Horse Riding Agreement

2027

(Effective as of 25/11/26)

2027 HORSE RIDING AGREEMENT

Students may be involved in horse-riding after hours and at weekends on their own horse or a loaned college horse for recreational purposes. On occasions, students may ride as part of a farm or broader college activity.

1. Riding Expectations

The rider must:

- Provide and wear an appropriate helmet (current Aust. Safety Standard 3838), appropriate riding pants and appropriate riding boots (flat sole with heel) when riding. Helmets must be replaced after five years, if involved in a head injury incident, or when there is any doubt about the helmet's integrity. Boots are to be worn at all times in the horse area.
- Have permission to ride horses from their parents or guardian.
- Undergo two riding assessments on different days where a level is given, prior to riding any horse on the property and abide by the parameters of that level.
- Do not allow other students to ride their horse or ride another student's horse unless permission is given by the parents of both students and the owner of the horse, or under direct supervision of the TO.
- Be covered by personal insurance for after-hours recreational riding.
- Students lunging horses are expected to wear a helmet and advised to wear gloves.

2. Riding Skills Assessment

- Students will be assessed for their riding ability at **least twice on different occasions** by the Equine TO or another qualified person using the College assessment process. Each student will receive a proficiency rating level, which determines where they can ride and the level of supervision required. **The rating is relevant to the rider and the particular horse. Students riding different horses will need to be reassessed.**
- Students can be reassessed at any time they feel they have progressed to the next level or if they wish to ride a different horse.
- Riding Levels are as follows:

Level 1 Must be directly supervised at all times by a TO or qualified staff member.
These are beginner riders still learning to handle horses and learn basic riding skills, including how to apply halters, bridles, and saddles.

All students commence on Level 1 until a riding assessment is undertaken.

Level 2 When riding, students must still be supervised by a staff member. These are novice riders who are becoming capable of handling horses and developing basic riding skills. The learning focus at level 2 is on developing skills such as backing up, managing a horse at canter and adjusting gear to suit the horse and rider. Students at level 2 may practice fitting gear, undertake groundwork, and lead horses without supervision but cannot ride without supervision.

Level 3 Can ride in either arena but must have an observer present. Can ride in the PWD laneway or cross-country paddock unsupervised but must have another rider present. These are intermediate riders who have shown they can control a horse in all gaits. The learning focus at level 3 is on managing a horse in open areas and in group dynamics.

Level 4 As for level 3. Plus, can ride the beef laneway and the equine oval unsupervised but must have another rider present. May ride bareback only at the complex. These are advanced students who can control a range of horses in all gaits and show responsibility in following all safety rules at all times.

Level 5 Can ride in either arena but must have an observer present. Can ride in the flat grass area behind the shed with the mural and the designated cross-country paddock, the laneway leading to the beef yards and the PWD paddock unsupervised, but must have another rider present. These are advanced students who can control a range of horses in all gaits and show responsibility in following all safety rules at all times.

Parents will be informed when their child's riding status changes to confirm they agree with the updated riding circumstances.

3. Riding After Hours

When riding horses or caring for their horses after school hours, students must;

- have permission from the Duty Residential Supervisor before going to the complex and indicate where they are riding, who they are riding with and their expected return time.
- show their Farm Licence to the Duty Residential Supervisor.
- sign out and in on Reach.
- be with at least one other student when riding. Riding in the arena must be with a student observer who doesn't need to be an equine student. Riding out of the arena must be in company of another rider.
- Take a working mobile phone with the College main office number saved in it and a two-way radio in case of emergency. One radio must be taken between groups of students when at equine after school.
- Leave all gates as they are found.
- Stay clear of out-of-bounds areas;
  - crossing Mornington Road.
  - the main entrance road except when crossing to equine oval.
  - paddocks.
  - the main College buildings including staff residential areas.
- Clean up manure on bitumen roads.
- ride only during daylight hours and with consideration of residential routines.
- Only ride in the mornings, provided the student can manage morning residential routines.
- Only ride bareback if Level 4, and only in the arena and round yard. All other students may ride bareback only under direct staff supervision.
- Abide by all rules for each location and rider level.
- not double-dink

4. Specific location rules

Regardless of location, students must seek permission from Residential staff and sign out on Reach.

Round yard:

- Round yard not to be used as a holding yard
- Keep gates closed at all times
- No more than two horses and two people permitted at a time in round yard unless TO is present.
- Approved helmet and gloves must be used whilst lunging

Arenas:

- Level 2 riders have priority for small arena use.
- Level 3 riders have priority for large arena use.
- Always show etiquette and awareness of other riders whilst using the arenas.
- Keep gates closed at all times.
- No galloping games without staff supervision.

