



## *Red Fern Riding Center*

Welcome to Red Fern Riding Center! We're excited that you've chosen to begin or continue your horsemanship journey with us. Below are some of our most frequently asked questions and a few reminders about riding etiquette.

### *What Kind of riding do we do?*

At Red Fern Riding Center we participate in the sport of 3-Day Eventing, also referred to as Eventing. We teach with heavy dressage foundations and use natural horsemanship principles to emphasize clear, correct and kind communication with our horses. At its foundation dressage is all about balance, meaning if you can ride dressage you can ride any discipline. Yes, even western!

### *What equipment do I need?*

Long pants and boots with a heel. Yes, that's it! Dress boots, western boots, any boot with a heel is fine! This is for your safety. Students who come to ride without proper footwear will not be allowed to ride. We have ASTM/SEI certified helmets available for your use.

### *What can I expect?*

Our number one priority is the safety of horse and rider, this is why our lessons are longer. Each lesson will have time spent on the ground learning about horse care, safe handling and proper use and care of equipment. You're going to get a little dirty - it's all part of the fun!

### *What is expected of me?*

Timeliness is important to keep lessons on schedule and running smoothly. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early to your lesson so that you're able to get started immediately. If you are running late please call or text us at (502) 437-4375. If your instructor is running late you will still receive your full lesson time.

### *What if I have other questions?*

Please ask! Red Fern Riding Center is all about learning and having fun; questions are welcomed and encouraged! All questions are valid, especially when you're unsure about something. We're here to facilitate learning and questions are important to the process.

We're glad you've chosen Red Fern Riding Center and we look forward to our journey together!

*- Justine, Lyndsey and Jenna*



## *Facility Rules*

- **The speed limit in the Park is 15 MPH**
- Put back any equipment you use in the arena.
- Put away any tools, tack or equipment you use.
- Do not tie in the aisles - use wash rack or cross tie areas.
- Use the hose outside to wash mud off your horse - the drain clogs easily.
- Clean out the wash rack every time you use it - sweep the water toward the middle, not in the aisle. Pick up dirt or hay that collects on the drain and put it in a wheelbarrow.
- Do not tie to bars in the stalls or anything that does not have a post attached to it.
- Use hay string or a quick release if you do not have a breakaway halter on your horse.
- Clean up/rake your cross tie area after use.
- Please be mindful of how long you are in the cross tie area if another person is waiting. **DO NOT LEAVE HORSES UNATTENDED IN THE CROSS TIES!**
- Please pick up your manure
- Turn off the large overhead lights when not in use in both the arena and tack areas.
- Helmets are required at all times when mounted.
- Please be polite and courteous to other riders in the arena; be sure to call "on your left" or call "outside" when riding with other horses in the arena.
- Please call "door" when walking yourself or your horse through the doors to arenas/cross tie areas.
- No running, screaming or rough play in the barn or around the arenas
- No smoking



## *Lesson Reminders and Rules*

Hello to all our wonderful lesson students and parents! Please take a moment to review our policies and rules for riding. It is important that we provide excellent service to all our clients. Here are a few things we need your help with to be sure we have a safe, and productive program. Please let us know if you have any questions. Thanks so much!

### **Cancellation Policy -24 Hour Notice**

We are a small operation and our staff come to the barn to teach your lesson. Sometimes we schedule just one lesson, so we are specifically showing up for you. We understand that emergencies, and life, happen but if you have a conflict and need to cancel, please give us a 24-hour notice. Without 24-hour notice you will be charged for the lesson. We kindly appreciate it!

### **Scheduling – setting up your slot**

Horseback riding requires muscle memory and repetition. Although weekly lessons are not required, we encourage you to take lessons as regularly as possible. Please book all lessons through the online portal. To make changes to scheduled lessons or cancel lessons please login via our website under "Current Student Login."

### **Payments – Due at time of service**

Please be sure that your lessons are paid for at the time of service or pre-paid. We take cash or online payments. **Discounts are available in the form of cash payments or pre-paid 4 packs!** Cash payments go in the black metal box across from the office in one of the pre-printed envelopes provided. *If payment has not been received by end of business on the day of your lesson Red Fern Riding Center holds the right to automatically charge the card on file as agreed to during the booking process.*

### **Please Be On Time**

Please come 15 minutes before your ride. If you are late, it cuts into your lesson time. We understand that sometimes lessons run behind, and if that is the case, we will ensure you get your full time regardless. If for some reason you know that you are running behind, please TEXT the riding center (502) 437-4375.

### **Tacking Up - Allow time to get ready, or use lesson time**

Horsemanship (catching horses, brushing, tacking up) is part of your lesson. Students are not permitted to catch horses from the field or stall without instructor approval. Once you have approval from your instructor you may start coming early to groom and tack your horse. Students with approval are expected to give themselves enough time to have their horse ready by their lesson time.

### **Horse Care**

Horses should always be cleaned thoroughly prior to lessons, nose to tail. Grooming only the saddle area is not permitted. Legs should be clean and free of mud, hooves should always be picked before and after each ride. In the summer horses should be hosed and sweat scraped prior to being turned out. In the winter horses should be completely dry before being blanketed and turned out. If you are unsure of something or need assistance with any of these items please ask your instructor. If you notice any injuries (cuts, scabs, swellings, heat) on your horse **PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR INSTRUCTOR IMMEDIATELY.**



### **Tack**

Tack should be put away neatly and in its proper place. Please wipe off bits and figure eight bridles before hanging. Saddles and girths should be wiped down and pads placed on top of saddles dirty side up.

### **Boots and/or Closed-toed Shoes are Required**

All riders taking lessons must wear boots with a heel. If you are a beginner and you only have cowboy boots, dress boots, work shoes, duck boots with a heel - these are all acceptable. This is for your safety, students without proper shoes will not be permitted to ride.

### **Long Pants**

Long pants are required for riding, no exceptions. Breeches or riding tights are preferred. Yoga pants are also fine, jeans if they are tight around the calf. Loose pants can cause chaffing on the calf and behind the knee.

### **Shirts**

All riders should wear shirts with a sleeve while mounted. This is for your safety. Shirts should not be oversized to enable your instructor to see your position. It is preferred that long shirts are tucked in.

### **Riding Apparel NOT ALLOWED**

- No shorts of any kind, legs must be covered
- Any shoe without a heel, no tennis shoes, no sandals
- No, belly shirts, no tube tops, no halter tops
- Any clothing so loose that can get caught in the tack

### **Weather**

Lessons will not take place in inclement or threatening weather. If the weather appears inclement, please TEXT the riding center (502) 437-4375. Unless communicated, riders should expect to ride.

### **Helmets are Required**

All riders must wear an ASTM/SEI certified helmet before sitting their tush in the saddle, no exceptions. If you need it to look "cool" you may bring your own blinged or bedazzled helmet, but it must always be worn – our insurance tells us so. We provide the helmets if you do not have your own.

*Join our Facebook group!*

Updates, weather related cancellations, show information and other fun events will be posted in our lesson group on Facebook. Look for "Red Fern Riding Center Lesson Updates and Info"



*I have read and understand the above rules and have been provided with a copy. By signing below I also understand that ALL communication should be done through the main phone number of the riding center,, (502-437-4375) not through your instructor.*

---

Student

Date

---

Parent or Guardian of Student (if under 18)

Date