



4527 Jeff Road, Toney, AL 35773
Cell (256) 337-8291
<http://www.oakmeadowsstables.com>
Leah Imsand, Owner Instructor
Stable: (256) 337-8291

Barn Rules and Information

General Rules

- Horses are prey animals and can spook at loud noises and/or sudden movements. Please remember to use a quiet voice and do not run in the barn area.
- No smoking in or near the barn!!
- Absolutely no perfume or strongly scented products around the barn.
- Pick up any unsafe items that may be lying around and put them away.
- If you open it, close it. This especially applies to gates and stall doors!!
- Please check with an instructor before feeding treats to horses, then place treats in buckets or feeders rather than hand-feeding.
- Never take a horse for granted – even the most gentle horses require constant awareness.
- Be a good example and always pick up after yourself. Be sure to put away all tack and equipment properly.
- If you are unsure about something, just ask – that's why we are here.

Taking Lessons at OMS

General

At Oak Meadows Stables, we pride ourselves on our commitment to sharing our knowledge about horses. Lessons at Oak Meadows are focused on comprehensive horsemanship - from routine care, grooming and handling to riding. We teach a balanced seat in both Western and English disciplines. We also incorporate bareback work to improve a student's seat and balance. The focus of every lesson is not only to help the student improve in his or her horsemanship but also to enjoy the experience of working and playing with horses. Our lessons are centered around the principles of natural horsemanship and strive to help the student better understand and communicate with horses.

Schedule and Fees

Schedule: To create a focused learning environment, we hold one riding lesson daily. Lessons are held at 4:00pm each day except Wednesday when the lesson starts at 5:00pm. We also have special morning classes for adults and home-schooled students. For more information on these classes, please speak to an instructor. Lessons run for 1 ½ hours and includes preparing the horse to ride by grooming and tacking up, riding instruction, and finally untacking and grooming the horse after the ride.

Lesson Groups: We assign students to lesson groups based on the student's ability and availability of space in that lesson group. For that reason, it is very important that you attend your scheduled lesson. Changes in lesson group, either as a one-time occurrence or for a permanent change, should be discussed with a staff member in advance.

Fees: Lesson fees are paid on a monthly basis. The cost per month is \$120.00 and the fee is due on the first lesson of each month. Please make all checks payable to **Leah Imsand**.



Lesson Cancellation Policy

Cancellation by OMS: Because we have an indoor arena, it is rare that lessons will be cancelled. However, during extreme weather conditions, especially during the winter, it may be necessary to cancel/reschedule. If a lesson is cancelled, it will be posted on the stable website before 2pm on the day the lesson is cancelled. Along with the cancellation notice will be any information about rescheduling the lesson.

Cancellation by Student: If for any reason you are unable to attend your scheduled lesson, you must notify the instructors prior to your lesson. You may call the barn at (256) 858-5844 or email the instructors via the website. If you do not have access to the website, you can call Leah Imsand at 256-337-8291 and leave a message.

Extended Absences

We understand that there may be times when you will need to be absent from lessons for more than just a week or two. Please notify the instructors of any planned extended absences. Upon your return, it may be necessary to move to a different lesson group. You will need to contact the barn prior to your return in order to schedule your lesson.

Riding Clothes and Equipment:

Helmets: You must wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet whenever you are mounting, riding or dismounting from a horse. School helmets are available for use until you can obtain your own helmet.

Shoes: To ensure that your foot does not become trapped in the stirrup, it is important to wear shoes with approximately a ½" right angle (no sloped heels) heel. The shoe should also provide some stability and support to the ankle joint. Boots do not have to be expensive riding shoes – any boot that fits well and provides the necessary safety and support are perfectly acceptable.

Clothing and Jewelry: Students should wear comfortable but not loose clothing. Pants should move with the rider so as not to bind and restrict his/her movement in the saddle; shirts and jackets should not be so loose that they could catch on a saddle horn and pose a safety risk. During cold weather, students should layer their clothing to provide optimal warmth. During the summer it is permissible to ride in capri pants or knee-length shorts but this may result in rubbing or chafing. Riders should avoid dangling jewelry, necklaces and earrings, as they pose a potential safety risk.

Fragrance Free/Smoke Free Barn

Oak Meadows Stables is a fragrance free and smoke free barn. Miss Leah suffers from serious headaches that are triggered by most commercial fragrances – perfume, hand lotion, body wash, etc. These headaches are painful and debilitating. For that reason we request that you avoid all scented products before arriving at the barn. If you arrive to drop-off/pick-up your child and you are wearing perfume, please do not enter the barn area – it only takes a small amount of fragrance to trigger a headache that can last upwards of 14 hours.