PWD Laneway and cross-country paddock

- Only level 3 or 4 permitted unaccompanied by staff.
- Always go with at least one other rider and a mobile phone with the College main office number saved in it and a two-way radio
- Stay in the designated laneway.
- Leave gates as you find them.
- Ride responsibly and safely.

Beef Laneway and Equine Oval

- Only level 4 permitted unaccompanied by staff.
- Always go with at least one other rider and a mobile phone with the College main office number saved in it and a two-way radio
- Stay in the designated laneway.
- Leave gates as you find them.
- Ride responsibly and safely.
- Follow designated access to the oval.

5. Conduct

- Students will be expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner whilst in the horse complex and while riding horses and be aware that they are dealing with large and potentially dangerous animals.
- Caring *for horses is not an acceptable excuse for lateness to any college program.*
- If a student is injured and is considered unfit to ride by a doctor, they will not be able to ride again until they have been cleared by a doctor.
- **Students can only ride after hours if they are on 'Good Standing'.** Students who lose 'Good Standing' will only be permitted to lunge, feed and groom their horses until they return to 'Good Standing'.
- **Breaches of the Riding Agreement may result in loss of riding privileges and/or the horse being removed from the College**.

6. Responsibility

Any damage to college property caused by deliberate misuse or failure to abide by college procedures is to be paid for by the student's guardian.

Any damage to student property or injury to student horses is the student's guardian's responsibility unless it can be proved that college staff were negligent.

7. Weather

If senior staff consider weather conditions dangerous, riding may be restricted or prohibited, depending on the situation.

8. Staff supervision and instruction

Students will be supervised by staff with appropriate experience and qualifications. Depending on the availability of staff and competing demands for staffing resources, a suitably qualified staff member may be available on one or more days per week after school to supervise riding for those students whose riding level dictates direct staff supervision.

9. **Riding Under supervision during school hours**

During school hours, a student may be able to ride their own horse or the student leasing the College horse, while under the supervision of the Technical Officer when required or directed.

2027 Horse Riding Agreement

To be completed and returned to the College Administration before the horse is brought on site.

STUDENT NAME:

_____

I have read, understood and agree to the conditions outlined in the 2027 Horse Riding Agreement.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(Student)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

:

(Parent/Guardian**)**

Personal insurance details:

The personal insurance should cover the rider for after-hours recreational riding. Equestrian Australia provides recreational riding insurance; however, you may want to consider others.

A copy of the personal insurance must be provided to the College Administration before the horse is brought onsite.

_____

_____

_____

2027 Horse Riding Agreement

Student Name: _____

Assessor Name: _____

Explanation	Competence	Tasks given in test	Location of test
Level 2		Ground skills: Approaches and catches a horse calmly. Adjusts halter to fit horse Leads a horse. Uses a quick release knot to tie up a horse. Can groom adequately and pick up horse's hooves for cleaning Can saddle and bridle a horse Can adjust stirrup length and tighten girth Ridden Skills: Can mount and dismount using a mounting block. Can walk, trot (sitting or rising) and halt horse independently. Required knowledge: Demonstrates an understanding of the round yard and arena rules	Horse Yard & Equine Complex Small Arena Standard question sheet
Date:		Horse ridden: Signed:	
Level 3		Ground skills: Can adjust gear to fit the horse and rider. Ridden skills: Can mount and dismount without using a mounting block Can walk, trot, canter and halt a horse independently Can walk, trot, canter and halt horse independently in an open space. Can canter in an open area in full control. Demonstrates control of a horse if it is excited, rears, bucks or takes off. Demonstrates a one-rein stop. Required knowledge: Demonstrates an understanding of the PWD laneway and equine oval rules and how to control a horse that is excited, bucking, rearing or taking off in an open area.	Equine Complex Large Arena Open area depending on weather and season Standard question sheet
Date:		Horse ridden: Signed:	
Level 4		Ridden skills: Can walk, trot, canter and halt a horse independently in a paddock or on a trail. Can adjust their horse's gait to suit the needs of the trail ride group. Demonstrates control of a horse if it is excited, rears, bucks or takes off in a paddock or on a trail. Lead a group on a trail ride in a sensible manner and keep aware of each rider's status during the ride Advise others on appropriate group dynamics.	Trail Ride Standard question sheet

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Equine Log Book

For recording arrival/departure details, riding/handling activities, horse care, worming, trims, vaccinations, injuries, and general health.

Owner/Rider: _____

Horse: _____

Date	Activity	Signature