

# **Welcome to Meadowlarke Stables**

## **NEW STUDENTS**

When you arrive at Meadowlarke Stables, please drive around to the back parking lot. Our lounge is located here. Please wait in the lounge for your instructor; he/she will meet you there at the start of the lesson ( you do not need to arrive 30 minutes in advance for your first lesson )

The lesson will begin with introductions of the Instructor & Barn Worker, followed by a short barn tour, before beginning the horse handling and grooming.

Although every effort is made to run on schedule, instructors may run late from time to time.

## **LESSONS PARTICIPANTS & STAFF ONLY IN THE BARN.**

This is for everyone's safety. Please feel free to use the lounge area during the lesson.

Non lesson participants are not permitted in the barn areas at any time.

Exception - lesson viewing days & schooling competition days

Parents and visitors who do not comply with this rule will be asked to remove the lesson participant from the program. If you need to speak to someone in the barn we do offer an intercom system, instructions are beside the phone in the lounge.

## **PREPARATION AND UNTACKING OF HORSES**

All students are responsible for grooming/tacking their horse before the lesson and untacking & putting their horse away after the lesson. After the first lesson, students need to arrive 30 minutes before the lesson and stay 30 minutes after to care for their horses.

During this time the Barn Worker will be in the barn, and should you need help all you have to do is ask. Barn workers can be identified by their Red Meadowlarke Stables Hats.

Occasionally horses are used in consecutive lessons, if your horse is not available before/after your lesson, we encourage you to help another student to practice your skills.

## **LEARN TO RIDE COURSE OUTLINE**

- Week #1 Students will be given a barn tour and shown how to handle and groom their horse  
Students will be fitted with rented equipment, purchased equipment will also be checked for appropriate sizing.
- Week #2 Students will learn the "tuck & roll position. We will review grooming, learn to pick appropriate tack for their horse, lead their horse as well as mount and dismount
- Week #3 Students will learn how to saddle their horses, adjust their stirrups & tighten their girth while on the horse and how to hold their reins
- Week #4 Students will review the saddling process and while riding work in the walk on steering and halting
- Week #5 Students will learn how to bridle and while riding be introduced to trotting
- Week #6 Students will review bridling and while riding continue working in the trot, learning 2 & 3 point positions and rising trot
- Week #7 Students will continue working at the trot, gaining balance and control
- Week #8 Students will learn to change direction at the trot, and be introduced to work without stirrups

This is an approximate outline, and may vary depending on the confidence & abilities of the lesson participants.

## **MISSED CLASSES**

The 8 week Learn to Ride program is a set program, with set class dates. If you can not attend a class make-ups are not available. Please call or email us if you are unable to attend so we know not to expect you.

## **CONTINUING ON AFTER LEARN TO RIDE**

Nearing the end of your Learn to Ride program, your instructor will pass out information on our Level 2 lessons. Level 2 becomes part of our monthly lessons, where the lessons run on the calendar month. If you have any questions please call the office.

## **QUESTIONS**

Our office is located in the Equine Emporium.

Our hours are - Monday-Friday 10-6, Saturday 9-4 & Sunday 10-4.

Please feel free to stop by, e-mail us at [info@meadowlarkestables.com](mailto:info@meadowlarkestables.com)

or call us at 905-821-0419, if you have any questions or concerns.