

Wings of Eagles Ranch

PARENT/RIDER LETTER

This fall we begin our 13th year of serving the special needs community in Cabarrus and surrounding areas. Over 150 riders have consistently taken part in our program since it began. In addition, over 300 children with special needs have had riding experiences at the Ranch through field trips from area schools and summer camp programs.

We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and operate only on donations & a program fee of **\$200.00** per session. We gladly accept any donation you are able to make of either, volunteering at the Ranch or financial support. We also have an **"Adopt-a-Horse" Program**, for a monthly fee of \$20.00; you can adopt one of our four legged friends, which helps to cover feed and hay. For your support you will receive a bookmark, button, and picture of your horse. You will also receive a horseshoe with your name on it and it will be placed on our **'Adopt-a-Horse'** wall.

Each rider is assigned a slot once a week for a particular session. The schedule accommodates about 45 riders per session. A few weeks before the every session begins, the new riders are given the first opportunity to sign up for their first choice of a riding time. Returning riders are then placed on a "first come, first served" basis. You can check the Riding Schedule at www.wingsofeaglesranch.org for a date to call and leave your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice time slots. This allows us to serve all those who want to participate. Since we presently have about 80+ riders on our roster, please register as soon as possible to ensure a space in the session you desire. If the session is already full, we will accommodate you first in the next available session.

If the rider is unable to attend his/her class on their riding day, **please call and cancel twenty-four (24) hours** in advance or as soon as possible. If he/she misses two consecutive classes without contacting us, another rider on our waiting list will fill his/her slot. Each time your child rides, a team of three volunteers is here to work with him/her. These are all unpaid volunteers who have given up their time to assist your rider with their therapeutic riding session. We understand that emergencies such as illness or urgent family situations do happen but please let us know as soon as possible.

A few other items you need to be aware of here at the Ranch:

Required Items:

- **Completed paperwork is required prior to first class.**
 - **If we do not have complete, up-to-date paperwork for your child prior to class, they will not be allowed to ride. This is for your child's safety and for our protection.**
 - **Program Fee: \$200.00 per 8-week session – payable at least one week prior to the start of the session.**
 - **Please provide one case of bottled water (8 oz.) and one box of individually wrapped snacks items for our dedicated and hungry volunteers per session.**
 - **Small picture of the rider for their name tags.**
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- Note that our speed limit is 10 mph. Please adhere to this as it helps preserve road conditions and protects trail riders. We have a new exit. Please use the new road behind the arena when leaving.
 - **We are a smoke free facility. Please refrain from smoking while on WOE grounds.**
 - You may be asked from time to time to help with the class due to a lack of volunteers on that particular day. Please have appropriate closed toe shoes with you in your vehicle.
 - If you anticipate your child missing two or more days during a session, please do not sign up for that seven or eight-week session. This will give another child an opportunity to ride for that session.
 - If there is inclement weather, please do not assume we are NOT riding. Please call the barn at 704-784-3147 and a very specific message will be on our voice mail system advising if classes are cancelled. The message will be posted at least two hours prior to your riding time.
 - **Please supervise any children you bring with you to the Ranch at all times. We have a wonderful playground area for the children's enjoyment. Please do not allow your children to throw footballs, tennis balls, volleyballs, baseballs or Frisbees on site.**