



## Junior Leader Horse Camp Information

### Working With Beginners

Be prepared to do a complete grooming and tacking up demonstration. The campers will practice these two things until they can do it by themselves.

When tacking up:

1. Always saddle first.
2. Place the blanket high on the neck and pull back into position.
3. Show the campers how to “slip” a halter.
4. Put bridle and reins over arm while bridling. Do not let reins drag on the ground.
5. Never tie a horse with reins!

When they get good at it, a thorough grooming and tacking up should take only 10-15 minutes.

In showmanship at halter, stress going in straight lines and looking straight ahead. ALWAYS PUSH the horse away from you when turning.

When riding, if a camper is having trouble controlling their animal, use two hands held low. We will show and discuss proper ring horsemanship, but in the beginning they must have good control of the horse / pony. They will do a great deal of trotting.

Show and discuss the *Basic Western Equitation* and *Showing at Halter* sheets. (We will distribute at camp)

Some campers may not be able to accomplish a canter in this short period of time. Encourage them in what they CAN do.



## Junior Leader Horse Camp Information

### Working With Intermediates

Do not skimp on grooming. All horses should be thoroughly groomed. The body, mane, tail and hooves picked, etc.

Practice showmanship at halter. Give specific patterns.

Practice circle turns using lead aids.

Practice pivot turns.

Stand in stirrups and trot.

Practice simple lead changes (make sure they can see the correct lead for themselves). Stress keeping the horse and rider calm; and cue correctly. Praise them for the work, however, do not overdo it.

Practice the western riding pattern, and a reining pattern (suggest #2) slowly and correctly. The lesson is to LEARN the pattern and carry it out.

If campers are having trouble getting their horse to canter on cue, spend time just working on that.

Stress good equitation/horsemanship at all times.

\*English riders you may ask to work without stirrups for sitting trot and posting. Practice figure eights at the posting trot with diagonal changes. Make sure the circles are equal and that the diagonal change occurs in the middle of the pattern. The pattern STARTS at the middle of the eight.



## JUNIOR LEADER GOALS

1. Set goals for yourself and your campers.
2. Think safety first.
3. Check halters for proper fit.
4. Check neck ropes for proper fit.
5. Check bridles, bits, curb straps for proper fit.
6. Check stirrup length for proper fit.
7. Teach how to turn stirrups for easier foot position.
8. Riders should sit centered on the horse.
9. Riders should sit balanced on the horse.
10. Rider shoulders should be square to the horse.
11. Riders can ride with both hands if they are having control issues.
12. Riders should keep horse straight. Look between the ears.
13. Explain aids: voice, legs, hands, artificial aids like whips and spurs.
14. Explain importance of using the same aids at all times. Set up communication between horse and rider.
15. Explain difference between halter and showmanship.
16. Explain difference between horsemanship, equitation and pleasure.
17. Teach proper leg, hand, and body positions.
18. Teach safety knot.
19. Extras: reining patterns, western riding, trot and canter figure 8, trot and canter serpentine, simple lead changes, leg aids for circles, leg aids for moving horse's front and rear, flexing and suppling, first aid, show attire, proper tack, parts of the horse, parts of the saddle and bridle, Simon says, trail rides ..... Etc.



## JUNIOR LEADERS EXPECTATIONS

- You will conduct yourselves in an adult manner
- NO abusive behavior towards campers or animals.
- NO foul language
- NO electronics (XBOX etc.)
- NO girls are allowed in boys stalls
- You will be responsible for campers both riding and during demos. Also during Level Book review times.
- Your day is to be dedicated to teaching and helpful supervision of the campers.
- All Junior Leaders will be expected to stay at the grounds the entire three days-unless prior arrangements are made
- Car keys will be checked in on Sunday night and returned Wednesday night.
- You will have free time – one evening after campers 10:00 lights out
- Any Junior Leader found abusing their privileges will be dealt with accordingly
- No Junior leader is excused on Wednesday **until** barn and Family Arts building is cleaned out

Make this a learning, fun time for all! Thank you for your help!

By signing this form, you are agreeing to abide by the rules stated above.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_