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## The Maverick Farms Riding Academy Rider's Guide to Success



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# INTRODUCTION

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Thank you for choosing Maverick Farms Riding Academy. We are a boutique riding facility offering a customized learning environment for riders of all levels and ages, focusing on team work, good sportsmanship and classic horsemanship. Good horsemanship requires compassion, respect, patience, a sense of responsibility, a desire to learn and a positive attitude, attributes which are important in any walk of life.

Additionally, turnout for the horse and the rider is important and teaches discipline and respect for the sport.

This booklet contains guidelines to help you or your child successfully achieve desired riding goals through Maverick Farms Riding Academy. It includes sections on purchasing and leasing a horse as well as attending shows.

## ***1 FIRST STEPS***

### **1.1 Evaluation**

An evaluation is required for all students wishing to join the Maverick Farms Riding Academy program. Linda Cooper will place the student in the class appropriate to his/her ability.

### **1.2 Planning Your Lessons**

Do you or your child want to experience the love of the outdoors, and the joy of riding and caring for a gentle animal? One or two group lessons a week on our lesson horses may satisfy this goal. Lessons include riders of the same general skill level, and are great fun for the whole family to watch. We always try to provide a supportive environment that emphasizes the sportsmanship and the fun of riding.

### **1.3 Competing**

At some point you or your child may want the experience of competition in a show, which presents an opportunity to demonstrate the skills you have acquired, and measure your progress. Most of our riders begin showing in our local ETI (Equestrian Trail Incorporated) schooling shows. They are a great place to get a good feel for competition in a friendly setting. If you or your child enjoys showing, there are many other levels of competition to explore. From the regional Gold Coast Shows (Los Angeles Equestrian Center), Interscholastic Equestrian Team (IEL), to national competitions, Maverick Farms has earned an excellent reputation as a training ground for champion-level riders.

# Maverick Farms Lesson and Training Program

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## ***2 LESSONS AND TRAINING PROGRAM***

Riders taking one to two group lessons a week are expected to have chaps, boots, breeches and an SEI-approved helmet. Riders who graduate from the lesson horses to a leased or owned horse are expected to have their own equipment, including saddle, bridle, protective leg boots and grooming kit. Owning or leasing a horse is recommended, and required to compete. Lesson pricing is listed on [www.maverickfarms.net](http://www.maverickfarms.net).

### **2.1 Rider Attire**

Students must come neatly attired:

- Boots with heels and half chaps or tall boots
- Spurs (if needed)
- Hair in a hair net and under helmet
- A fitted, sleeved shirt tucked into pants. Polo shirts are recommended. NO spaghetti straps or crop tops
- Breeches preferred. No excessively low jeans
- Belt
- Crop
- Vest or fitted jacket zipped up (if needed)
- No dangling jewelry
- Cell phones should not be worn due to the possibility of injury to the rider or breakage in the event of a fall

### **2.2 Lesson Structure**

The number of lessons per week will depend on the rider's personal goals as well as the training level or the horse and rider. Consistency in lessons and trainer rides is vitally important to help achieve peak performance of horse and rider.

Students will be assigned a class level during the assessment. Linda Cooper will inform riders when they are ready to move up to the next level.

### **2.3 Class Levels**

#### ***2.3.1 Longe Line***

- Open to all students
- Show level—Lead line
- Take 1-2 lessons per week
- Understand proper seat position and aids
- Control horse at the walk and trot

- Give proper walk, trot and canter aids

### ***2.3.2 Walk-Trot***

- Open to all students
- Show level–Walk-trot
- Take 1-2 lessons per week
- Demonstrate proper seat position and aids
- Control horse at the walk, trot and canter
- Give proper walk, trot and canter aids
- Understand diagonals at the trot
- Know two-point position
- Guide horse over ground poles at the walk and trot

