

FHS Barn Kids

About the Program

The Flying High Stables “Barn Kids Program” is designed for "horse crazy" kids for whom a regular riding lesson doesn't begin to allow the time around horses that they crave. These kids have a strong desire to learn more about horses and their daily care and routines. It is an opportunity to socialize with their peers in a structured and creative atmosphere. Teens who drive themselves to the barn, are no longer part of the Barn Kids Program and will need to schedule their comings and goings separately. The freedom to come and go at will puts them in a different world from the Barn Kids.

Barn Kids volunteer at the barn as pre-arranged with David or another Flying High Stables staff member, and must be dropped off and picked up at agreed upon times. They may stay all day on agreed upon days as long as they follow directions, are not disruptive to the lesson program, obey all barn rules, clean up after themselves, and are generally a help to have around.

Barn Kids may be involved in all aspects of horse care, show/event preparation, and care of the facility. Other activities may include field trips to feed stores or tack shops, or to wash blankets.

Barn Kids are encouraged to care for themselves by wearing clothing appropriate to weather and barn activity. They should bring healthy snacks, a lunch, and drinks. They will need to take breaks when they are tired, and should let the staff person in charge know when any problems arise.

Barn Kids are expected to be good citizens and to treat their fellow Barn Kids, the FHS staff, and everyone they encounter at FHS or at events attended with FHS, with kindness and respect. Mistreatment of horses, or other animals will not be tolerated. Such behavior will be pointed out quickly, and there are consequences for infractions (see Code of Conduct below).

Barn Kids are expected to monitor their own behavior in such a way as to be an asset to the program. Repeated warnings about rough housing or disruptive behavior will result in the early dismissal of the Barn Kids, and parents will be contacted to come and pick up their child. Future Barn Kids privileges are then in jeopardy, and must be renegotiated.

In addition to an expectation of good citizenship at the barn and all events hosted or attended by the barn, Barn Kids from FHS are expected to conduct themselves in a civil manner with kindness and respect to each other outside the barn. Many Barn Kids will find new friends and acquaintances at the barn – people they would never have met without their affiliation with us. We have an expectation that Barn Kids will treat each other respectfully in all online, text and phone communication.

Barn Kid Musts

BIG RULES!!!

1. Barn Kids let someone on the FHS staff know you have arrived and when you are leaving..
2. Barn Kids **must** wear closed-toed shoes like a paddock boot or work boot – in hot weather sneakers *are* permitted, but not for riding. Crocs, Tevas, and any other sandals are not permitted.
3. Barn Kids should bring healthy snacks, lunch and drinks, and mark them with your name. Do not bring drinks in glass containers into the barn. ALWAYS CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELVES.
4. Barn Kids are trusted members of the FHS community, and as such, we understand they know the difference between common sense, and not. As such, FHS will not be spying on their every move at the barn, but we expect that common sense will always be used when around the horses. One example is no one should ever be chasing a horse or horses around in their paddock.
5. Barn Kid days are a privilege, and should be arranged in advance – during a school week, this could be in a phone call as you leave the house. For Saturdays, I'd prefer some additional notice because there is some planning involved with Saturdays – it is really a matter of me understanding who is coming and when so I can schedule chores for the Hands in as fair a way as possible.
6. Barn Kids may bring friends to the barn, only if prior arrangements have been made with FHS staff.
7. Barn Kids must read, understand and sign the *FHS Code of Conduct* (see next page.)
8. Barn Kids must follow all barn rules all the time.

FHS Code of Conduct

Flying High Stables is proud of its reputation for good sportsmanship, horsemanship, teamwork, and well-behaved members. We at FHS expect appropriate behavior from Barn Kids, as well as from all volunteers, parents, and others visiting or participating.

Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to:

1. Behavior that is disruptive to the lesson program.
2. Repeated rough housing that requires the attention of the instructor or other staff.
3. Possession, use or distribution of any illegal drugs, alcohol, or other illegal substances or weaponry.
4. Assault or abuse, threatening or violent behavior on FHS grounds or at any time with FHS at any event of any kind.
5. Harassment - using words or actions (in person, or through electronic communication) that intimidate, threaten, or persecute others.
6. Abuse of a horse or other animal.
7. SMOKING or use of any open flame.

Any Barn Kid, or accompanying parent or visitor, who does not conform to the above Code of Conduct will be asked to leave, and may be prohibited from further participation with the program.

I have read and agree to abide by the above Code of Conduct and the rules of Flying High Stables.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Instructor

Date

FLYING HIGH STABLES BARN RULES

ATTENTION! The following rules apply to all program participants, staff members, volunteers, and anyone who visits Flying High Stables. These rules are designed to insure safety, a primary concern here at Flying High Stables. Please help us to enforce these rules!

- No abusive, threatening, or violent behavior towards people or animals will be tolerated on Flying High Stables' premises – or between FHS family members in any electronic communication outside the barn.
- Alcohol and illegal drug use is prohibited on the Flying High Stables grounds, or at any FHS hosted events, or events attended by FHS.
- Absolutely NO smoking or use of open flames is permitted in the barn, or anywhere on the Flying High Stables' premises.
- There will be NO RUNNING OR SCREAMING in the barn or around the horses.
- No one is permitted in the barn, or in the paddocks, unless an FHS staff member is present on the premises.
- No one may ride a program horse unless supervised or approved by a staff member.
- No person will be permitted to ride a program horse until s/he has completed a Flying High Stables liability release and has had an evaluation lesson.
- No one may chase a horse or horses around in their paddock.
- **All riders must wear an ASTM-approved helmet** while mounted, and wear hard-soled shoes with heels.
- No one may bring a non-program horse onto the Flying High Stables premises without prior permission from Flying High Stables.
- Children on the Flying High Stables premises must be supervised at all times.
- Dogs **MUST** be on a leash.
- Barn aisles must be kept clean and free of obstructions.

Additional safety-related requirements:

Report all accidents, injuries, or hazardous conditions to a staff member as soon as possible.