

## **Levels of Responsibility and what you are able to do with Horses at Old Orchard Farm**

This is designed to help everyone understand which responsibilities and privileges are attached to the various types of relationships you might enjoy with horses at Old Orchard Farm.

### **Owner**

- You, or someone who loves you, has either owned a mare, bred her and the resultant foal is now yours OR you, or someone who loves you, has bought you a horse or pony.
- You are the person making decisions regarding your horse/pony.
- Please consult with Linda regarding feeding and turn out of your horse/pony.
- As an owner, you are responsible to pay board, and all veterinarian and farrier costs.
- You can choose your vet and farrier and make arrangements with them to care for your horse. Other owners may use the same vet or farrier, and the barn staff will help to coordinate those visits.
- You decide how often you want to ride.
- You provide your own tack, brushes, blankets and other equipment necessary to take care of your horse/pony.

### **Lease**

- You do not own the horses or pony, but this is closest you will get owning without actually purchasing your own horse.
- You have paid a portion of the purchase price (usually 1/3<sup>rd</sup>) for an agreed upon amount of time (usually a year).
- Leased horses often include an insurance policy, either included or the lessor may be required to insure the horse themselves as part of the lease agreement.
- Decisions relating to the horses care and what can be done with the horse are made in conjunction with the horses owner and your trainer.
- Please consult with your trainer (Linda) and the owner regarding feeding and turn out of your horse.
- As the lessor, you are responsible to pay board, and all veterinarian and farrier costs.
- Which vet and farrier you use should be decided in conjunction with your trainer (Linda) and the horses owner. In some cases the owner may stipulate that a specific farrier and/or vet be used exclusively.
- You decide how often you want to ride.
- You provide your own tack, brushes, blankets and other equipment necessary to take care of your horse.

### **Part Boarder – privately owned horse/pony**

- You do not own the horse/pony.
- Feed, turn out and other horse care/management decisions are that of the owner.
- You negotiate the number of rides with the owner.
- The owner is responsible to pay board, and you contribute a percentage of that amount (often half). The owner is responsible for all veterinarian and farrier costs. They may also ask you to contribute to those costs.
- The owner typically provides tack, brushes, blankets and other equipment necessary to take care of your horse/pony.

#### **Part Boarder – OOF owned horse**

- You do not own the horse/pony.
- The amount you pay only covers a portion of their monthly costs, e.g. farrier.
- Feed, turn out and other horse care/management decisions are up to Linda. If you feel they need something else, please consult with Linda.
- You are not responsible for veterinarian costs.
- You are entitled to 3 rides a week, times to be agreed upon with Linda.
- The horse/pony will be used by other people at the times you are not riding. That may mean the horse/pony gets ridden more than once in a day. That is up to Linda's discretion.
- Old Orchard will provide tack, brushes, blankets and other equipment necessary to take care of the horse/pony.

#### **Show Part Board – OOF Owned Horse**

- All the above apply. A show part board means that you don't need to pay a horse usage fee at the Old Orchard shows or a day fee for use of the horse off property.
- Show Part Board is arranged on a yearly basis (not monthly).

#### **Using Points Earned at Old Orchard**

- You may use your points to pay for part board (your lessons would be extra), lessons or trailering.
- The same criteria apply for rides using points as for Part Board above.

#### **Project Horses/ponies**

Old Orchard often has horses or ponies whose education isn't complete. This can be anything from leading, coming in and out of the barn and picking their feet to being backed and ridden. There is an opportunity for riders with sufficient experience to work with the horses/ponies who need teaching.

- Interaction with all non-school horse/ponies must be cleared through Linda (as must interaction with any of the horses).
- Whether or not you qualify as someone with enough experience is up to Linda.
- Training takes time and patience and cannot be hurried if we want to produce a safe, sane equine partner.

- You may not be the only person working with a training pony as someone else may have skills or time you don't to keep bringing the pony along.
- The goal of working with uneducated horses and ponies is to prepare them to be useful as riding horses/ponies so that they can be used and loved by many people during their careers. As such, once their education has reached a certain level they will go into the school and/or be ridden by other paying clients or in some cases sold. We are extending the privilege to work with these animals for a lesser or waived fee for this purpose and it must be understood that you do not have any ownership or management claim on the horse or pony at any time. You may have the opportunity to show these horses at some point in their training and your opinion and help may be asked for in the process of integrating the horse or pony into its new role, but ultimately your role is to assist Linda in making these animals into useful business partners. The decision as to when this happens is up to Linda. This must be understood and agreed upon from the beginning.