



SOUTHERN STAR RANCH
& Riding Academy

***Basic Lesson
Program Package***

Hillary Pigford-Rizzi, Instructor

Lessons are offered in 1, 2, or 3 weekly one-hour sessions at a monthly tuition rate as follows:

• **Packages:**

- | | Private | Group |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|
| ○ 1 one-hour session per week | \$180 | \$160 |
| ○ 2 one-hour sessions per week | \$320 | \$280 |
| ○ 3 one-hour sessions per week | \$420 | \$360 |
| ○ Lessons paid week by week | \$ 55 | \$45 |
- If group lessons are desired an evaluation must be made prior to joining a group, and must be done as a single private lesson at the rate of \$55. Group times offered are as follows:
 - Wednesday
 - 2:00 Advanced 3:00 Beginners
 - Friday
 - 1:00 Advanced
 - Saturday
 - 12:00 Advanced 1:00 Intermediate 2:00 Intermediate 4:00 Beginners
 - Sunday
 - 9:00 Advanced 4:00 Intermediate
 - Beginner student groups include only beginners who have taken at least 2 months of consistent private lessons.
 - Intermediate student groups include only students who can canter, are learning how to jump and have been riding for a year and a half to two years.
 - Advanced student groups include only students who have ridden for over 2 years consistently and can jump 2' courses, in-an-outs, and can get flying lead changes.

- If after the first lesson the student decides not to continue in the program, a refund will be issued, less \$55 for the lesson taken.
- After the second lesson has begun, there will no longer be any refunds on riding lessons unless it is medically necessary for the student to drop out of the program.
- Missed lessons must be made up within thirty (30) days, if scheduling permits, or it will be forfeited. Responsibility of scheduling a missed lesson falls on the student. Please do not wait till the end of the month to reschedule a missed lesson, as a time may not be available.
- There is a 24-hour lesson cancellation policy which will be strictly enforced. If you do not notify the trainer within 24 hours of your lesson time, you will forfeit the lesson. There will be no make-ups, nor reimbursements.
- Lessons start and end according to the schedule. If a student is not ready at the appropriate time, the lesson will still end as scheduled so as to ensure the next lesson starts on time.
- The horse must be properly groomed and tacked prior to, and after, each lesson. A checklist will need to be followed, approved and signed by the trainer prior to riding.

- Lessons are held rain or shine. In the event of inclement weather, lessons will consist of unmounted instruction.
- Students will not be able to jump over 2 feet unless they purchase their own horse.
- The first lesson will be on grooming the horse and tacking up so the rider will know how to tack up on their own and how to properly care for the horse after exercise by using a grooming/care checklist that must be approved and signed by the trainer after every lesson. This will take the entire hour and the student will need to groom the horse for every lesson. An inspection will be made prior to mounting.
- As the student becomes more independent they will get more time on the horse. As the student takes on more responsibility he/she will need to arrive prior (15-45 minutes) to the scheduled lesson time to prepare the horse for the lesson, and expect to be here for 15-30 minutes after. All checklists must be approved and signed by the trainer.
- In the event a child is too small to perform all of the required tasks on their own, a parent will need to learn so that they can assist their child. If this is not possible there will be an additional \$10 charge per lesson to have the child assisted by a staff member.
- The student will learn to care for tack properly.
- The student will learn to wrap the horse for transport and how to bathe a horse.
- The student will learn about horse care such as stall maintenance, feeding, clipping, and blanketing.

Upon completion of the levels listed below, the student will move to the next level of riding and receive a Certificate of Completion:

- Students will be required to pass an exam in order to move on to the next level. Exams will be cumulative (The level 2 exam will include all the concepts from Level 1, etc.).
- **Exams will consist of:**
 - An in hand test.
 - An under saddle test.
- Tests will be conducted on a day other than the regularly scheduled lesson.
- The student will be required to pass each level test before they can proceed to the next level.
- Tests will be administered at the instructor's discretion.
- If any tests need to be retaken, it will be considered a lesson.
- Upon passing a level test, the student will receive a Certificate of Completion and will move on to the next level.

Horse Management & Handling		
LEVEL	AVERAGE # OF WEEKS	CONCEPTS TO BE COVERED
1	2	The nature of Horses and safe handling techniques
1	2	Grooming, Horse parts, horse colors, horse markings
1	2	Bridling, Saddling, Bits, Saddles, boots and wraps, care of tack
2	2	Horse health and basic first aid. Vet, Farrier, Dentist
2	2	Horse care and feeding. Conformation.
2	2	Bathing, clipping and mane pulling.
2	2	Managing the horses environment.
3	2	Trailer Loading and Safe Hauling
2	2	Lunging

Work Under Saddle		
LEVEL	AVERAGE # OF WEEKS	CONCEPTS TO BE COVERED
1	4	Mounting, Dismounting, Position, Suppling/Balance Exercises, Two Point
1	4	Handling the reins, basic steering and simple transitions. Halt. Figure eights, serpentines, circles, half circles
1	16	Sitting Trot, Rising or Posting Trot, Diagonal, Steering at trot, 2 point while trotting
2	24	Sitting Trot, Posting Trot, Cantering (steering at the canter), ground poles, no stirrups, no rein exercises, Cavaletti and ground pole exercises, Figure eights, serpentines, post without stirrups
3	24	Transitions, Steering, Canter, Canter without stirrups, Simple changes at canter, Flying lead changes, (Jumping)Begin trotting over cross rails and trot courses.
4	48	Circles, Changes Across the Diagonal- simple and flying lead at the canter. Post trot, sitting trot, canter without stirrups, jump with out stirrups, canter courses at 2' height (will go higher if rider owns a horse).
5	48	Work on flying lead changes, Counter Canter, Bending horse and balancing exercises, transition exercises, jumping large fences (if own your own horse), work on equitation courses, jump course without stirrups and more.