There is no smoking in the barn area of Oak Meadows Stables. Many things contained in a barn are highly flammable and smoking in the barn poses a serious safety risk to the people and the horses. Also, many people, including Miss Leah, are allergic to cigarette smoke.



Form Date _____

Riding Instruction Agreement and Liability Release Form

WARNING:

Under Alabama law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to the Equine Activities Liability Protection Act.

This form must be completed by and for each participant in horseback riding and related activities at **Oak Meadows Stables**, hereinafter know known as “**OMS**”, at 4527 Jeff Road, Toney, Alabama 35773.

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING: SERIOUS INJURY MAY RESULT FROM PARTICIPATION IN THIS ACTIVITY. OMS DOES NOT GUARANTEE YOUR SAFETY.

1. REGISTRATION OF RIDERS AND AGREEMENT PURPOSE – In consideration of the payment of a fee and the signing of this agreement, I, the following listed individual, and the parent or legal guardians thereof if a minor, do hereby voluntarily request and agree to participate in riding or riding instruction as a student at OMS, and that this student will either ride his/her own horse, or school horses provided by OMS for recreational or instructional purposes, today and on all future dates:

PLEASE PRINT:

RIDER’S NAME: _____ **AGE:** _____

Riding is a rigorous activity. Does this rider have physical or mental health problems which may affect his/her ability to ride a horse? No Yes (please explain below)

INSURANCE INFORMATION

My Accident/Medical Insurance Company is: _____

My Policy Number is: _____

Oak Meadows Stables



2. AGREEMENT SCOPE AND TERRITORY AND DEFINITIONS – This agreement shall be legally binding upon me the registered student, and the parents or legal guardians thereof if a minor, my heirs, estate, assigns, including all minor children, and personal representatives; and it shall be interpreted according to the laws of the state of OMS’ physical location. If any clause, phrase, or word is in conflict with state law, then that single part is null and void. The term “HORSE” herein shall refer to all equine species. The term “HORSEBACK RIDING” herein shall refer to riding or otherwise handling of horses, whether from the ground or mounted. The terms “STUDENT” and/or “RIDER” shall herein refer to a person who rides a horse mounted or otherwise handles or comes near a horse from the ground. The terms “I”, “me”, “my” shall herein refer to the above registered student rider and the parents or legal guardians thereof if a minor.

Initial: _____

3. ACTIVITY RISK CLASSIFICATION – I UNDERSTAND THAT Horseback riding is classified as RUGGED ADVENTURE RECREATIONAL SPORT ACTIVITY and that there are numerous obvious and non-obvious inherent risks always present in such activity despite all safety precautions. According to NEISS (National Electronic Injury Surveillance Systems of United States Consumer Products) horse activities rank approximately 64th among the activities of people relative to injuries that result in a stay at U. S. hospitals. Related injuries can be severe, requiring more hospital days and resulting in more lasting residual effects than injuries in other activities. In the course of learning to ride, ground-work activities such as “tumbling” and emergency dismounting from the horse are intended to make riding safer, but these are strenuous activities which themselves carry serious risks.

Initial: _____

4. NATURE OF OMS’ SCHOOL HORSES – I UNDERSTAND THAT OMS chooses its school horses for their calm dispositions and sound basic training as is required for use for STUDENT RIDERS and OMS follows a rigid safety program. Yet, no riding horse is a completely safe horse. Horses are 5 to 15 times larger, 20-40 times more powerful, and 3 to 4 times faster than a human. If a rider falls from horse to ground it will generally be at a distance of 3 ½ to 5 ½ feet, and the impact may result in injury to the rider. Horseback riding is the only sport where one much smaller, weaker predator animal (human) tries to impose its will on, and become one unit of movement with, another much larger, stronger prey animal with a mind of its own (horse) and each has a limited understanding of the other. If a horse is frightened or provoked it may divert from its training and act according to its natural survival instincts which may include, but are not limited to: stopping short, changing directions or speed at will, shifting its weight, bucking, rearing, kicking, biting, or running from danger.

