

# ***ADVANTAGE RANCH, Blacksburg Division***

## ***RULES and POLICIES***

1. NO SMOKING

2. NO DOGS

3. Availability of the Indoor Arena is posted on the side alley wall leading into the arena. Please honor the posted schedule as appropriate for your board level.

4. Hard hats are required if you plan to negotiate any obstacle over one foot.

5. Please groom and saddle your horse in your stall when ever possible and leave the crossties open for pasture boarders. Horses must be under control at all times, this means they should be tied or held when tacking up. For safety reasons we do not allow grooming or tacking up in the aisle.

6. Please be aware that there are stallions in the barn, we appreciate your assistance in minimizing the horse traffic around them. Also please help us encourage visitors not to pet any of the horses through the bars so that the horses do not learn to bite.

7. All riders must have a signed release on file in the office. We want to provide the best care possible for your horse, so please keep up with the necessary paperwork. Secondly, if you would like someone to have access to your horse we need to have your signature on file stating so and they need to provide us with a signed release. Your help in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

8. BE CLEAN -- The barn is here for everyone to use and enjoy but it takes a great deal of effort to keep it clean. Take the time to pick up after yourself. Please follow posted signage at side aisle, cross ties, wash rack, etc.

9. If your horse defecates (poops, plops, dumps, leaves you a gift or calling card.... etc.) please clean it up immediately and put the manure from the aisle, cross ties, wash rack, or parking lot in the spreader; put manure "deposited" in the arena in the corner muck bucket. PLEASE do not wash manure, hair, feed, or other matter down the wash rack drain, it clogs up and is nasty to clean.

10. We love children! If you bring little ones here please help them stay out of harm's way. Please help your children understand that some normal behaviors for kids are scary to horses. Kids are not permitted in any fields without the assistance of an adult. Children, at this facility, must be under the direct supervision of their instructor or a responsible adult at all times.

11. No turn-out in the indoor arena is permitted, however, you may turn your horse loose in the round pen, if it is not being used.

12. Please use the buddy system when riding on the back of the farm or in the mountains. If you can't find a buddy, leave word with an ADVANTAGE RANCH staff person when you go out, and carry your cell phone.

13. We are required to keep a current Coggins test for all our customer horses. Please provide us with a copy.

14. FARM hours are 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. If you have a special circumstance that requires arriving sooner or staying later, you must make arrangements with the management.

15. Please be conservative with the light usage, keeping our electric bill down is one way we keep your board costs down.

16. Keeping the barn warm in the fall, winter, and spring, requires keeping the doors closed. When the front doors are latched please use the side doors to bring horses in and out. It is also VERY IMPORTANT to keep the feed door closed, so if you go in there for any reason, be sure the door is closed behind you. We appreciate your assistance in keeping all doors closed.

17. ALL CLIENTS WORKING OVER FENCES: Jump only when someone else is in the barn. Wear your safety helmet. Set up anything you like -- set all jumps at least 15 feet from the rail so that horses riding on the flat can safely pass between your jumps and the rail. All obstacles must be taken down and put away when you are done with them. The indoor arena must be clear for other uses (vaulting, training, lessons). In the outdoor arena obstacles may be left up on the printed schedule.

18. All feeding activities will be conducted by staff. Clients are not permitted to feed additional grain or hay to their horses. Treats (apples, carrots, peppermints, commercial horse treats, etc.) are permitted in moderation.

19. VERY IMPORTANT: We conduct free turn-out and turn-in procedures at the barn. This means that the horses are released from the pastures and walk themselves into their stalls, and that they are released from their stalls and walk themselves out of the barn. As you can imagine this is a delicate training process. As many as 18 horses could be in the aisle at one time. There are also horses traveling through the arena to and from stalls. FOR YOUR SAFETY, AND THAT OF THE HORSES AND STAFF, please stay out of aisle way during turn-out and turn-in. Staff will always announce turn-out and turn-in for your convenience. If you have any questions about this procedure please ask us. Your understanding, cooperation and support are essential.

It is our intention to provide you a clean and safe place to enjoy your horse. Please use common sense and good judgment. We do not like to be in the position of having to make and enforce rules. Hopefully, if we all work together they will not be required. If we can be of any help please feel free to ask. Have fun and be safe.