



## **JoyRide COVID-19 Infection Control Plan for Outdoor on-Horse Sessions**

### **All**

1. During outdoor riding sessions, no one will enter the building with the exception of the outside bathroom. The front door to the building will be locked during riding sessions. Access will be via side entrance and clearly posted.
2. No one will be allowed on property for 14 days since the date that they returned from travelling as designated by the CDC policies. Or if they live with someone who has travelled. Everyone will be screened for travel.
3. If any person, who comes on property, tests positive for COVID 19, they must inform us and the program will be shut down immediately for 14 days and possibly longer.
  - Anyone who was on site at the time of possible exposure will be contacted immediately.
4. If any person, who comes on property, is exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID 19- the program will be shut down immediately for 14 days and possibly longer.
  - Anyone who was on site at the time of possible indirect exposure will be contacted immediately.
5. No one with signs or symptoms should come to the facility. Posters will be displayed with signs and symptoms.
  - Instructors will do a verbal health check with riders and volunteers in their sessions at the beginning of every session asking about: signs and symptoms, travel, and exposure. Documentation will be recorded in schooling/therapy notes.
6. Upon arrival, everyone will wash their hands at a hand washing station following CDC guidelines.

### **Rider Screening**

1. A customized Risk Benefit Assessment will be completed for each rider prior to acceptance into the semester program. This assessment will also include a copy of the JoyRide COVID 19 Infection Control Policies for Indoor and Outdoor sessions. This form will be signed by the family and the Horsemanship Program Manager or Physical Therapist.
  - a. If a risk/benefit assessment is performed, and a significant greater risk is determined, particularly with patients with respiratory or immune issues, families may be asked to get an additional doctor release, or an alternate option to riding may be explored.
  - b. A risk/benefit assessment may indicate specific considerations; this will be a case by case basis.
  - c. A risk/benefit assessment that the rider would be at greater potential of exposing others, albeit inadvertently, will be performed. For instance, a person who sneezes a lot – the rider would be required to wear a mask.

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2. For now, no rider requiring a full time thigh hold will be able to participate in on horse sessions due to close proximity of riders to volunteers for an extended period. The reasoning for this policy is that volunteers would be at an angle in front and below the riders for an extended period of time.
  - \*\*Full time knee holds are acceptable
  - \*\*If a rider who does not normally require a thigh hold is having a bad day and is needing a prolonged thigh hold then the rider will be dismounted. The session will either be completed indoors on a horse simulator where less support is required or discontinued. The rider will be dismounted safely immediately wherever they are on the facility.

### **Family/Rider Procedures**

1. Families should bring the minimum number of people needed to care for the rider to help limit the number of people on site.
2. Riders will be required to have their own helmets.
3. Riders can bring their own clean reins with input from instructors for rein selection.
4. Families will bring their own chairs. They can bring a simple folding chair - without a bag.
  - JoyRide reserves the right to refuse a chair due to safety concerned of horses.
  - JoyRide Picnic tables, chairs, and barrels will be removed.
5. Riders will wait in cars until a volunteer/instructor comes to get them at the start of a session.

The rider families can go to the pony porch which will be designated into 2 separate areas to help in maintaining social distancing.

There will be fans strategically pointing down at each family area, so flow of the fan does not spread germs.

Please do not keep cars running in parking lot, the fumes and loud speakers cause problems for our horse and sessions.
6. Riders will be dismounted close to the porch so riders can go straight to their families. Riders will be dismounted and exited one at a time.
7. Families will be asked to leave promptly after class to allow for disinfecting and to limit the number of people on site.

### **Volunteers**

1. In order to keep volunteers engaged and to maximize volunteer retention, we may need to limit volunteers to less sessions. Thus, maintaining a small number of people on site but maximizing number of people engaged in program.
2. Volunteers will wear face masks the entire time they are on property.
3. Volunteers will be encouraged to bring their own masks however a small supply will be available on site.
4. If volunteers want to wear gloves. They can come onsite, wash hands and use provided gloves.