Initial: _____

Oak Meadows Stables



5. RIDER RESPONSIBILITY – I UNDERSTAND THAT upon mounting a horse and taking up the reins the rider is in primary control of the horse. The rider’s safety largely depends upon his/her ability to carry out simple instructions, and his/her ability to remain balanced and calm aboard the moving animal. I agree that the rider shall be responsible for his/her own safety.

Initial: _____

6. CONDITIONS OF NATURE – I UNDERSTAND THAT OMS is NOT responsible for total or partial acts, occurrences, or elements of nature that can scare a horse, cause it to fall, or react in some other unsafe way. SOME EXAMPLES ARE: thunder; lightning; rain; wind; wild and domestic animals, insects, reptiles, which may walk, run or fly near, or bite or sting a horse or person; irregular footing on out-of-door groomed or wild land which is subject to constant change in condition according to weather, temperature, and natural or man-made changes in landscape.

Initial: _____

7. SADDLE GIRTHS/NATURAL LOOSENING – I UNDERSTAND THAT saddle girths (saddle fasteners around horse’s belly) may loosen during a ride. If a rider notices this he/she must alert the riding instructor as quickly as possible so action can be taken to avoid slippage of saddle and a potential fall from the animal.

Initial: _____

8. ACCIDENT/MEDICAL INSURANCE – I AGREE THAT should emergency or other medical treatment be required, I and/or my own accident/medical insurance company shall pay for all such incurred expenses. I shall also pay any medical insurance deductibles.

Initial: _____

9. PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR WARNING – I AGREE THAT I have been fully warned and advised by OMS that I should purchase and wear protective headgear (equestrian helmet), and do understand that the wearing of such headgear while mounting, riding, dismounting, and otherwise being around horses, may prevent or reduce severity of some head injuries, and even prevent death from happening as the result of a fall or other occurrence. It is understood that OMS-PROVIDED protective headgear may not be of perfect fit for each rider’s head, and that once provided I/WE will be responsible for securing these helmets on this rider’s head at all times.

Initial: _____

Oak Meadows Stables



10. PHOTO RELEASE – I AGREE THAT I consent to and authorize the use and reproduction by OMS of any photographs and any other audio-visual materials taken of me for promotional material, educational activities, exhibitions or for any other use for benefit of OMS.

Initial: _____

11. LIABILITY RELEASE – In consideration of OMS allowing my participation in this activity, under the terms set forth herein, I, the rider, and the parent or guardian thereof if a minor, do agree to hold harmless and release OMS, its owners, agents, employees, officers, members, premises owners, and affiliated organizations from legal liability due to THIS OMS' ordinary negligence; and I do further agree that except in the event of THIS OMS' gross and willful negligence, I shall bring no claims, demands, actions and causes of action and/or litigation, against OMS and ITS ASSOCIATES as stated above in this clause for any economic and non-economic losses due to bodily injury, death, property damage, sustained by me and/or my minor child or legal ward in relation to the premises and operations of OMS, to include while learning about riding, or while riding, handling or otherwise being near horses owned by or in the care, custody and control of OMS. All Riders and Parents or Legal Guardians must sign below after reading this entire document:

SIGNER STATEMENT OF AWARENESS: I/WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ AND DO UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREEMENT, WARNINGS, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK. I/WE FURTHER ATTEST THAT ALL FACTS RELATING TO THE APPLICANT'S PHYSICAL CONDITION, EXPERIENCE, AND AGE ARE TRUE AND ACCURATE.

RIDER:

Signature

Date

Printed Name

If the above student is a minor, the consent of a PARENT or LEGAL GUARDIAN is REQUIRED.

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Oak Meadows Stables



OMS Acknowledgement and Witness Statement:

This agreement and liability release was signed in the presence of an authorized agent of Oak Meadows Stables (OMS). Persons signing this agreement were given opportunity to review each clause and request additional information and/or clarification. By signing below I represent that I am an authorized agent of OMS and that I witnessed all signatures to this agreement and liability release.

Signature

Date

Printed Name



Form Date _____

Student Information Sheet

STUDENT:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____
Street City State ZIP

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Birthday: _____

FAMILY: (please complete only if student is a minor child)

Mother:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Employer: _____ Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Father:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Employer: _____ Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

In Case of an Emergency, Please Notify:

Name: _____ Relationship to Child: _____

Phone: _____

Medical Insurance:

Company: _____ Policy Number: _____

Notes or Special Circumstances: Please list any special circumstances or conditions that affect your child and that should be brought to the attention of the instructors. If your child suffers from a chronic medical condition, please explain and give any medication instructions.
