is 4 weeks long, with 1 lesson per week.
  - o Lessons are <u>1</u> hour long.
  - We can take up to 4 students per hour
- We offer classes **3** days a week.
  - Monday's slots are <u>10am</u>, <u>11am</u>, <u>4pm</u>, and <u>5pm</u>,
  - o Wednesday's slot is 4pm
  - o Friday's slots are 4pm and 5pm
- We ask \$80.00 per Riding Class (\$20.00 per lesson).
- We ask that students be **6 years old** or **older** to attend **Riding Classes** at The Stables.
- We offer **2** semesters a year, our spring semester, and our fall semester.
  - Each semester is 8 weeks long divided into 2 Riding Classes.
  - Start dates for each semester will vary due to weather and school schedules.

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- This year we will offer limited <u>summer</u> classes. The <u>summer</u> classes are first come first serve and only happen on the dates that are listed below.
- A student can sign up for 1 Summer Class per month.
  - o June:
    - 21<sup>st</sup> 10am (4 slots) and 11am (4 slots)
    - 22<sup>nd</sup> <u>10am</u> (4slots) and <u>11am</u> (4 slots)
  - o July:
    - 7<sup>th</sup> **10am** (4 slots) and **11am** (4 slots)
    - 8<sup>th</sup> **10am** (4 slots) and **11am** (4 slots)

# Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can my child attend all 4 Riding Classes? (2 in Spring, 2 in Fall)

**A:** We ask that each student only signs up for <u>1</u> Riding Class <u>per</u> semester at first, to allow others the opportunity to get into our program.

**Q:** What if there are openings in other **Riding Classes** in the same semester?

**A:** These openings can be filled by students who have already attended <u>1</u> Riding Class in the same semester, at a first come first serve basis. Signups will occur the week before the class starts.

**Q:** Will lessons be cancelled if it rains?

**A:** No. We will move lessons indoors to our barn. They will get the opportunity to learn valuable facts and work with the horses in different ways.

Q: Will lessons be made up if missed?

**A:** If the lessons are cancelled **by** The Stables Staff due to weather or other circumstances, **yes**, the lessons will be made up later.

**Q**: Can I pay all at once?

**A**: Yes, whatever works for you. You can pay as you come or pay in advance.

**Q:** How can we pay?

**A:** We accept cash and checks. We can do cards through PayPal.

**Q:** Is anything specific required for lessons?

**A:** We require that students wear <u>closed toed</u> shoes and <u>long pants</u>. Helmets are provided by The Stables.

**Q:** Will my child have to share a horse?

**A:** No, each student will have their own lesson horse. That horse may change to best fit the ability of the student.

## Lesson Skill Categories:

## **Disclaimer**

At the beginning of each new riding class semester, every student, whether they are returning from previous semesters or new to our program, will be assessed by our lesson staff. Once we have assessed the students during their first lesson with us, we will place them in the appropriate skill category. Our staff will then build individual lesson plans for each student to reassure them that they are reaching their goal by the end of the 4 weeks.

Each student progresses at their own rate. Some students may stay in their appropriate skill category for more than <u>1</u> semester until they reach the confidence, the control, and the ability to move on to a more skilled category. The check marks underneath each paragraph are the main areas we will be watching for improvement in. The check marks are also what we will want to see the student accomplish before moving them up to a more skilled category.

#### **Beginner Lessons (B)**

The students will learn how to groom and tack up the horse that is assigned to them. The assigned horse can change from week to week. They will learn the basics of mounting, dismounting, control of the reins, and basic posture. They will start out riding at a walk, focusing on balance, communication with their horse, and direction changes. As the student grows more comfortable and confident, then we will start to introduce some different balance building techniques and introducing them to the trot.

- ✓ Groom, and saddle a horse
- ✓ Mounting and dismounting a horse
- ✓ Proper hand, feet, and body posture on a horse
- ✓ Basics of steering a horse
- ✓ Complete control of a horse at a walk
- ✓ Flatwork (figure 8's, circles, squares, and laps)
- ✓ Introducing the trot

#### Intermediate Lessons (I)

The students taking these lessons will be focusing more on trotting. They will do different patterns at a trot, such as figure 8's barrel patterns, pole patterns, large circles, and laps around the arena. These students will also be focusing on increasing their balance and posture at a trot. We would start introducing the concept of different interests such as barrel racing, pole bending, roping, ETC at this time.

- ✓ Groom and saddle a horse with minimal help
- ✓ Complete Control of a horse at a trot
- ✓ Proper body posture and balance at a trot
- ✓ Learn how to post and sit during a trot
- ✓ Flatwork (figure 8's, circles, squares, and laps)
- ✓ Learning obstacles (barrel racing, pole bending, etc.)

