

Welcome to Horses for Healing! We ask that all participants, volunteers and persons attending the lesson be familiar prior to arriving at the barn. We love sharing “horse time” with everyone, but want to make sure everyone, including the horses, are kept safe.

History

Horses for Healing was founded in 2016 by a group of horse professionals, parents, teachers and medical professionals that wanted to have a therapeutic riding facilities.

Facility Location

Horses for Healing is located just outside of Lincoln at 6300 Princeton Rd, Firth, NE 68358.

Parking

Parking is available on the white rock area on the east side of the driveway. Riders with mobility impairments are welcome to park next to the arena.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Horses for Healing accepts students regardless of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Therapeutic Riding Lessons

Individual therapeutic riding lessons are 30 minutes long. They generally consist of mounting the Rider on the horse, tack adjustments, exercises while mounted, actual riding time, cool down time and dismounting. Lessons may also include groundwork such as leading, barn management, grooming, tacking up, types of tack, and tack cleaning.

Riding Session

Riding sessions are four weeks long, beginning at the start of each month. There will be some flexibility in sessions to accommodate holidays or traditionally bad weather seasons.

Fees

Fees charged to participants do not represent the true cost of service. We cover the remainder of the expense through donations and grants.

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| New Client One-Time registration fee: | \$50 |
| Semi-Private lesson (possibly 2-3 riders) | \$30 per lesson, \$120 per session |
| Private lesson | \$40 per lesson, \$160 per session |

Hippotherapy Sessions: Each session is with an Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, or Speech Pathologist

- Private 30 min session

\$60 per 30 min

Billing and Payment

Horses for healing does not take or bill insurance.

We email invoices to riders one week prior to the first date of the riding session. Payment for the full session is due on the first date of the session. Payments made by check, payable to Horses for Healing, may be dropped off in the mailbox in the tack room or mailed to 6300 Princeton Rd, Firth, NE 68358. Online bill pay is also available; please inquire for more information. Please note: there is a \$25 charge for each returned check.

Late Payments and Past-Due Accounts

If your payment has not been received by the due-date, we will send you a reminder. Accounts are considered past-due if your payment is more than two weeks late. Please speak with the Executive Director, Justy Hagan, if you need to make alternate arrangements for payment.

Scheduling

Sign-ups for the next month's riding session will begin around the 15th of the prior month for riders in good financial standing. Riders with a past-due account are not able to enroll in additional sessions without making arrangements with the Executive Director, Justy Hagan. Horses for Healing will try to take scheduling preferences of the rider into account; however, we cannot guarantee the time and day that you prefer. We are happy to place you on a waiting list for the day and time you prefer and will offer that time when it becomes available (even if during a session).

Punctuality

Instructors carefully design therapeutic riding lessons to meet the unique goals of each rider. Arriving late to your lesson means you will not get the full benefit of the planned activities. Riders more than 15 minutes late to a lesson will not be able to ride. There is no credit for late lessons.

Absences

We know that there will be times when you cannot make it to your scheduled lesson. Please let the Executive Director, Justy Hagan, know whenever you need to miss a scheduled lesson as soon as possible. This will allow us to cancel volunteers or re-arrange horses, if needed.

We will provide riders with a contact list and schedule for each session. You are welcome to contact other riders to trade sessions in order to accommodate planned absences. Be sure to let the Executive Director, Justy Hagan, know about any changes so she can make sure to have enough volunteers for the respective lessons. You may also sign-up for an available slot on the riding calendar.

You may reschedule absences with less than 24-hours notice only if there is an available slot on the riding calendar.

There are no credits for lessons missed due to rider-related absences.

Inclement Weather

Safety is the utmost concern for all of our riders. If there is a concern about the safety to ride because of the weather, we will cancel all scheduled lessons. We will notify riders of cancellations. In the event that lessons cannot be rescheduled, a credit will be given on the next session.

If the weather is extremely hot or cold, some or all of a lesson may include horsemanship education. We understand that riding is more fun, however ground lessons are equally important and poor weather conditions are a great opportunity for those. Make-up lessons cannot be scheduled in lieu of ground lessons.

Medical Needs

At Horses for Healing, our mission is to help people of all ages and abilities overcome physical or mental challenges so they can live a more fulfilling life. We know that our riders may have unexpected medical needs that prevent them from completing a therapeutic riding session. We will provide a full credit for missed lessons if a doctor's note is received.

Attire

Wearing the correct attire is an important part of our safety plan at Horses for Healing. All riders must wear an ASTM/SEI approved riding helmet with a chin harness secured when riding or working around the horses.

We also require close-toed shoes, preferably with a small heel.

Riders should wear long pants such as jeans, riding breeches, or leggings to prevent leg chafing.

Horse Etiquette

Horses for Healing operates out of the personal stables of Justy and Lynn Hagan. In addition to our program, Justy trains riders in barrel racing, roping, and general riding. They also board horses for other clients. Because there may be other people on site, please do not wander around the stables or approach horses outside of your scheduled lesson.

Horses are prey animals, which means they are always scanning the environment for potential threats. Here are some things that horses may perceive as threatening, and therefore should be avoided while at Horses for Healing:

- Loud noises such as clapping, door slamming on cars, loud talking/ laughing, calling to riders, etc.
- Umbrellas, ball playing, or fast type movement games

- Walking or running around horses or riding areas
- Climbing, sitting, or standing on stall doors, fences, or gates
- Approaching a horse with a stroller or wheelchair (horses may be startled). Your instructor will help facilitate a safe approach with equipment.

Our horses love being rewarded with a special treat after doing good work during a lesson. However, some horses have special diets, and there are safe ways to feed those treat. Please check with program staff before offering treats to any horse, the staff will assist to ensure safety for both the horse and the participant. Do not feed treats to horses in stalls or over the fence.

Service dogs are welcome at Horses for Healing. Please let us know if you will be bringing a service dog so that we can be prepared to introduce your dog and horse to each other. Please keep other pets at home.

Visitors

While riding lessons are in progress, all parents, family members, and guests must stay in waiting area or in their vehicles. Children not participating in a lesson **MUST** remain with and close to a parent or guardian at all times.

Guests are welcome at Horses for Healing, but we request that you limit guests to only a few people at a time. Large groups may be distracting for our riders or might spook the horses. Please ensure your guests are familiar with our barn rules.

Healthy Environment

In order to promote a healthy environment for our riders, their families, our staff and volunteers, the following are not allowed at Horses for Healing:

- Smoking or tobacco products of any kind
- Alcohol or other drugs
- Litter

Kindness, however, is encouraged!