Von Doeler's Ranch

Wrangler Training Program

Level 2: Advanced Horsemanship & Industry Leadership

4.5-Day Immersive Training Program

2027 Program Dates

- **September 6-10, 2027**

Location
Von Doeler's Ranch
1286 Von Doeler Road
Rutherglen, Ontario, Canada

Program Overview

The **Wrangler Training Program – Level 2** is an immersive 4.5-day training program designed for strong intermediate to advanced riders looking to add onto their skillset in horsemanship, horse management, leadership, ranch operations, training and coaching.

Throughout the week, participants work alongside instructors in a real ranch environment, developing practical skills through hands-on experience, guided discussion, and real-world scenarios.

Training focuses on building confidence, responsibility, professionalism, and practical skills both on the ground and in the saddle.

Areas of study include:

- Advanced horsemanship & horse behaviour
- Introduction to colt starting & training
- Creating lesson plans & introduction to coaching
- Advanced equine wellness & preventative care
- Advanced trail guiding & handling emergencies
- Cattle work & roping in a variety of settings
- Real life pack trip fully guided by the wranglers
- Advanced bit function and equipment selection
- Creating a plan for your next steps in the industry

This is not a passive clinic.

Participants are expected to contribute, ask questions, take initiative, and actively participate throughout the week.

Who This Program Is For

This program is designed for riders who:

- Are serious about advancing their horsemanship.
- Learn best through hands-on experience.
- Enjoy responsibility and practical learning.
- Are considering a future career in the equine industry.
- Want experience guiding, teaching, coaching, or working on a ranch.
- Thrive in a professional environment surrounded by motivated, like-minded horse people.

Daily Schedule

Training runs approximately **9:30 AM – 4:30 PM** Monday through Thursday, with additional morning and evening responsibilities that are part of ranch life.

Wednesday evening includes an overnight pack trip with real life challenges & scenarios.

Friday morning is reserved for Q & A, feedback, written assessments & planning your next steps.

Arrival: Sunday evening (unless other arrangements have been made)

Departure: Friday after lunch (unless other arrangements have been made)

Length of Stay: 5 nights | 4.5 training days

Accommodations

Participants stay in shared bunkhouses (2 per bunky, male and female), if you are not comfortable sharing a space, we ask you please bring a tent for private accommodation.

Please expect comfortable but rustic accommodations.

Your experience includes:

- Shared glamping tents or bunkhouse

- One overnight wilderness camp during the pack trip
- Modern washrooms and shared shower facilities
- Opportunity to go to the lake
- An authentic working ranch environment

We kindly ask participants to be mindful of water use throughout the week.

Meals

Fifteen meals are included, beginning with Sunday dinner and ending with Friday lunch.

Meal preparation, clean-up, and kitchen responsibilities are completed as a team and form an important part of the leadership, teamwork, and responsibility component of the program.

Typical meals include:

Breakfast

- Eggs
- Potatoes
- Breakfast meats

Lunch

- Sandwiches
- Salads
- Soup

Dinner

- Meat
- Vegetables
- Potatoes, rice or pasta

Reasonable dietary restrictions can be accommodated. Please contact us before the program to discuss your needs.

Program Breakdown

The schedule may be adjusted based on weather, horse welfare, or ranch operations. Flexibility and adaptability are part of the learning experience.

Day 1 — Colt Starting & Training the Young Horse

- Advanced horse behaviour & herd dynamics
- Colt starting principles and progression
- Developing softness, confidence, and forward movement
- Advanced groundwork and problem solving
- Reading subtle body language and adjusting your approach
- Creating progressive training plans
- Working through common training challenges

Day 2 — Advanced Trail Guiding & Emergency Response

- Leading trail rides independently
- Advanced rider evaluations and horse selection
- Managing larger groups safely
- Real-life emergency scenarios
- Hazard recognition and risk management
- Guest communication under pressure
- Decision making and leadership on the trail
- Equine wellness evaluations before and after rides

Day 3 — Advanced Ranch Skills & Independent Pack Trip

- Advanced cattle handling and sorting
- Roping from the ground and horseback
- Developing a dependable ranch horse
- Participants independently organize and load pack horses
- Planning routes, equipment, and horse assignments
- Overnight pack trip led by participants
- Real-life scenarios involving challenging horses, changing weather, equipment issues, and camp management
- Horse care and decision making in a backcountry environment

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Day 4 — Coaching, Leadership & Ranch Operations

- Pack trip debrief and problem solving
- Coaching riders with different learning styles
- Creating lesson plans and selecting appropriate exercises
- Teaching practical riding sessions
- Equipment fit, bit selection, and troubleshooting
- Leading ranch tasks and team responsibilities
- Professionalism, communication, and workplace expectations
- Working in the equine industry and building a successful career

Day 5 — Leadership Evaluation & Professional Development

- Practical leadership evaluations
- Group reflection and Q&A
- Career planning and next steps
- Certificate presentation and group photo
- Team trail ride led by participants

Rider Requirements

Applicants should:

- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be a strong rider at all gaits.
- Have strong horsemanship & handling skills.
- Be comfortable riding in open spaces such as trails or pastures on a variety of horses.
- Have previous camping & cattle work experience

Level 1 is a prerequisite for level 2. In some cases, advanced horsemen and women can challenge level one.

Acceptance is determined on a case-by-case basis to ensure appropriate placement, safety, and the best learning experience for everyone.

Certification

Certification is awarded based on demonstrated:

- Horsemanship
- Safety
- Leadership
- Communication
- Professionalism
- Teamwork
- Participation
- Attitude

Successful participants receive:

- **Wrangler Training Program – Level 2 Certificate of Completion**
- Personalized written evaluation
- Letter of Recommendation

Meet Your Instructors

Elana von Doeler

Certified Equestrian Canada Coach, Professional Barrel Racer, Equine Massage Therapist, Mental Performance Coach, and Founder of Von Doeler's Ranch with over 17 years of ranch and coaching experience.

Specializes in horsemanship, rider mindset, communication, leadership, and building strong foundations for both horses and riders.

Maria Morel Maluk

Lifetime equestrian, Certified Sports Instructor, and Riding School Owner.

Specializes in rider development, structured horsemanship education, and creating confident horse-and-rider partnerships.

Investment

Wrangler Training Program – Level 2 (4.5 Days)

Tuition: $1,695 CAD + HST

Payment may be made by:

- **E-transfer (preferred)**
- **Credit Card (+6% processing fee)**

A 50% non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your space. Your deposit reserves the date you selected. Deposits are non transferable to alternate dates once dates have been finalized.

Transportation

The nearest international airport is **Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ).**

Daily bus service is available through Ontario Northland or Northern Airport Service to North Bay or Rutherglen.

Complimentary pickup from Rutherglen is included.

Ready to Join Us?

Applications are now open: APPLY NOW

Email: vondoelersranch@gmail.com

Website: www.vondoelersranch.com

We look forward to welcoming you to **Level 1** and helping you build the skills, confidence, and professionalism to take the next step in your horsemanship journey.