### ***2.3.2 Cross rails***

- Open to all students
- Show level–Cross rails
- Take 2 lessons per week
- Control horse at the walk, trot and canter sitting and in two point
- Know simple changes of lead
- Ride at the walk without irons
- Jump cross rail fences
- Walk ground poles without irons

### ***2.3.3 Short Stirrup I***

- Open to all students
- Show level–Green rider, short/long/rusty stirrup
- Take 2 lessons per week
- Understand diagonal and lateral aids
- Know flying and simple lead changes
- Execute a half turn, and a half turn in reverse
- Know the center, diagonal and quarter line in the arena
- Ride both the correct and the counter bend
- Know the leg yield, half turn on haunches, shoulder in, and figure eight at the walk
- Ride at the trot without irons
- Jump fences 2'-2'3.
- Jump single jumps without irons.

### ***2.3.4 Short Stirrup II***

- Open to all students
- Show level–Short/long/rusty stirrup, prior rider
- Execute all requirements of SSI
- Collection and extension at all gaits
- Working on the bit
- Know the half halt
- Ride at the canter without irons
- Ride serpentine at the canter with simple lead changes

- Jump 2'3-2'6. courses with or without irons
- At this level, riders should either have a long-term lease on a horse or own their own horse

### ***2.3.5 Intermediate I***

- Open to horses/riders in training programs only
- Show level–Prior rider, low modified
- Execute all requirements of SSII
- Execute shoulder in at trot
- Ride a horse on the bit
- Ride on the counter lead
- Jump 2'6. - 2'9. Courses with lead changes, with or without irons.

### ***2.3.6 Intermediate II***

- Open to horses/riders in training programs only
- Show level. Children/Adult Amateur B and A Equitation and medals
- Execute all requirements of Intermediate I
- Execute a haunches in at the trot
- Ride a serpentine with flying changes
- Jump 2'9-3' courses with or without stirrups

### ***2.3.5 Advanced***

- Open to horses/riders in training programs only
- Show level–Children's/AA hunters, Junior/AO hunters, Jumpers, A equitation and medals
- Must execute all requirements of previous levels
- Jump a 3'6. course or higher with or without irons

## **2.4 Horsemanship**

All riders are encouraged to take an active role in their horses care and management. They should be familiar with basic health care, nutrition, farriery, show preparation, longeing, and be familiar with a wide variety of tack. All students are encouraged to further their horsemanship knowledge through reading, question-and-answer sessions, or attending seminars and clinics.

# Purchasing a Horse

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## ***3 PURCHASING OR LEASING A HORSE***

The purchase or full lease of a horse is a long process of searching, questioning, riding, evaluating, vetting, negotiating and seeking advice as well as guidance. For the experienced purchaser it is another journey of patience, for the first timer, it can be a daunting experience. Unfortunately, novice buyers can overlook factors that can present safety or suitability issues. We strongly encourage our clients to leverage our expertise in finding a suitable mount. At Maverick Farms, we work with a network of equestrian professionals who have earned an excellent reputation for dealing honestly and finding wonderful horses. Regardless of how much you want to spend, or what kind of horse you want, we are here to help you find the horse best suited to your needs and budget.

### **3.1 Getting Help**

Horse buying or full leasing involves several steps. When you decide that you are ready to enter into the horse shopping market, talk to Linda Cooper and she will help you evaluate your goals (ability, size, price-range, etc.). Our network is constantly on the lookout for horse suited for the Maverick Farms riding program, so as soon as we know you are interested in buying a horse we will begin the process of finding you the perfect mount. We encourage you to utilize our network when purchasing a horse. A horse purchase is complex and unfortunately there are many unscrupulous sellers in the equestrian marketplace.

Remember the word patience. Rushing into a hasty purchase is not in anyone's best interest. You will find yourself going on some road trips, and possibly some air travel! You may look at one or as many as 20 animals before you find the one that is right for you. Remember, it is all part of an educational process. Much can be learned from riding many different horses and examining their training, attitude and conformational strengths.

