

**BRENTWOOD OAKS EQUESTRIAN CENTER
AGREEMENT AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY**

1. I, _____ acknowledge that I have voluntarily entered onto the premises of Brentwood Oaks Equestrian Center (hereinafter "The Oaks") and that while on the premises, I may participate in a program or activity conducted by or at "The Oaks".
2. I acknowledge that I know "The Oaks" is an equestrian center and that horses are located in and about the premises. I further acknowledge that I have received a copy of "What You Should Know About Horse Related Activities" and verify this statement by placing my initials here: _____

ASSUMPTION OF RISK

3. I AM AWARE THAT BEING ON THE PREMISES OF "THE OAKS" AND PARTICIPATING IN A PROGRAM OR ACTIVITY AT "THE OAKS" UNAVOIDABLY EXPOSES MY SELF TO A NUMBER OF HAZARDOUS CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONDITIONS. I AM VOLUNTARILY PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE DANGERS INVOLVED, AND HEREBY AGREE TO ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY OR DEATH WHICH MAY ATTEND MY PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION. I VERIFY THIS STATEMENT BY PLACING MY INITIALS HERS: _____
4. As consideration for being permitted by "The Oaks" to enter onto the premises and participate in a program or activity, I hereby agree that I may, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives will not make a claim against, sue or attach the property of Brentwood Oaks Equestrian Center, a division of Brentwood Decorative Rock, Inc., or any of its principals, agents, employees, or representatives, for injury or damage resulting from negligence or other acts, conditions or circumstances, however caused, by any principal, agent, employee or representative of "The Oaks" from all actions, claims, demands that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians or legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for injury or damage resulting from my presence at "The Oaks" or from any participation in a program or activity at "The Oaks".

KNOWING AND VOLUNTARY EXECUTION

5. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN MY SELF AND BRENTWOOD OAKS EQUESTRIAN CENTER, AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Executed at Brentwood, California, on _____, 20____

RELEASOR _____

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HORSE RELATED ACTIVITIES

PROTECTIVE ATTIRE:

1. To prevent injuries, you are hereby advised to purchase and wear a well fitted helmet, hard hat or similar protective headgear that fastens securely under the chin, while working around or riding horses. Approved helmets **MUST BE WORN BY ANYONE 17 AND UNDER AND ANYONE JUMPING.**
2. You are hereby advised to always wear hard soled, fully enclosed shoes or boots and socks to protect feet, and long pants to protect legs while working around or riding horses. Shirts with sleeves are also advised.
3. You are asked not to carry food treats for horses in the pockets of your clothing as you could be bitten by a horse looking for a snack.

THE NATURE AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HORSE:

While domesticated, well trained horses are usually obedient, docile and affectionate, it is important to understand that their survival instincts are what have allowed them to survive from prehistoric time to the present day.

1. You are advised that horses are unpredictable by nature, with minds of their own, as are all animals both domestic and wild. The horse is excitable, high strung, and nervous by nature. Horses are extremely strong and physically powerful. Horses are extremely heavy, weighing from 600 to 1700 pounds. These characteristics deserve a human being's utmost respect and caution.
2. You are advised that when a horse is frightened, angry, under stress or feels threatened, it is the horse's instinct to jump forward, sideways or backwards and to run away from danger at a trot or gallop at speeds up to 35 miles per hour.
3. You are advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from behind, it may kick straight back, sideways in either direction or even forward with either of its hind legs with tremendous force.
4. You are advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from something or someone above it or on its back, it may hunch its back and buck in a way that could throw a rider to the ground with great force. A fall from a horse will usually be from a height of 3 to 6 feet.
5. You are advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from the front, it may naturally react by rearing up with its front legs, strike with one or both front legs, bit with its teeth, throw its head up or from side to side or run directly over whatever it fears in front of it in order to get away.
6. You are advised that a human must always approach a horse calmly, quietly and cautiously, preferably from near its shoulder or lower neck while talking soothingly to let the horse know of your approach.
7. You are advised that loud or sudden movements, wind blowing objects about, clapping, screaming, thunder, approaching vehicles, screaming children all can cause a horse to react. In addition, ill fitting equipment or physical pain can provoke a domesticated horse to react according to its natural protective instincts.
8. You are advised that the first signs of anger or fear in a horse are the sudden tensing of the muscles of the body, possibly laying its ears back against its head, or quickly tossing or raising its head, swishing its tail or sudden snorting through the nostrils accompanying at least one other warning sign.
9. You are advised that a horse can see independently with each eye, actually looking in one direction with one eye on one object somewhere in front of it. Usually the direction the ear is pointing will tell an observer where the horse is looking on the

same side and consequently what the horse is probably concentrating on at the moment.

10. You are advised that a horse has two blind areas where it cannot see. A horse cannot see directly behind it, not when it has its head down eating. This is the reason it is best to approach a horse close to the shoulder, and never to surprise a horse from the rear or to reach first for the horse's head, depending on the position of the horse.
11. You are advised that while a horse is very sure footed by nature, it may accidentally step on an object such as a human foot when it is balancing itself or turning around. Due to the horse's vision limitations, sometimes it simply may not see where your feet are and may step onto your foot. In addition, if a horse is ridden or worked on slippery surfaces, uneven ground and even on good footing, they can occasionally trip, falling down, and possibly injuring a rider or handler. On occasion, they may even fall on a rider or handler.

As evidence that you have read the foregoing, please write out the following statement on the lines below:

"I HAVE READ AND I DO UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE WARNINGS CONCERNING PROTECTIVE ATTIRE AND THE NATURE AND PHYSICAL CHARACTER OF THE HORSE."

Dated: _____, **at Brentwood Oaks Equestrian Center, Brentwood, California.**

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

**Signature of Parent
Or Guardian if a minor:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____