

# AMERICAN EQUESTRIAN ALLIANCE

## INSURANCE SAFETY GROUP REQUIREMENTS

### Trail Rides & Pack Trips

All tack and equipment must be inspected on a daily basis and repaired or replaced as necessary.

Every rider must read and sign a Release and Waiver of Liability agreement in the form prescribed by A.E.A.

EVERY RIDER MUST BE OFFERED PROTECTIVE HEAD GEAR. If a rider refuses to use headgear an Acknowledgment of offer and refusal must be signed by the rider.

All trail ride horses must be equipped with breast collars and children's saddles with full wrap bull-nosed Tapaderos. Saddles and tack must be well matched to the horse and rider. Split western reins must be tied.

A system to determine rider experience and capability must be in place. Overweight and young riders must be carefully screened by the stable manager for ability to safely ride.

ALL TRAIL RIDES MUST BE GUIDED BY AN EXPERIENCED LEAD GUIDE / WRANGLER who is at least 18 years old. An optimum ratio of 6 riders to 1 guide should be maintained. It is strongly recommended that guides be provided with radios to communicate with the drag guide and the stable in case of emergency.

Walking rides only, no running or racing of horses. Trotting is permissible, on good footing, when all riders are capable and in agreement. Any guest rider violating ride safety rules or good trail etiquette must dismount and walk to the stable

No riders under 8 years old.

No riding double.

No horseback riding while wearing backpacks or carrying bulky items.

All riding instruction must be performed within an arena, on a docile, well trained lesson horse and the student must wear riding shoes and a hard hat.

All horses must be properly cared for, regularly exercised and generally well suited for use with novice riders. Sick, lame, undernourished or ill tempered horses will not be used for riding instruction, schooling or on trail rides.

Trails should be well maintained, regularly inspected and free of rubbish and surprises. Guides should avoid road traffic or congested areas.

The guides must explain elementary riding safety, including how to control a runaway horse, and also check to ensure that the rider is physically and mentally fit to ride a horse.

If a rider drops anything from a horse, the guide should pick it up.

### Wagon & Carriage Rides

Wagon / Hay rides will avoid streets and/or areas where public traffic is present. Wagons will come to a complete stop before crossing any road. Outwalkers are required for crowd situations, parades, fairs or on city or town streets.

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Wagons will have open sides, be equipped with running lights, reflectors, head lights and hydraulic brakes or other breaking system acceptable to A.E.A. Wagons will not be pulled by motorized vehicles.

Wagon or carriage drivers be at least age 21 years old, have a minimum of two year wagon team experience or fifty driving hours in preceding twelve months.

Wagons or sleighs with more than seven passengers must have one (1) qualified driver and one (1) qualified assistant. The driver will tend the horses while the assistant will be responsible for loading and unloading passengers. No smoking will be permitted on or near wagons.

Slow moving sign must appear on rear of carriage or wagon.

Carriages should be equipped with fifth wheel or cut under turning mechanisms on the front axle.

Carriage wheels must be properly lubricated and must spin freely.

### **Pony Rides**

NO SEAT or RESTRAINT BELT ALLOWED.

If a sweep is used, an outer fence must be in place.

If a circle (without sweep) is used, an inside and outside fence must be in place. The pony must be led by pony ring personnel or parent.

When pony is being led, outside of a ring, a qualified stable employee must lead the pony. If the child is too small to hold onto the saddle horn, or to balance themselves, the parent or guardian must walk at the side of the pony and support the child.

Child must be provided with protective headgear.

A pony saddle must be used on a quiet, reliable animal.

Pony size or child size will be determined by the individual operator using good judgment and common sense.