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5. Volunteers will be trained in proper face mask use, hand washing techniques and signs/symptoms of COVID 19. Training will be documented.
6. No hand jewelry will be worn.  
Only easily washable watches with minimal grooves may be worn such as a fitbit etc.
7. Volunteers on arrival will wash hands. Horse handlers will be getting horses. Sidewalkers will wait at their designated waiting spots. Volunteers can bring a simple folding chair- without a bag. JoyRide reserves the right to refuse a chair due to safety concerned horses.
8. Volunteers will text or email Craig, the volunteer coordinator, with the number of hours. The sign in book/computer will not be used.

### **Staff**

1. Instructors will each have an infection control apron. The apron will contain supplies to mitigate contamination by bodily fluids including properly folded masks, sanitizer, tissues, Ziploc bags (for soiled tissues), and gloves.
  - Gloves will be worn with riders who are drooling, hands in mouth/nose, any other instance where they are considered needed.
  - Aprons to be machine washed daily.
2. Instructors will wear their masks during mounting and whenever within proximity of others, but will remove and store mask according to CDC infection control guidelines when further away for clear communication.
3. Staff have recently been trained in COVID 19 symptoms, Handwashing/ Eye/Face Safety, Personal Protective Equipment use, Blood Born Pathogen, and safe biohazard disposal.
4. Instructors will provide assistance to riders from the side or back as much as possible- avoiding standing directly in front of them as much as able.
5. Instructors have been trained in biohazard procedures.
6. Staff will manage all for proper social distancing- not normal in our environment- so many will need reminders initially.

### **Programming**

1. There will be a maximum of 2 riders, 2 horse handlers, 2 sidewalkers and 2 instructors at one time. 2 riders can be in a class together or 2 separate classes.
2. Nothing gets attached to saddles- there will drink coolers out in pasture with disposable cups.
3. There will be set weekly activities using easily washed objects. The Toy Room will remain locked.
4. Every other cross tie will be used. Use middle stall as tack stall for clean tack to be used in the morning sessions. Dirty tack will be placed for cleaning behind ramp.
5. The tack room will have restricted access for authorized personnel only.

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## **Horses**

Horses that are used in class will be bathed after each rider; if they are to be used back to back, they will be sponge off along their withers, neck and head.

## **Tack**

- 1) Middle cross tie area will be used to set out clean tack by staff.  
\*Only staff will enter the tack room.
- 2) Will have designated cleaning volunteers.
- 3) Will document when saddles are cleaned.
- 4) All cleaning will follow CDC guidelines.

*Grooming items.* Will dunk in disinfectant solution following CDC guidelines after use. Will use wooden handled tools with first use of a horse. Will use synthetic tools for 2<sup>nd</sup> horse use. (Wooden handles take a day to dry)

### *Reins*

Suggest riders buy their own. Pre riding skills classes will ride without reins.

Sidepulls will only be used with those using reins.

We will use rope, nylon or cotton reins that can be more easily cleaned.

Reins will be dipped in a disinfectant solution following CDC guidelines, and then dried.

There will be a designated place for dirty tack.

All areas will be clearly signposted.

### *Saddles*

Saddles will be cleaned between riders.

There will be designated clean saddle racks in middle cross tie.

There will be waiting to be washed saddle racks in another area.

All areas will be clearly signposted.

### *Lead ropes and halters*

Lead ropes and halters will be dipped in cleaning/disinfectant and then hung.

### *Western saddle pads.*

Will put a baby pad between the saddle and the pad. Baby pad to be placed to be placed forward to protect from rider sneezing on the pad. The baby pads will be used once and laundered.

### *English pads*

Will be washed after each use.

### *Sidepulls and Girths*

Will be cleaned after each use.

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**Facility**

1. Will disinfect gate latches, cross tie snaps, hose ends, door knobs, light switches, ramp rail, scrapers twice a day.
2. There will be pedal trash bins provided, separate for general and for biohazard. Biohazard will be disposed of in a double bag, according to CDC guidelines, and placed in street trash cans 2x a day (after morning and night classes)
3. There will be no recycling during this time.
4. There will be signs such as “Elbow” on light switches, signs on handwashing by faucets etc.
5. Disinfectants will follow the CDC recommendations.
6. A fogger will be utilized in the facility at the end of each day to disinfect thoroughly.

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Manager Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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*JoyRide Center, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization*

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