#### Advanced Lessons (A)

With these lessons, the rider will be able to walk and trot with confident control of the horse, have good riding posture and good balance. At this point, we would start introducing the lope. They will learn how to lope straight lines, circles, and figure 8's. Different interests such as barrel racing, pole bending, roping, ETC can be learned at this time.

- ✓ Groom and saddle horse unassisted
- ✓ Controlling a horse at a lope
- ✓ Lead changes
- ✓ Backing a horse
- ✓ Controlling a horse at competitive speeds on patterns
- ✓ Flatwork (figure 8's, circles, squares, and laps)
- ✓ Timed obstacles (barrel racing, pole bending, etc.)

#### **Specific Event Lessons (SE)**

If anyone is interested in a specific area of riding and already has a solid background in riding, this lesson would allow the rider to be able to pick an area where we would help them such as barrel racing, roping, pole bending, groundwork, grooming & tack, and any other interests.

- ✓ Picking an obstacle (barrel racing, pole bending, etc.)
- ✓ Work on specific areas of improvements
- ✓ Start slowly on patterns and gradually add speed
- ✓ Complete obstacle at competitive speeds

#### **Therapeutic Lessons**

We are so grateful to be able to offer these lessons! This gives anyone with a special need or disability the opportunity to come out and enjoy being around horses. We would work at a much slower pace depending on the student. We would talk with the parents/guardian to see what they would like to see the student gain from these lessons, for example such as, muscle development, hand/eye coordination, confidence, speech, core strength, social skills, sensory, ETC. We would work with a few of our volunteers to walk the student around the arena on horse back and play games, do exercises, stretches, and teach them all about horses and riding.

- ✓ Be comfortable around horse
- ✓ Groom and saddle a horse
- ✓ Sit on horse
- ✓ Be lead around on a horse
- ✓ Learn reins, stop, and go, and turning
- ✓ Balance exercises
- ✓ Posture exercises
- ✓ Fun games and activities

#### **Basic Groundwork (G)**

Students will get the opportunity to learn how to work with a horse from the ground. They will learn how to lunge a horse on a lead line and off a lead line. They will learn the cues a horse gives and how to watch for those cues. Students will also get the opportunity to learn the importance of groundwork and all the different ways that groundwork can be used to benefit the horse.

- ✓ Groom a horse thoroughly
- ✓ Lunging a horse on a lead line
- ✓ Learning the communication cues that horses give
- ✓ Lunging a horse off the lead line
- ✓ Learn the importance of groundwork

## Other Stables Opportunities

### **Summer Camps**

#### Disclaimer

Our campers are not required to have any previous contact or riding experience with horses to attend any of our horse day camps. All our horse camps are free and have meals provided.

**Lil' Buckaroo Camp:** This camp is for the ages of 12-year old's and younger. We offer beginner level opportunities for campers to learn the fundamentals of how to groom a horse, saddle a horse, and ride horses. Kids who attend this camp will also be a part of a Bible study, play rodeo games, recreational games, and do crafts. Our campers get to ride a horse at our family night at the end of camp to show off what they have learned.

Ranchero Camp: This intermediate camp is a step up from our Lil' Buckaroo Camp and is designed for 9-12-year-olds. Campers will get hands on experience with horses in their groom and tack station and get to advance in their riding while learning basic horsemanship and barrel racing in the arena. They also get to attend a Bible study, do team building exercises, learn the basics of goat tying and roping, and more. At the end of camp, campers will get to perform a barrel pattern on our family night to show what they have accomplished.

Wrangler Rodeo Camp: This is our most advanced level camp for our 12-year-olds and older. The camp is designed to challenge any level of rider to further their horsemanship skills. The campers learn competitive barrel racing and pole bending in the arena. They get to advance in their roping and goat tying skills. The campers get to participate in worship and Bible study during their meal. Then at the end of the week, campers get to demonstrate what they have learned by competing in our Wrangler Rodeo.

#### **Internship Program**

Our year-round internship program is for the ages of 12 and older. Some requirements for kids to participate in our program is they must have received (1) Riding Class with The Stables or have come to (1) Wrangler Rodeo Camp. This program offers a lot of opportunities for kids to have more hands-on experience with horses, but also allows them the opportunity to learn farm management, participate in Bible studies, and help us serve the community through the events that we have here at the farm. Please contact The Stables at Creekside Glen through our Facebook page or by phone (606)589-6910 to check for availability.