### **3.2 Trial Period**

When you find a promising horse, we will typically request it come to Maverick Farms for a trial period. Sometimes the horses are permitted to stay for several days, sometimes they must be returned to their owners overnight. Usually though, there will be ample time for you and Linda Cooper to ride and evaluate the horse.

The trial period provides you with the opportunity to try your prospective horse in a strange environment. Many horses behave beautifully at home, but prove spooky and difficult to handle in a different environment. The trial period also gives Linda Cooper time to evaluate how well suited you and the horse are to each other. It should also reveal any problems that would cause Linda Cooper to recommend that the horse be returned.

If all goes well and Linda Cooper agrees that the horse is suited to you, then the next step is to have the horse examined by a veterinarian.

NOTE: The prospective purchaser is responsible for the horse's board while it is at Maverick Farms, and any shoeing, vet, insurance and hauling fees incurred. A horse that has been brought in for sale may be tried by other riders who are looking to buy, but the rider paying the board has the first right of refusal on the horse.

### 3.3 Leasing

Some clients opt to lease instead of purchase a horse. You may find partial leases available with horses located locally. If you would like to bring in a horse for a full lease you will typically pay the lease fee upfront. Just like owning the horse, you will be responsible for all the horse's expenses during the time you lease the horse. Lease costs depend upon the quality and ability of the horse.

Plan to spend at least the following per year:

Horse can show and course at the following level	Annual Lease Fee
2'	\$12,000
2'6"	\$15,000
3'	\$20,000-25,000
3'3"	\$30,000 +

### 3.4 Pre-purchase Exam

The pre-purchase exam is a basic physical conducted by a veterinarian for a horse you are considering purchasing (typically not a full-lease horse). This exam will reveal any lameness and uncover most other areas of unsoundness that may be of concern to you as the buyer. X-rays may be taken. We recommend that both front feet be x-rayed, since most soundness problems start there. The vet may recommend additional pictures if, during the course of the exam, he finds a questionable area of weakness. The cost of the pre-purchase exam will depend on the number of x-rays taken, but is usually between \$300 -\$600.

### 3.5 Costs

If you decide not to buy or lease after the trial or exam, the horse will be shipped back to its owner **at your cost**. If you decide that you would like to make an offer on the horse, Linda Cooper will negotiate on your behalf. If an agreement can be reached, you will own your horse! Payment for the horse is usually made with a Cashier's Check, made payable to the seller or agent. You will also pay Linda Cooper a 10% commission fee on the sale price of the horse or the lease price for the services rendered to you during the searching and buying or leasing process. This commission is standard in the industry and is due and payable on completion of the sale or lease negotiation. You are responsible for all stabling charges, shipping and farriery incurred during the trial period.

### **3.6 Insurance**

After you have purchased your horse, we recommend that you purchase mortality and surgical insurance, and possibly loss of use, if your horse is less than 15 years old.

### **3.7 Stabling and Supplies**

You will need to make arrangements with the barn manager for boarding. If this is your first horse there are a number of items you will need to purchase. This is a general list of supplies.

Tack:

- Saddle, girth, martingale, bridle, halter and lead rope

Grooming supplies:

- Brushes, Curry comb, hoof pick, mane pulling comb, bucket, shampoo and conditioner, sponges (soft and scrubby), sweat scraper

Medical supplies:

- Thermometer
- Standing wraps for tired or sore legs (these include cotton quilts and long bandages)
- Vet wrap for bandaging and scissors

Horse attire:

- Polo wraps, splint boots, bell boots, fly sheet, fly mask, winter blanket, light day sheet, cooler

Miscellaneous items:

- Longe line, longe whip, crop, stud chain, extra lead rope, rags/towels, extension cord, leather cleaner and oil

Supplements:

- Ask your trainer about extra feed or supplements.

