

# EQUILIBRIUM HORSE CENTER, INC.

1685 Underwood RD, Gambrills, MD 21054

410-721-0885

## REQUIRED INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Rider Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate if Minor \_\_\_\_\_

Mother or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Father or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**MEDICAL INSURANCE CARRIER AND POLICY#** \_\_\_\_\_

Listed below are the details of any allergies, ailments or handicaps of the student of which Equilibrium Horse Center should be aware.

## EHC E-MAIL LIST

**YES**, please add me to EHC's email list!

My email address is: \_\_\_\_\_

*please print clearly*

Check all areas of interest for which you would like to receive email:

All Activities     Student Info     Summer Camp     Hunter Shows     Dressage Shows     Erik Herbermann  
Clinics

Your email address and interest preferences will be recorded in our database. In the future, you will receive periodic emails specific to your interests. Privacy is important to us; therefore, we will not sell, rent, or give your name or address to anyone. At any point, you can select the link at the bottom of every email to unsubscribe, or to receive less or more information.

~ **TURN OVER** ~  
(complete both sides)

## EQUILIBRIUM HORSE CENTER RULES AND RELEASE AGREEMENT

By this agreement made and entered this DATE \_\_\_\_\_ by & between \_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT NAME (print)

& \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as "I": as agent I represent that I have authority to sign for both parents  
PARENT/GUARDIAN (print)

and guardians of the minor; and Equilibrium Horse Center, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "THIS CENTER"; IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Center's facilities are for the use of STUDENTS, their families, and guests. STUDENTS will be responsible for the conduct of their guests at this CENTER. We reserve the right to refuse admittance and/or direct non-students to leave this CENTER if their conduct does not conform to this CENTER'S rules and/or good social behavior. Flagrant disregard for this CENTER'S rules by STUDENTS or family will result in our asking that STUDENT to leave the CENTER property.

Warning: A. Actions such as stealing, use of narcotics, flagrant damage/destruction of CENTER property, abuse of animals, physical/verbal abuse of CENTER personnel will not be tolerated and will result in immediate expulsion from the premises. B. You are hereby advised and warned that all STUDENTS and family members should purchase and wear a helmet or hard hat, and to wear it in and around the CENTER at all times to prevent horse-related injuries.

2. CENTER RULES-Do not mount up until a CENTER staff is present; never mount in an aisle way.

-Continually let a horse know where you are when working around it by talking to it, patting it, etc.

-Horses may only be led with a halter and lead or bridle.

-Never kneel or sit anywhere around a horse, always be in a position to step aside if necessary.

-No gum chewing; no running and/or shouting in and around the stables.

-NO SMOKING IN OR NEAR ANY BUILDING.

-Soled, fully enclosed shoes are required at all times: shoes with a heel are required for riding.

-Children must be under constant supervision by a parent or guardian who is responsible for their actions and behavior.

-Observe and obey all posted signs on premises and check bulletin areas weekly for updated information.

-All visiting animals must be kept on a leash or restrained at all times.

3. That I do for myself or on behalf of my child/legal ward, hereby voluntarily request to participate in riding instruction as a student(s) at THIS CENTER and that student will either ride his/her own horse or school horses provided by this CENTER for instructional purposes.

4. That I understand that HORSES ARE UNPREDICTABLE by nature; that when frightened or angry or under stress, a horse's natural instinct is to jump forwards or sideways, to run away from danger at a trot or gallop, to kick, to buck, to rear up in front, or to bite; that horses are extremely powerful; and that if rider falls to the ground, the fall distance will generally be from 3.5 to 5.5 feet and at speeds up to 35 mph. I understand these risks, and I voluntarily assume these risks and dangers.

5. That I understand that upon mounting the horse and taking up the reins, the RIDER IS IN PRIMARY CONTROL of the horse, and that THIS CENTER is not responsible for the results of the rider's actions or inactions. I further agree to not abuse, misuse or deliberately agitate the horse as these actions may result in increased risk to myself and others.

6. That I have been advised that students should purchase and wear a personal, custom-fitted, CERTIFIED helmet and wear it in and around THIS CENTER so as to prevent horse-related injuries.

7. LIABILITY RELEASE: That I understand that I am responsible for any bodily injury or property damage, including any non-horse-related injury or damage, which I or my child or legal ward should sustain on THIS CENTER'S premises and/or trails and/or while in transit to or at horse shows, cross country/open field lessons, or similar expeditions, and for any time I or my child or legal ward shall lose from employment or school or other activity, and for medical expenses or any other expenses incurred because of such bodily injury or property damage; and that I hereby, for myself, my heirs, administrators and assigns release and discharge the owners, operators, and sponsors of THIS CENTER and their respective servants, agents, officers, and all other participants of and from all claims, demands, actions and causes of action for such injuries sustained to my person, or that of my child or legal charge and/or property.

8. That the student is currently covered by accident-medical insurance and will remain insured for the duration of all riding instruction at THIS CENTER. That I further understand that should medical treatment be required, the current insurance information listed here will be provided to the attending clinic or hospital to cover future payment of incurred bills. I hereby give my full and unconditional permission for the student/rider to be treated by a medical/emergency personnel in the event of an incident suggesting this assistance.

9. That this agreement is entered into the State of Maryland and will be interpreted and enforced under this State's laws.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING OF LEGAL AGE AND OF SOUND MIND AND NOT BEING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL, DRUG, OR INTOXICANTS, HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREEMENT AND RELEASE AND THIS CENTER'S RULES AND ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF A COPY OF THIS AGREEMENT THIS DATE.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE of STUDENT or PARENT/GUARDIAN IF MINOR, PLEASE GIVE BIRTH DATE OF MINOR \_\_\_\_\_

~ **TURN OVER** ~  
(complete both sides)

## Horse-Related Activities Come With This Warning

You must purchase and wear a well-fitted helmet, hard hat, or similar protective head gear fastened securely under the chin, when around horses, to reduce the risk of injuries.

You must wear hard-soled, fully enclosed shoes or boots and socks to reduce the risk of injury to feet and long pants to protect legs when around horses.

While domesticated, well-trained horses are usually obedient, docile, and affectionate, it is the horse's survival instincts that have allowed it to survive from prehistoric times to the present day. Therefore, you are 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 800 to 1300 pounds on the average. These characteristics deserve a human being's utmost respect.

When frightened, angry, under stress, or feeling threatened, it is a horse's instinct to:

- Jump forward or sideways, run away from danger at a trot or gallop at speeds of up to 35 m.p.h.
- Kick straight back, sideways in either direction, or even forward with any of its 4 legs with tremendous force.
- 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 feet to 8 feet.
- Rear 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 is in front of it.

You are to always approach a horse calmly and quietly and cautiously, preferably from near its shoulder or lower neck, talking soothingly to it.

Loud and/or sudden unexpected movements, dropping of objects near a horse, approaching vehicles or animals or people, ill-fitting equipment, or physical pain can provoke a domesticated horse to react according to its natural protective instinct.

The first signs of anger or fear in a horse are the sudden tensing of the muscles of its 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.

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 somewhere in front of it; usually the direction the ear is pointing will tell an observer where the eye is looking and consequently what the horse is likely concentrating on at that moment.

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 the reason it is best to approach a horse close to the shoulder and never to surprise a horse from the rear or to reach first for the horse's mouth.

A horse is very sure-footed by nature, but it may accidentally step on an object such as a human foot when it is balancing itself or turning about. Also, if a horse is ridden or worked on unstable ground or slippery grass or footing, it could fall down, injuring a rider or handler.