**Arena Equestrian**

Lesson Program Overview and Rules

arenaequestrianoc.com

**Riding Instruction**

With many years of riding and teaching experience Arena Equestrian welcomes all riders from beginner, intermediate, to advanced. Whether you are just learning to ride, wanting to get back in the saddle, or are currently riding we welcome everyone! Riding is a fun activity and we emphasize safety; every student must be able to follow directions, respect the staff, and listen to directions. Helmets must be worn at all times while mounted.

We’re located at Hidden Hills Equestrian Ranch: 31943 Ararat Dr, Bonsall, CA 92003.

Website: arenaequestrianoc.com

Instagram: @arena.equestrian

**Lessons**

Every rider will start with private lessons. Lessons are an hour long, ride time is approximately 30-40 minutes. Students will also groom, tack and untack during their lesson. Beginners will learn how to safely handle their horse, as well as the basics of steering and control.

**Payments & Scheduling**

In order to build riding skills, we ask that all students commit to a minimum of once a week lessons. Payment is due before the start of the lesson.We currently accept payment in cash, check, venmo or zelle. Lessons are $70 each, if students prepay for a month of lessons they are $60 each.

**Cancellation Policy**

We understand that extenuating circumstances happen, and that riders may fall ill the day of their lesson. We ask that students call to inform us with as much notice as possible so that we can make arrangements for their horse to be exercised/for other riders to have the opportunity to fill the spot. Cancellations made with more than 24 hours in advance will result in a make-up lesson. Cancellations made with less than 24 hours advance will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Unless there is an emergency, calling 1-2 hours prior to class to cancel is insufficient notice, and will result in a missed lesson without a make-up. Lessons missed without any advanced notice will not result in a make-up.

If you plan to be away or know you will not be able to make lessons (i.e. vacations, work schedule, ect.) Please let your instructor know. We want to be able to schedule your make-up lessons prior to you being away!

**Late Policy**

You must arrive to the barn on time for your scheduled lesson. In order to keep the day running as smoothly as possible we ask that you plan to arrive at the barn to have enough time to prepare your horse/pony for your lesson. If you arrive late for your lesson your instructor will not be able to extend the scheduled lesson time.

**Inclement Weather**

We are lucky to have a small covered arena and great weather most of the year.. We will not cancel lessons because of light rain or wind. Lessons will be canceled if there are active thunderstorms, flooding, wildfires, heavy rains, or extremely hot temperatures. Please check with your instructor to ensure lessons are still on schedule.

Our philosophy is to foster a passion not just for horseback riding, but for horses as a whole. We strive to educate our students in general knowledge of horse anatomy, first aid, behavior, equipment, nutrition, and much more. In the event of weather conditions that are unsafe or unsuitable for riding, (such as rain, extreme wind, muddy/slippery riding areas from previous rain), we utilize the opportunity to hold classes on equestrian-related skills aside from riding.

During an “unmounted” lesson, class will be held for one hour instead of two hours. Students should arrive at their regular ride time, unless otherwise specified. Our instructors will lead the class in an enrichment lesson that may include activities such as viewing equestrian competition footage, caring for equipment, preparing horse medications, active discussions about horse breeds, and much more. **Because we view unmounted lessons as crucial to creating well-rounded equestrians, please note that we will not allow students to schedule a make-up riding lesson instead of attending an “unmounted” lesson.**

**Barn Policies**

While horses are inside of the ring students/parents/children are not allowed to walk/run around the arenas. Please remain in a permitted area. Never run in front of the horses/ponies.

Around the Barn-

1. Please drive SLOW down the driveway! Speed limit is 5MPH.
2. Horses and Pedestrians have the right of way.
3. Please watch for the tractors and barn equipment.
4. Please do not park on the grass.
5. As much as we love our animals please leave your pets at home.

**Respect others and our property**

1. DO NOT RUN - unless there is an emergency NEVER run.
2. Do not climb trees, fences or gates.
3. Please clean up all TRASH.
4. Do not feed any horse additional hay.
5. Do not feed any other horses or the barn dogs.
6. No pets allowed.

**Parents/Guardians/Visitors-**

We encourage you to stay and watch lessons. However, it is extremely important that the student is able to participate in their lesson without interference from spectators. Please refrain from talking on the cell phone and yelling/speaking loudly. If you bring a child to the barn they must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Please do not run and do not allow your children to run.

Students are allowed to be dropped off at their lesson time but must be picked up at the end of the lesson. Please do not allow your child to “hang out” in the barn. At the conclusion of the lesson the student (under 18 years of age) MUST be accompanied but a responsible adult. There will be no unattended child on the property at any time.

**Attire-**

* All riders must have long pants and hard-soled shoes with a small heel (paddock boots are perfect).
* Shorts are not permitted to ride in.
* All riders are required to wear a helmet (ASTM- approved).
* We encourage all riders to purchase a helmet that properly fits.
* Riding boots and half chaps or tall boots are highly encouraged.
* You may bring your own brushes, saddle pad, and crop. But please take it back home with you. We do not have storage for extra supplies.

**Local tack stores-**

Dover Saddlery: 23052 Lake Forest Dr, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

American Horse Products: 31896 Plaza Suite C4, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675