### **3.8 Care of Your Horse When you Are Away**

It is your responsibility to make accommodations for your horse to get out every day when you are out of town. In order for your horse to maintain muscle conditioning, he or she must have consistent exercise at least 5 days a week. If you plan to be away from the barn for more than three consecutive days, it is recommended you sign your horse up for a trainer ride. If you are unable to exercise your horse consistently five days a week, there are various training options available including full training. Riders absent from the barn three or more weeks are required to place their horse in full training and full groom service during their absence to remain in the Maverick Farms Academy training program.

Please note: horses must be on the premises of Peter Weber Equestrian center to qualify for a trainer ride or Maverick Farms groom service.

# Showing

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## ***4 ATTENDING HORSE SHOWS***

Attending a horse show can be an exhilarating experience. Maverick Farms attends many different horse shows, from local ETI shows to the USA Equestrian (USAE) 'A' circuit. If you are interested in competing, here are some things you should know.

### **4.1 Horse Show Associations**

Horse shows are run under the rules of one or more horse show associations and you must be a member of the association before you can compete. Your horse will need to be registered too. Consult with Linda Cooper to decide which shows you will be entering and which associations you should join. The local associations are:

- ETI—Equestrian Trails Incorporated
- LAHJA—Los Angeles Hunter Jumper Association

In addition to the local association membership, some shows may require you to be a member of:

- USHJA—United States Hunter Jumper Association
- USEF—United States Equestrian Foundation
- CPHA—California Professional Horseman's Association
- PCHA—Pacific Coast Horse Show Association

You can still compete if you pay a large non-member fee. If you plan to compete in 3 or more of these shows, it is cheaper to join the associations.

The associations you join will send you a rule book and premiums for each show. The premium contains all the show information, including location, directions, date, start time, class listing and any other relevant information. Each association records points from all competitions throughout the year. Members are eligible for year-end awards.

### **4.2 Entry Procedure**

- Sign up at the Maverick Farms office. Each show has a separate sign-up sheet. Indicate if you need show prep and groom service (see below) or not.
- Typically Linda Cooper will complete your form, you provide the check and she will send all client entry forms in at one time.
- If you complete your own form:
  - Make sure your form has all the required signatures.
  - Make sure Linda Cooper checks your entry (give her a copy).
  - Mail your entry with any required deposits to the show office.

### 4.3 Preparing Your Horse

- Grooming—it is of the utmost importance that your horse be properly groomed on the day of the show. The best way to insure this is by regular daily grooming, since lots of currying and brushing is best for maintaining your horse's coat. Bathing can be overdone and may leave your horse's coat dry and dull. Running water over his back will not remove dirt. Regular vigorous currying brings out the natural oils and shine, and draws out the deep down dirt which can then be brushed away.
- Show Clipping Services—we recommend signing up for show clipping services, which include mane pulling and clipping the horse's muzzle, throatlatch, ears, bridle path, fetlock/pastern, white socks.
- Body Clipping—if your horse requires body clipping, it should be done 2 weeks before the show.
- If you choose to do it yourself:
  - The following should be clipped regularly—muzzle, throatlatch, ears, bridle path, fetlock/pastern, white socks. All clipping should be done with a # 10 or # 15 blade, except the muzzle and the inside of the ears, which may be clipped with a #30 blade.
  - Mane pulling—do not pull the mane if you are going to a show that requires braiding. The braider will pull it. Do not pull the mane too short or it will stand up.
  - You can train the mane to lay down by using a mane tamer, or putting a towel over the wet mane until it dries.
- Bathing—bathe your horse with shampoo and conditioner the day before the show. If braiding is required do not shampoo or condition the mane and the top of the tail. Use a curry under the running water to insure all the shampoo is rinsed out. Cover your horse with a cooler while he dries if it is chilly. Do not apply show sheen to the saddle/girth area, or to the mane and tail if braiding. Do not use Vetrolin as it shows up positive in drug tests.
- Shipping wraps—use thick cotton quilts and flannel standing bandages to wrap all four legs. It is necessary to wrap masking tape around Velcro closures on the bandages.
  - A leather shipping halter and cotton lead rope should be left next to your horse's stall.
- If your horse is being braided overnight, leave an ace bandage next to his stall.

