

Little Hooves on the Prairie

RIDING LESSON WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK & HORSE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

Participant Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ Phone: _____
Emergency Contact: _____ Emergency Phone: _____
Date: _____

COLORADO EQUINE ACTIVITY WARNING

WARNING: Under Colorado Law, an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to section 13-21-119, Colorado Revised Statutes.

1. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF EQUINE RISKS

I understand that horseback riding, handling horses, grooming, leading, mounting, dismounting, and being around horses involve inherent risks.

Horses are large animals that may behave unpredictably. They may kick, bite, buck, rear, bolt, stumble, fall, step on a person, become frightened, or react suddenly to sounds, movement, animals, weather, equipment, or other conditions.

I understand that injuries may occur even when reasonable safety precautions are followed. By signing this agreement, I voluntarily choose to participate or allow my minor child to participate in equine activities and accept the risks associated with those activities.

Initials: _____

2. ASSUMPTION OF RISK

I knowingly and voluntarily assume all inherent risks associated with horseback riding and other equine activities. These risks may include, but are not limited to:

- Falling from or being thrown from a horse
- Being kicked, bitten, stepped on, bumped, or struck by a horse
- A horse bucking, bolting, rearing, stumbling, slipping, or falling
- Equipment failure or tack shifting or breaking
- Uneven, slippery, muddy, rocky, or otherwise hazardous ground
- Weather-related conditions
- Encounters with other animals, vehicles, equipment, or obstacles
- The unpredictable behavior or reaction of a horse
- Serious bodily injury, permanent disability, or death

Initials: _____

I understand that no horse can be guaranteed to be completely safe.

3. RELEASE OF LIABILITY

To the fullest extent permitted by Colorado law, I release and hold harmless **Little Hooves on the Prairie**, its owners, instructors, employees, volunteers, representatives, property owners, and agents from claims for injury, death, loss, or property damage arising from the inherent risks of equine activities.

I understand that this agreement is intended to provide the protections allowed under Colorado law and does not waive rights that cannot legally be waived.

Initials: _____

4. RIDING & BARN SAFETY RULES

For the safety of riders, horses, instructors, and others on the property, I agree that the participant will:

- Wear a riding helmet whenever mounted. **Helmets are required for riding lessons.**
- Wear appropriate closed-toe footwear. Boots or shoes with a heel are recommended.
- Follow all instructions given by the riding instructor.
- Walk and behave calmly around horses.
- Never intentionally run, yell, scream, or make sudden movements around horses.
- Never feed a horse without permission.
- Never enter a stall, pasture, pen, arena, or other restricted horse area without permission.
- Treat all horses, people, tack, equipment, and property with respect.
- Immediately tell the instructor if the rider feels afraid, uncomfortable, dizzy, sick, injured, or in pain.
- Immediately report damaged equipment or anything that appears unsafe.

Initials: _____

Failure to follow safety instructions may result in the lesson being stopped.

5. HORSE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

The safety and well-being of our horses is extremely important. The participant agrees that they will not intentionally:

- Hit or kick a horse
- Chase or scare a horse
- Tease or harass a horse
- Pull excessively on a horse's mouth or tack
- Mistreat, abuse, or intentionally harm a horse
- Feed a horse anything without permission
- Use tack, equipment, or training aids in a way that could harm the horse
- Overwork a horse or continue riding when instructed to stop

Initials: _____

Participants must follow the instructor's directions regarding the handling, care, and treatment of all horses. If a participant intentionally, recklessly, or maliciously harms a horse, damages tack or equipment, or causes damage to the property through deliberate misconduct, the participant and/or parent or legal guardian may be held responsible for reasonable veterinary, farrier, equipment, tack, or property repair costs resulting from that conduct.

Little Hooves on the Prairie reserves the right to immediately end a lesson or discontinue riding privileges if a participant mistreats a horse or repeatedly refuses to follow safety instructions.

6. MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

I understand that horseback riding and equine activities can result in injury.

If I or my minor child becomes injured or experiences a medical emergency during a lesson, I authorize Little Hooves on the Prairie and its representatives to contact **911 and/or emergency medical services** when they believe it is reasonably necessary. I authorize emergency medical personnel to provide evaluation and treatment as appropriate.

I understand that Little Hooves on the Prairie does not provide medical insurance for participants and that I am responsible for medical expenses incurred as a result of participation.

Initials: _____

Allergies, medical conditions, medications, or other information the instructor should know:

7. HELMET ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I understand that **helmets are required for riding lessons at Little Hooves on the Prairie.**

Participants may bring their own properly fitting equestrian riding helmet. Little Hooves on the Prairie also has helmets available for riders who do not have their own.

I understand that wearing a helmet can reduce the risk or severity of certain head injuries but cannot eliminate all risk of injury. I agree that the participant will wear a helmet as directed by the instructor.

Initials: _____

8. PHOTO & VIDEO CONSENT

Please select one:

_____ **YES**, I give Little Hooves on the Prairie permission to photograph and/or record the participant during riding lessons or equine activities and to use those photos or videos for business, educational, website, or social media purposes.

_____ **NO**, I do not give permission for the participant's identifiable photograph or video to be used for these purposes.

9. AGREEMENT FOR MINOR PARTICIPANTS

If the participant is under 18 years of age, I certify that I am the participant's parent or legal guardian or otherwise have legal authority to sign on the participant's behalf.

I have read this agreement, understand the risks associated with equine activities, and voluntarily give permission for the minor participant to participate in riding lessons and related equine activities at Little Hooves on the Prairie.

I agree to the terms of this waiver and agreement on behalf of myself and the minor participant.

10. ACKNOWLEDGMENT & ENTIRE AGREEMENT

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this entire document before signing it.

I understand that this document includes an **assumption of risk and release of liability** and may affect my legal rights.

I understand that I may ask questions before signing.

By signing below, I confirm that the information I have provided is accurate and that I voluntarily agree to the terms contained in this Riding Lesson Waiver, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk & Horse Protection Agreement.

Participant Signature (if 18 or older)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature (required for participants under 18)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Little Hooves on the Prairie Representative

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____