

HARMONY TRAINING STABLES BARN RULES

- Never shout or scream around horses.
- Never run in or around the barn.
- **No smoking in or near the barn!!**
- Do not run or trot your horse in the barn or in the walkways.
- Mount and dismount your horse in the riding arenas. Never ride inside the barn!
- Pick up any unsafe items that may be lying around and put them away.
- Never borrow anything from HTS without permission. Never borrow any equipment from a private boarder's stall!
- Please do not hand-feed treats to your horse. Place them inside the feeder. Do not bring any kind of plastic bag into the barn.
- Never take a horse for granted. They are not dumb or stupid and they need your constant awareness.
- Use your tone of voice to discipline a horse if necessary.
- Be a good example and always pick up after yourself. Pick up after others if they are untidy.
- Put away all tack properly and facing in the proper direction.
- Our horses, instructors, staff and working students are thoroughly trained to help you learn all aspects of good horsemanship. Don't hesitate to ask for help or to ask questions.

Safety Around Horses

Arriving for Your Lesson.

- Please observe the HGS speed limits of 10 mph. Watch especially for horses and riders, dogs and children that may run unexpectedly into the street.
- Do not bring your dog or other pets to the barn.
- Dress appropriately for your lesson.
- Do not wear jewelry or rings to the barn, especially in your lessons.
- Arrive 30 minutes before your lesson to allow time to tack your horse.
- Always check in with the HTS office for your lesson.

Safety in the Stall

- Read the name cards on the stall feed bin for any special instructions or equipment needs for your lesson horse.
- Gather all of your tack at one time and set it out safely at the stall.
- Helmets are mandatory whenever you are working around a horse or riding it.
- Check to make sure that there is a PURPLE HTS logo on the stall door before entering the stall. No LOGO? Not a school horse!
- Keep the grooming bucket outside the stall. Only the tool you are using should be inside with you.
- Always find out if a horse ties. Some horses pull back and try to free themselves when they feel restrained. Halter these horses, but do not tie them to anything. Never tie a horse by the reins.
- Always talk to your horse and give him a "psst" before entering the stall or when approaching a turned-out horse. Let him know you're there.
- Enter the stall calmly and do not slam the stall door.
- Always approach a horse at his shoulder, never from behind. Make the horse turn around to face you before you enter the stall.
- Always put a halter on your horse, no matter how well you know him. Never let the lead shank drag on the ground. Loop it 3 times around the pipe by the feed bin near the door, and never on the door.
- Never lock yourself in the stall. Simply drape the chain over the pipe.
- No more than two people in a stall at a time and one must have horse experience.
- When working around horses, keep your gestures and movements gentle and quiet. Sudden movement or loud noises can "spook" a horse.

Safety While Grooming

- Keep your feet away from the horse's feet. Do not put your hands on the ground.
- Never kneel down next to your horse when grooming him. Either crouch or squat.
- Do not leave grooming tools on the stall or barn floor. Put them back in the bucket when done.
- Never stick your fingers into any of the bracings, or wrap the reins or leadshank around your hand.
- Avoid letting reins/lead ropes drag on the ground either when in the stall or outside.
- When grooming a tied horse, do not walk under the lead rope to get to the other side. Go behind and around the horse instead, sliding your hand along the side and hindquarters for reassurance. Keep your hand on the

horse's tail as you pass to the other side from the rear.

- Never go under the horse's neck, instead go around the front or rear of the horse.
- Do not leave a haltered horse unattended in the stall or in the cross-ties.
- Always secure the horse to the cross-ties at both sides at the halter braces. With a cross-tie horse when you are ready to bridle the horse remember to release the horse from the cross-ties and slide the halter down to the neck of the horse. Then place the reins over the horse's head and bridle the horse.
- Always tighten your girth/cinch gradually. Quickly tightened girths may cause a horse to bite at you.
- Be certain that the irons on the English saddle are properly run up. Always clean the hooves before and after every lesson with the hoof pick.

Waiting for Your Instructor

- As you walk your horse out at the stall, leave the stall door open for easy re-entry.
- When leading your horse, hold the lead rope or reins in a loop in your left hand. Do not wrap them around your hand or wrist.
- Do not walk in front of your horse when leading him. Stay to his left shoulder.
- When waiting for your class to begin, please do not bunch up in front of the tack rooms. Please line up side-by-side in the parking lot with your classmates, your horse facing towards the barn. Keep one horse length distance between each horse.
- Remember to tighten your girth/cinch again while you wait for your instructor.
- Should any large/noisy trucks approach at this time, talk to your horse in a reassuring manner.
- When leading your horse to and from the riding rings, keep a one horse length distance between you and the horse in front of you.
- Always walk the horse from its left side and from the point of the shoulder.
- Do not let the horse curl in on you. Keep him straight with your elbow.
- Always look to where you are going, whether you are walking or leading your horse.
- Please listen to your instructors; they are trained to guide you safely.

Safety in the Arena

- Always check and tighten your girth/cinch if necessary before you mount.
- All gates should be closed when inside the riding arenas.
- Proper ring etiquette is to be maintained at all times.
- If a lesson is in progress, please ask permission of the instructor to enter the ring. If permission is granted, the right of way must be given to the mounted students (i.e., wait until the gate area is clear before opening the gate and entering the arena). Always close the gate behind you.
- The rule is left-shoulder-to-left-shoulder when passing opposite directions.
- Always keep at least one-horse distance between horses. If you get too close, make a large circle back, pass to the inside or cross the arena to an open spot on the rail.
- Student should always ride next to the rail (on the track) unless otherwise directed by the instructor or when moving to another open spot.
- If you are having difficulty with your horse and must stop, please move to the center of the arena, out of the way of the other riders.
- Never pass between the rail and another rider. Always pass to the inside.
- Always listen to and follow your instructor's directions.

After the Lesson

- When your lesson is finished and you have returned to the barn, never just throw the horse into the stall and leave. You are responsible for untacking your lesson horse, grooming him and putting your tack and equipment away properly.
- Do not turn a horse loose in the stall entrance. Always walk the horse into the stall and bring them around to face the feed bin.
- Do not let the horse drink any water for at least ten minutes.
- Tell a working student about any cuts on the horse, or anything else that may pose a threat to the horse.
- If you wish to cool your horse down after the lesson, untack the horse, check with the office and if permission is given, halter the horse to the wash stall and lightly sponge the horse on the chest and saddle area. Depending on the weather, you may have to walk out your horse to cool him off properly.
- Please remember to wash the bit!
- Don't bring treats in plastic bags. Place treats in feed bin after the lesson.