



Volunteer Application

Name: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Text Messages: Yes No

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Days and Times Available to Volunteer: _____

If under 18 years old: Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

How did you hear about RSR? _____

Reason for volunteering: _____

Horse Experience? No Yes *If yes, please describe: _____

Experience with individuals with disabilities? No Yes *If yes, please describe _____

Can you walk for 45 minutes and jog short distances? No Yes

Can you hold your arm above your shoulder height and support a modest amount of weight?

No Yes

Volunteer responsibilities may include communicating with others, following directions, working independently, walking for extended periods of time, jogging short distances, working in hot/humid/cold conditions, working with clients who may have mild to severe mental and/or physical challenges, and working with large animals.

Please indicate any concerns or limitations that may affect your ability to manage the physical and/or emotional demands of working in equine assisted activities.

In case of emergency: Contact: _____ Phone: _____



Volunteer Code of Conduct-

- I will fulfill the responsibilities of my volunteer assignment.
- I will be dependable.
- I will arrive on time.
- I will call if I am running late or unable to make my volunteer commitment.
- I will set a good example for the RSR riders.
- I will avoid conflict of interest situations and refrain from actions that may be perceived as such.
- I will refrain from profanity.
- I will demonstrate good sportsmanship and cooperation.
- I will be vigilant and aware of the safety of the participants.
- I will not smoke while volunteering.
- I will not use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol at any time while volunteering.
- I will not use, possess, or be under the influence of any illegal drugs, or non-prescribed substances at any time.
- I will accept feedback.
- I will treat others with dignity and respect.
- I will respect all confidential information.
- I will abstain from all illegal activity.
- I will wear clothing appropriate for the volunteer environment.
- I will report any accidents or suspicious activity immediately.
- I will notify RSR President immediately, if I suspect child abuse.
- I will not accept gifts from riders or family members without RSR approval.

I recognize that I have a responsibility to adhere to the rules and procedures of Rising Star Riders. I understand that any infractions of the Volunteer Code of Conduct can result in, but is not limited to, my dismissal from my volunteer assignment.

Volunteer Signature

Print Name

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature (if volunteer under 18 years old)

Date



Rising Star Riders Dress Code

Welcome to Rising Star Riders. All of our Dress Code requirements are for your safety around the horses. It is also important for the students, volunteers and instructors to wear proper attire. Dress should be safe, neat, clean and workmanlike.

Boots: Boots with a heel recommended, with a smooth sole. No hiking boots for riding. Shoes must be securely fastened, over the ankle, and entirely enclosed. Never wear sandals, open-toe shoes, or boots with a steel toe.

Pants: Wear comfortable long pants, jeans or slacks. Pants should never be sagging and belts are recommended.

Shirts: No sleeveless shirts! Shirts must be long enough that if you were to lift your arms you cannot see your stomach. A shirt that tucks in is recommended. A polo shirt, button-down or t-shirt is appropriate.

Gloves: Optional but recommended.

Accessories: Please no dangle earrings, or other jewelry that could catch on the horse's hair or tack. No loose scarves or belts that could catch something. No gum chewing. Please wear sunscreen to protect yourself from the sun. In the winter wear layers.

Hair: Hair should be pulled back away from your face. Ponytail holder should be at base of neck so helmet will fit properly.

Helmets: Provided by the program. You are welcome to purchase your own helmet. Ask us about proper fit.

If you have any questions regarding proper attire, please ask. Happy riding!

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT, RELEASE, INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

BY SIGNING THIS PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT, RELEASE, INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK (THIS “AGREEMENT”), YOU ARE GIVING UP CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE, AND THE RIGHT TO RECOVER DAMAGES IN CASE OF INJURY, DEATH, OR PROPERTY DAMAGE. READ THIS AGREEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING IT. YOUR SIGNATURE INDICATES YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT TO ITS TERMS.

I, the undersigned, in consideration of the services of Rising Star Riders, its directors, instructors, volunteers, agents, representatives, employees and assigns, including without limitation Kelly McBride (hereinafter collectively referred to as “RSR”), hereby agree to release and discharge RSR on behalf of myself, my minor child, any person for whom I am the legal guardian, or any person for whom I have been granted the authority to sign a release by the legal guardian, my heirs, successors, assigns, personal representatives, and estate as follows:

