

Greenacres Horsemanship Academy, LLC  
dba Greenacres Equine Center

**Assumption of Risk  
and  
Horse Activities Warning and Injuries Reduction Suggestions**

Greenacres Horsemanship Academy, LLC, herein after known as (provider) located at:  
8255 Spooky Hollow Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242

I / we, \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (participant / parent or guardian) acknowledge that, during the participant's horse activities at the provider's stable, the potential for injury and / or damage and death (consequences) is continuously present. I realize safety measures can minimize, but not eliminate, the potential consequences of horse / stable activities. I / we agree: in consideration of allowing the participant to participate in horse and stable activities, to hold the provider and Louis & Louise Nippert Trust (owner), their trustees, officers, employees, volunteers and members harmless from any consequences I / we / participant may sustain or cause, while on the stable premises or participating in horse / stable activities. Also, I / we agree to indemnify the provider and / or owner for all cost, expenses and attorneys' fees arising from injuries, damages and death(s) sustained by and / or caused by the above identified participant(s).

Initials of participant / parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I / we acknowledge many participants in horse / stable activities are Minors. Due to the nature of horse / stable activities, these Minors will have a degree of control over horses and the stable facilities. This control has the potential to cause injury, damage and death to /of other participants and stable facilities. In that all horse / stable participants have a common exposure to the consequences of horse / stable activities, I / we agree to hold other Minor participant(s) harmless for the consequences to / of the participant.

Initials of participant / parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Definition of participant's potential horse, horsemanship and stable activities hazards**

- Horse hazards: include but not limited to; hooves, teeth, head, weight; being shoved, stepped-on, pinned, crushed, dragged, bitten, kicked
- Sandwiched; allowing your body to become positioned between a horse and a fixed object, includes another animal
- Allowing a horse to place its nose, mouth, or head against your body
- Approaching toward any direction other than the shoulder of a horse
- Mounting and dismounting from any direction other than the left-side of a horse
- Inherent risk; the potential of injury, damage or death related to the nature of the activity
- Positioning your foot completely through the stirrup; while mounting, riding or dismounting
- Wrapping or securing a line around any part of your body: hands, arm, neck, waist or leg, while controlling, tying off or securing a horse with rope, reins or lead-line (line)
- Damaged head protective system (headgear), such as plastic outer-shell showing crack
- Saddle girth strap has a tendency to become loose while riding; requiring periodic tightening

- Stirrup leather's buckle may slide out of position; requiring periodic adjustment
- Falling on / through slippery, uneven surfaces, opened doors, loading and unloading areas, lofts and storage areas
- Sharp barn implements; nails, splinters, hay-forks
- Rodents, cats, snakes and vermin

### **Appropriate type and fit of apparel**

#### Headgear

- Meeting Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) ASTM standard F1163 associated with equine activities for: head coverage, impact resistance, rapid movement and stress stability of protective head coverage provided by retention system, appropriate consumer information (is a **mandatory requirement**)
- Safety helmets for other athletic uses (such as but not limited to: biking, la cross, hockey) are not acceptable
- No damaged headgear

#### Pants

- Waist to top of foot stretch fitting or moderately loose fitting
- Saddle stabilizing features to enhance inner leg grip, such as equestrian pants, jodhpurs, chaps; with leather or similar material, friction reducing patches are **recommended** but **not** mandatory

#### Foot Protection

- Smooth, fully soled shoes or boots, which cover the ankle and have at least a quarter inch heel

I acknowledge and agree for myself and on behalf of the participant that GEC staff is not responsible for inspecting or maintaining my apparel: headgear, pants and foot protection, shown above. It is my responsibility to secure and utilize headgear that complies with the recommended standards identified above.

Initials of participant / parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Inherent Potential of injury and / or damages; Assumption of Risk**

I / We acknowledge that: horse and stable activities; mounting and dismounting, horseback riding, training involving the handling of and caring for horses, and preparation of horses for riding activities involve a high potential for injury, damage and death (risk). Horses are large, agile, herd animals, which may react suddenly to sound, visual, and / or direct or indirect impact stimuli. These reactions may be violent and include but are not limited to: kicking, jumping, rapid movement, bucking, biting, rearing, uncontrollable running. These horse related hazards will result in participant(s) being thrown from a horse, kicked, bitten, pinned or crushed due to interaction with horse(s). There is no amount of precaution or safety measures that can eliminate inherent risks. Further, as the number of hours interacting with horses increases, all participants will experience some degree of injury, damage or death. For myself and the participant(s), I accept and assume responsibility for inherent risks.

Initials of participant / parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Horses are:

- up to 15 times larger
- 20 to 40 times more powerful (stronger)
- 3 to 4 times faster; than a human being
- the top of a horse's back is as tall or taller than the height of an average man

When sitting on a horse's back, a participant is at a height of 6 feet. It is similar to sitting on a 6 foot ladder that may and will move. Falling from this height will cause discomfort, injury, damage or potentially death.

Horseback riding, driving and training are activities in which one much smaller, weaker predator animal (the human) imposes its will on and become one unit of movement with, another much larger, stronger prey animal (the horse) that has a mind of its own; each having a limited understanding of the other's intent. If a horse is uncertain, frightened or provoked it may divert from its training and act according to its natural survival instincts. These instincts include but are not limited to: stopping short, spinning, changing direction and or speed, shifting its weight, bucking, rearing, kicking, biting and / or running from danger (hazards). All such horse behaviors or reposes may result in participant injury, damage or death. Also, I acknowledge that these are just some of the hazards and risks of horse and/or stable activities. I agree to assume others risks not mentioned above. I am not relying on GEC to list all possible hazards and risks for me.

Initials of participant / parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**I hereby agree for the participant, myself, my heirs, successors, assigns, and employing entity by my signature affixed below.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_