

GENERAL INFO AND REQUIREMENTS FOR LESSONS

Requirements

- You must wear hard-soled shoes or riding boots with a heel (not too wide) for all activities (no tennis shoes).
- Comfortable clothing, not too tight and not too loose, should be worn. Please wear jeans or riding pants (breeches or jodhpurs). Chaps are optional.
- ASTM/SEI approved helmets are mandatory for all riders while mounted (no bike helmets). Falling Star Ranch has a few helmets available for students. Riding gloves and protective vests are recommended.
- No dangling jewellery. Long hair must be worn in a pony tail or be braided.
- Every participant/rider must sign a liability release waiver as well as a medical release form prior to lessons.
- Riders are encouraged to purchase a membership (liability insurance) with Horse Council BC. For more information, check the HCBC website at www.hcbc.ca.
- All students and visitors must comply with the Safety Rules posted in the barn and tack shed.
- Safety discussions are part of every lesson, with explanations as to the "Why."
- Lessons to be paid in advance. Cash or cheque only. **NO CREDIT!**
- Students are expected to get here 20-30 minutes before their lesson to groom and tack up (put on saddle and bridle). They then get between 45 minutes and an hour ride time. Novices will be shown how to properly and safely groom and tack a horse as part of their lesson. Each student is expected to untack the horse afterwards and put it away unless another student is going to be riding it. Students are also expected to clean the tack they used for their lesson. There will be an additional \$10 charge if Falling Star Ranch gets the horse ready for you or puts it away for you or cleans the tack you used.
- If the student is sick, Falling Star Ranch must be notified 24 hours before the lesson or the lesson time is forfeited. If a student does not show up for a lesson without making prior arrangements with the instructor, the lesson is forfeited and there will be no refunds.
- Restriction Policy: It may be necessary to restrict some people from riding. Children under 9 years of age or riders weighing over 200 lbs. will be considered on an individual basis.

Additional Information

- Falling Star Ranch offers a friendly, family-oriented atmosphere.
- Riders are instructed in an encouraging, not discouraging, manner.
- Students are not pushed beyond their comfort levels or limitations.
- Falling Star Ranch's equipment and tack is of good quality and kept in safe working condition.
- Lessons are given year-round, with ground and/or theory sessions given occasionally during inclement weather.
- Abilities and contributing factors (such as weather conditions) are all considered for every lesson.
- In the wintertime and sometimes during the rainy season, lessons are given in an indoor arena in McBride. There is a fee for hauling lesson horses to the arena (\$5/student if there are four or more lessons scheduled or \$10/student if there are 2-3 lessons scheduled). HCBC membership is required in order to use the arena.
- Well-trained lesson horses that are appropriate to the level of the rider are provided. However, you are welcome to bring your own horse to lessons (check with Birgit for health requirements) and Birgit will work with you both. Lessons can also be arranged at your place (mileage fee will apply).

Falling Star Ranch
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