1. RSR provides a wide range of equestrian activities including horseback riding for therapeutic purposes, and lessons for non-disabled persons. Lessons may be mounted, unmounted, or a combination of both. Horse care, grooming, and informative lecture may involve the use of a horse “on the ground” (unmounted) rather than “in the saddle” (mounted). This Agreement encompasses ALL equestrian and equine activities.
2. I understand and acknowledge that the activity in which I am about to voluntarily engage as a participant and/or volunteer (hereinafter collectively referred to as “participant”) bears certain known risks and unanticipated risks which could result in injury, death, illness or disease, physical or mental, or damage to myself, to my property or to third parties. Equine activities, mounted and unmounted, contain inherent risks and hazards and dangers. The following describes some, but not all, of these risks:
 - a) The unpredictability of a horse’s reaction to such things as sounds, movement, objects, persons, and other animals.
 - b) Certain hazards such as surface and subsurface conditions of the facility and premises.
 - c) Collisions with other animals or objects.
 - d) The potential of a participant acting in a negligent manner that may cause or contribute to injury, death, or loss to the participant or other persons or animals, including, but not limited to, such acts as a participant failing to maintain control of an equine, or not acting within the participant’s ability.
 - e) A horse may, without warning or apparent cause, buck, rear, stumble, fall, bite, kick, run, make unpredictable movements, spook, jump obstacles, step on a person’s feet, push or shove a person, and all

horse tack (including but not limited to saddle, bridle, and girth) may loosen or break.

All of these events or happenings, as well as others, may cause the participant (whether while on the ground, riding the horse, or during mounting or dismounting the horse) to fall or have their body be jolted, compressed, or strained, resulting in **serious injury or death**.

Minor injuries are common and usual, and are accepted as normal for all participants engaging in equine activities.

3. I acknowledge that horseback riding, as well as all other equine activities, is a dangerous activity and involves RISKS that may cause **SERIOUS INJURY AND IN SOME CASES DEATH**, because of the unpredictable nature and irrational behavior of horses, regardless of their training or lack of training and their past performance.
4. **I voluntarily assume the risk and danger of injury or death inherent in the use of the equine facility, premises, horse, equipment, and gear provided by myself, by RSR.**
5. **I RELEASE, DISCHARGE, AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE RSR**, for any and all negligence, loss, liability, damage, or cost whatsoever arising out of or related to any loss, damage, injury, or death, to my person or property.
6. I release RSR from any claim that RSR is or may be negligent in connection with my physical ability, riding experience, or riding ability including, but not limited to, training or selecting horses, the maintenance, care, fit, or adjustment of saddles, bridles, and all other tack used, the failure to use tack, the instruction on riding skills and horse care (whether mounted or unmounted), and leading horses, and supervising horses, riders, and participants, and the equestrian facility and premises.
7. **I INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS RSR** against any loss, liability, damage, or cost that may incur arising out of or in any way connected with either my use of the horse and any equipment or gear provided therewith, my participation in any equine activities or any acts or omissions of volunteers, assistants, employees, or agents.
8. I agree to abide by and follow any instructions given or rules established by RSR, or any director, instructor, volunteer, assistant, representative, employee, or agents with regard to my use of the horse or any equipment or gear provided therewith.
9. I certify that I have sufficient health, accident, and liability insurance to cover any bodily injury or property damage I may incur while participating in an equine activity and to cover bodily injury or property damage caused to a third party as a result of my participation in an equine event. If I have no such insurance, I certify that I am capable of personally paying for any and all such expenses or liability.

10. I represent that, to the best of my knowledge, I do not have a health condition that would make it inadvisable for me to participate in equine activities, and that I will not attempt to engage in equine activities if/when under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
11. The undersigned expressly agrees that this Agreement is governed by the State of California, and is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by California law, and that in the event any portion of this Agreement is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the balance of the Agreement shall not be affected or impaired in any way and shall continue in full legal force and effect.
12. I acknowledge that this document is a contract and agree that if a lawsuit is filed against any party included within RSR for any injury or damage in breach of this contract, the undersigned will pay all attorney's fees and costs incurred by Kelly McBride in defending such action.
13. The undersigned hereby grants permission for Kelly McBride or any other instructor of RSR present to act for me in obtaining prompt medical care and attention for myself or for the minor participant named below in the event of any perceived need for medical attention. I agree to release RSR and hold harmless from liability for any injury or damage sustained, and for injury or damage connected with obtaining prompt medical attention for myself or the minor participant named below.

I SIGN AND ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMNT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY. MY SIGNATURE BELOW INDICATES THAT I HAVE READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT, I UNDERSTAND IT COMPLETELY, I UNDERSTAND THAT IT AFFECTS MY LEGAL RIGHTS, AND I AGREE TO BE BOUND BY ITS TERMS. I UNDERSTAND IT IS A PROMISE NOT TO SUE AND IT IS A RELEASE AND INDEMNITY FOR ALL CLAIMS.

I have been given sufficient time to read, and understand, and ask questions, if any, concerning the nature of this Agreement. The terms of this Agreement form is the entire agreement between the parties and may not be altered, amended, or modified except in a separate writing signed by both parties. Crossing-out words in this Agreement is of no effect to change the terms of the Agreement. This Agreement is valid for one (1) year from the date signed below.

Must be signed by parent or guardian if participant is under 18 years of age:

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Print Name: _____ Email: _____

Name of participant if minor: _____