

# Orientation Checklist

Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Welcome:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Lots of activities for you to participate in, trail rides, instructional, team penning, lunch ride, picnic ride
- \_\_\_\_\_ Special activities - grooming, saddling, parts of the horse, roping, evening presentation
- \_\_\_\_\_ If there is something special that you would like to do please ask, we'll try to accommodate

Riding Routine:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Wait outside corral until ride is called.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Once inside the corral, wait by the water tank until the wrangler has your horse ready and calls you over.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wrangler will help you dismount, gather your things, and see you safely form the corral asap.

About Horses:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Prey animals.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Herd animals - stay with wrangler at gates
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pecking order.

Guest Responsibilities on the ground:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Helmets/hats - stampede strings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Boots.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chinks and pommel bags.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Don't tie on clothing onto yourself. Loose clothing gets tied onto the saddle or put into saddle bags.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Don't approach horses tied to the rail. Wranglers will get your horse for you.

Guest Responsibilities in the saddle:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Be aware of horses' temperaments - both your own and the horses around you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ How do you respond?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Clothes, bug spray, sunscreen, pictures, water, getting in/out of saddle bags - not from horseback.

Wranglers:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Here for your safety.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Respect their requests and suggestions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Please stay behind them on the trail when requested.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rides will walk back to the barn.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wranglers will help you mount and dismount.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wranglers all carry radios. The ranch is on channel five. This information is with the radio.

Final Thoughts:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Alcohol, medications and riding don't mix.
- \_\_\_\_\_ No Smoking on horseback or on a break b/c of fire ban.

Approaching a horse and preparation for mounting:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Approach where the horse can see you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Be relaxed, rub the horse, let it sniff you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ When walking around a horse, walk at least six feet behind the animal.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Balance the weight in the saddle bags.

Demonstrate Mounting:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Left side.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reins and mane in left hand. Cante in the right. Foot in the stirrup.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pull up gently, standing close to the horse and not pulling the saddle over with lots of leverage.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sit down quietly in the saddle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Put your feet in the stirrups.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hang onto the reins.

Demonstrate Dismounting:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Slide left foot out to the ball before stepping down - the reverse of mounting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Alternatively, slide left foot out to the ball, swing right leg over, take left foot out all the way before sliding down.

Demonstrate posture:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Balanced.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Heels down.
- \_\_\_\_\_ How to hold reins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Don't wrap reins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hand and body position for going forward, stopping, standing still, going up and down hills.

Concept of Pressure and Release:

- \_\_\_\_\_ How to get the horse to go.

Reining:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Knotted reins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hands in neutral position.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stopping.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Don't hold the reins and the saddle horn in the same hand.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Neck reining.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Direct reining.