Von Doeler's Ranch

Wrangler Training Program

Level 1: Foundations of Horsemanship & Ranch Leadership

4.5-Day Immersive Training Program

2027 Program Dates

- **June 14–18, 2027**
- **August 16–20, 2027**

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

Program Overview

The **Wrangler Training Program – Level 1** is an immersive 4.5-day training program designed for strong novice to strong intermediate riders looking to build strong foundations in horsemanship, horse management, leadership, and ranch operations.

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:

- Horsemanship & horse behaviour
- Equine wellness & horse management
- Trail guiding & client management
- Cattle work & basic roping
- Pack trip preparation
- Saddle fit & introduction to bit selection
- Leadership & communication
- Teamwork & professionalism

- Ranch operations & daily responsibilities

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.
- 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.

Friday morning is reserved for Q & A, feedback, written assessments & a group trail ride.

Arrival: Sunday evening or Monday morning

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 — Ranch Operations & Horsemanship

- Safe horse handling
- Horse behaviour & communication
- Leadership through horsemanship
- Groundwork & relationship building
- Daily ranch systems
- Team responsibilities
- Farm maintenance fundamentals
- Saddle Fit

Day 2 — Trail Guiding & Equine Wellness

- Tack & equipment checks
- Rider evaluation
- Client communication
- Trail safety
- Emergency procedures
- Hazard recognition
- Guiding techniques
- Equine Wellness & Prevention

Day 3 — Cattle Work & Pack Trips

- Cattle handling fundamentals
- Basic roping skills
- Developing the ranch horse
- Pack horse preparation
- Loading pack horses
- Overnight backcountry camp
- Horse care in camp

Day 4 — Leadership, Bits & Equipment

- Pack trip debrief
- Equipment & bit selection
- Professionalism & work ethic
- Team challenges and ranch responsibilities

Day 5 — Professional Development, Reflection & Feedback

- Guided reflection on the week's learning and personal growth
- Group discussion and Q&A
- Future career pathways
- Working in the equine industry
- Certificate presentation and group photo
- Team trail ride

Rider Requirements

Applicants should:

- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be confident handling horses on the ground.
- Ride independently at the walk and trot with some canter experience.
- Be comfortable riding in open spaces such as trails or pastures.
- Demonstrate an intermediate riding ability or higher.

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 1 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 1 (4.5 Days)

Tuition: $1,595 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.