### 4.4 Tack Trunks

For multi-day shows, Maverick Farms decorates the barn area with logoed tents and a seating area to create a professional, uniform look. Seasoned riders bring a large tack trunk in to put in front of their horse's stall. It is used to keep their show items handy. Tack trunks that are placed in front of the stalls must be Maverick Farms colors (burgundy and white), have the Maverick Farms Logo and have fitted covers. A blanket is not considered a cover. Maverick Farms Tack Trunks can be ordered from General Store. For riders who have tack trunks that do not have the Maverick Farms logo, we strongly recommend purchasing a Maverick Farms tack trunk cover.

## 4.5 Tack

- New tack should be oiled and fitted well before the show.
- Make sure all your equipment has your name on it: brass nameplates for tack.
- All tack should be in good repair.
- The day before the show, take apart your bridle, clean thoroughly and reassemble.
- Remove stirrups and leathers from saddle before cleaning.
- Clean girth and martingale.
- Scrub bit and metal parts to a shine with baking soda.
- If your horse is getting a training ride you will need to leave your bridle in the tack room the night before the show.
- You are responsible for bringing your tack trunk to the show.
- YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING ALL YOUR TACK TO THE SHOW.

## 4.6 Grooming

If you are attending 'A' or 'B' shows you are required to have grooming service.

If you are grooming for yourself at a one-day show, you should bring the following:

- Large bucket for water
- White or black polo wraps
- Longe line
- Splint and bell boots
- Sweat scraper
- Sponges
- Fly spray
- Show Sheen
- Spray bottle of water
- Cooler
- Hoof oil
- Clean rags or towels
- Vet wrap
- Liniment for horse's legs
- Sheet cotton and duct tape

You should take these items to every show, even though you will not use them every time.

## 4.7 Braiding

Generally, it is only 'A' shows and medal finals that require braiding. Linda Cooper will let you know when it is necessary. The cost of braiding can vary. If the braider has to pull the mane, you may be charged for that too. Manes can sometimes stay in for 2 days, but tails should never be left in overnight.

## 4.8 Apparel

The following is required for all shows.

For the horse:

- Clean white saddle pad
- Clean polo wraps. White for grays and chestnuts, black for bays and black horses
- Leather equitation boots (no fuzzy lining)

For the rider:

- Polish boots, spurs and spur straps
- Hair up in a hair net
- Breeches or jodhpurs must be beige (Tailored Sportsman brand is preferred)
- Navy hunt coat
- Shirt (rat catcher) may be short sleeved; however, a long sleeved shirt looks nicer under the coat. Detachable collars are best and should be embroidered. No pins
- Tall boots—black leather
- Helmets must be ASTM/SEI-approved: black, GPA or Charles Owen style only

Remember that your turn out as a rider is very important. Make sure your apparel is clean and neat. Both you and your horse need to look beautiful and carefully groomed.

## 4.9 At the Show

Make sure you are at the show grounds early, allowing yourself extra time to organize and relax. Check in with the trainers 1 ½ hours before your class. You can get an estimated start time from [horseshowtime.com](http://horseshowtime.com). [Horsehowtime.com](http://Horsehowtime.com) may be able to give you a better idea of the time your classes will start. Go to the show office, where you will need to leave an open check, collect your number and check for any class schedule changes.

You can check the numbers of entries in the classes before yours, to give you an estimate of the time until your class. Allow 2 minutes for each rider in each class. For instance, 4 classes with 6 riders in each class total 24 rounds. At 2 minutes per round, you have 48 minutes (approximately!!) to wait. Please remember that any delays will add to your wait time, and classes may be canceled if there are insufficient entries, so be aware of what is happening in your ring.

If you are grooming for yourself, you will need to do the following:

- Longe your horse (if necessary) approximately 1 hour before the first class of the day.
- Give your horse a bucket of water and full hay net. Make sure hay net is hung properly.
- Groom and tack up in plenty of time to warm up.

Make sure you have:

- A towel to shine your boots.
- Brush, rag and a spray bottle of rubbing alcohol to remove sweat marks and groom your horse.
- Hoof oil to polish your horse's hooves.
- You may want to take some water to the ring if you have several classes in a row.
- Between classes you may need to hold your horse or tie him. If your horse is tied, you must check repeatedly that he has ample water and hay. It is important to offer water

frequently as horses take about the same amount of water each time they drink. As the temperature rises, they will drink more frequently.

We recommend Maverick Farms groom service for all shows. However, if you are showing on the 'A' or 'B' circuit, you will be required to use Maverick Farms grooming service. Longeing, feeding, watering, grooming and tacking up will be done for you, and your horse will be cared for after your class. Please refer to the current show fees price list for grooming costs. If you feel your groomer has done a good job, a tip is always appreciated.

#### **4.10 Warming Up**

Give yourself time to warm up. You may enter the warm-up ring at any time, but you may not begin jumping until your trainer is there to supervise you. Stay off your horse's back as much as possible between classes. He is working hard for you and will appreciate the rest.

#### **4.11 The Back Gate**

The courses for all classes are posted near the back gate. Take some time to learn your course before you compete. If you are competing in a Medal class, the order of go will also be posted at the back gate. Tell your trainer where you are in the lineup so she can be there to help you when needed.

The gate steward (who may also do the announcing) is responsible for keeping the classes moving. When you have warmed up and are ready for your round, give the steward your number and he/she will tell you when you can go in. Do not leave the gate area once you have signed in. You must not enter the ring without your trainer. If you or your trainer is required in another ring, tell the steward so he can accommodate you if possible.

If the class is very large, you may be asked to sign in at the back gate in groups of 4 or 5 riders in advance of your class. Ask your trainer which group you should go in, time your warm-up accordingly, and be ready to go when your group is called.

If you decide to withdraw from a particular class or add a new one, you will need to do so at the show office. They will give you an add/scratch form to give to the back gate (you may be charged a fee for this).

#### **4.12 Horse Show Etiquette**

We are proud of our reputation among show officials for having clients that are good sports, cooperative and polite. This reputation has been built over the many years we have been doing business together. Naturally, we want to maintain our outstanding reputation and good working relationship with the show officials, so it is important that everyone showing from Maverick Farms conduct themselves in accordance with USAE rules as well as the general rules of show etiquette.

Be polite and considerate at all times when dealing with the gate stewards and show secretaries. You are only one of many people they have to deal with during the day. Recognize

that they may be tired, but they are trying to do a good job, so please be patient and cooperative.

Addressing the judge: while it may seem reasonable to voice your unhappiness over a judge's decision, doing so is both against USAE rules and not acceptable conduct for clients of Maverick Farms. It is against USAE rules to talk to the judge without first receiving permission from the show steward and the judge.

Only Maverick Farms instructors may request to address the judge, and this will happen rarely. Our experienced trainers usually understand a judge's decision and can explain it to our students. We understand that judging is subjective, and we must accept the judge's decision. Keep your trainer informed: our trainers are usually working with several students at one time. They may also need to move between rings. You can help by keeping them informed of your schedule, particularly if there are sudden changes (such as a class being canceled), and being patient!

Sportsmanship: Maverick Farms expects good sportsmanship at all times. Support your team members by being at the ring when they ride, congratulating them when they do well and commiserating with them when they don't. Help out by offering to fetch something from the trailer, shining boots or getting a drink of water.

Parent Policies: in order to maintain an atmosphere of athletic preparation, parents or guardians are not permitted at the back gate of the show ring. Your child, as a competitor, needs the full benefit of their trainer's comments and can be distracted by the presence of their parents at the back gate. Please feel free to watch the warm-up from outside the warm-up ring. You may watch the round from the spectator area. Do not stand next to the trainers during the classes. Allow the trainer and your child 3-5 minutes after the completion of the course to critique and review the round. This will also allow the competitor to mentally review his/her performance. If your child is evidently ill in some way, such as over-heating, we will immediately call for your assistance. However, emotional frustration due to a mistake on course does not constitute illness, therefore parents need to allow their child-athlete time to reflect on their round and mentally prepare for the next class.

There are many life lessons your child can learn from the show ring and one of the best lessons is to assess a not-so-perfect performance and determine how to improve it for the next round (or show). Encourage a positive learning experience from showing and don't always just focus on the win.

#### **4.13 After the Show**

If you do not have grooming service, you will need to wrap your horse's legs for the journey home. You can apply liniment before the wraps. Check that you have all your belongings before you leave and pick up any trash in the trailer area.

At home, leave the shipping wraps on or replace them with standing wraps. Give your horse his usual supplements and medications. Discuss with Linda Cooper if extra medications are required or not.

The day after the show, remove your horse's wraps and take him for a walk or turn him out.

#### **4.14 Medication Policy**

Do not give any medication to your horse without consulting Linda Cooper. Some commonly used drugs are illegal or have a legal limit on the dose. Medication at multi-day shows is done by the trainers. They will make every effort to inform you of any changes to your horse's medications. Rest assured that with their experience, knowledge and expertise, they will make informed, reasoned decisions regarding your equine athlete's health.

# Rules and Code of Conduct

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## ***5 FOCUS ON FUN, FRIENDLY AND SAFE***

Maverick Farm is committed to providing you with a fun, friendly and safe experience. In order to maintain the outstanding quality of horses and horsemanship, we ask that you abide by the following rules and expected code of conduct. You will be asked to sign a copy of these rules and a release form before your first ride.

### **5.1 Student Rules**

1. Every student must have a signed release form (if under 18 years old) and a completed student information card prior to mounting or riding at Maverick Farms.
2. Students must be mounted and prepared to enter the ring at the scheduled class commencement time. For customer service and rider/horse safety, late arrivals are not permitted.
3. If you miss a scheduled lesson without phoning to cancel at least two hours prior to the lesson, you will be charged a \$10.00 fee.
4. No one may mount or ride without a harnessed safety helmet. No exceptions!
5. Students are required to dress appropriately for riding. Breeches and jeans are acceptable: shorts are not. Blouses or shirts are required and should be tucked into breeches. For safety purposes, long boots or paddock boots must be worn. Students not attired properly will not be allowed to participate in classes.
6. No gum chewing while riding.
7. When grooming your horse, be thorough, including picking hooves. Please pay special attention to their back and girth areas to prevent saddle sores.
8. Always leave irons up until your horse has left the cross ties and run them back up before entering the cross ties.
9. Never cross tie your horse to the bridle or the bit. Either remove the bridle and tie to the halter or place the halter over the bridle.
10. Do not mount or dismount your horse in the cross ties.
11. Do not put horses away hot or sweaty.
12. No one may jump without a trainer (this includes ground poles).
13. Jumps may not be moved or adjusted by anyone except instructors.
14. No one may ride double.
15. No one 12 years of age or younger may ride without parent, guardian or trainer supervision.
16. Please remember SAFETY FIRST! Keep your eyes open and be courteous to other students and horses.

### **5.2 Junior Students' Code of Conduct**

In addition to the general student rules, junior students are required to observe the following rules.

1. Be courteous to all members of the Maverick Farms community.
2. Respect other people's property. You must have their permission to borrow anything. Return it in the condition it was given to you.
3. Good sportsmanship and horsemanship are expected at all times.
4. Be helpful to those around you.
5. The following behaviors are expressly forbidden:
  - Foul language
  - Formation of cliques that deliberately and actively exclude other students
  - Physical or verbal abuse and bullying of any kind
  - Discussion of inappropriate topics
  - Drinking alcohol