



**BLACKJACK
LANE**
Equestrian

New Riding Academy Client Packet

Welcome to the Blackjack Lane Equestrian Family!

We are so glad you chose us to start or brush up on your equestrian interest with us! We enjoy starting new riders as well as brushing off the rust for our re-riders and hope this packet will be of help to you moving forward.

GETTING STARTED

Over the next few weeks, you will begin to learn how to groom and care for your horse or pony and what tools are needed in order to do so. While we do provide those grooming tools as well as the tack, obtaining your own grooming set is highly recommended.

You will also notice that we wear special pants, boots, chaps and helmets, and recommend purchasing proper attire to help in your success in the saddle. These items are all outlined below and can be purchased at local tack stores around Houston or online. Those links are also below. We suggest the first purchases be boots and a helmet.

- Grooming tools
 - Curry comb
 - Brush
 - Hoof pick
 - Fly spray
 - Hoof oil
 - Durasole (on Amazon)
- Apparel
 - Paddock boots
 - Half chaps
 - Helmet

- Breeches, riding tights or jodhpurs (jodhpurs are typically for children and not meant to be worn underneath half chaps)
- Tack stores in Houston
 - Dover Saddlery – Houston
17675 Texas 249 Access Rd.
Houston, Tx 77064
281-890-5692
 - Charlotte’s Saddlery – Tomball
114 W. Main St.
Tomball, Tx 7775
281-351-1705
- Online Tack Stores
 - Smartpak
www.smartpak.com
 - Dover Saddlery
www.doversaddlery.com
 - State Line Tack
www.statelinetack.com

OUR PROGRAM

We strive to create knowledgeable horsemen and women in this program, which will require a lot of hands on learning both in and out of the saddle. Your journey will start with learning how to properly navigate your way around the barn, tack room and horse in a safe and efficient manner.

Contact Information

Krissan Barber- Owner/ Head Trainer	cell: 281-515-8282	email: blackjacklane@gmail.com
Office	phone: 713-900-RIDE	email: blackjacklaneteam@gmail.com
Carissa Larson – Assist. Trainer	cell: 561-718-4001	email: blackjacklanetea@gmail.com
Adam Barber – Owner/Billing	cell: 346-208-0440	email: blackjacklanebilling@gmail.com

Dress Code

We have a certain level of expectation for our riders’ appearance. These expectations serve two purposes: to keep our riders safe and to help assist in proper coaching when analyzing form. We ask that our riders wear form fitting shirts with sleeves that are tucked into their riding pants. Belts are preferred as well with breeches/jodhpurs that have belt loops.

Riders should look neat and polished for lessons with their hair in a braid or pony tail, not loose. Boots should be clean and free of debris.

In Barn Lessons

There will be lessons where you will not ride and will learn about other aspects of horse care like wrapping polos, parts of a horse, cleaning stalls, horse colors and markings, bandaging, medicating, etc. We typically save these lessons for days with unfavorable weather, but will throw them in at random and as needed.

Cancellation Policy and Make Ups

We do ask for a notice if you are unable to make your lesson. Riders in the Riding Academy do not have make up lessons. Boarders or lessees have the opportunity to make up a lesson if we have a 48 hour notice and if there is an appropriate lesson group for you to join on your hack day.

Being On Time

Due to the fully booked schedule we maintain, we ask that you be punctual for your lesson time. You are scheduled for a specific time slot and will have an instructor's attention for that time slot only. Should you be 10 minutes late to a 30 minute lesson, you will have 20 minutes remaining with the instructor. We do not have the ability to extend your lesson if you are late. If you need assistance with anything prior to your lesson, please reach out to a working student in the barn, or politely ask another instructor or staff member for help. We are here to assist and would much rather give assistance when possible than have you miss out on valuable instruction time.

Buffer Time

With your lesson time, you should start to become accustomed to arriving at least 30 minutes (with 45 minutes being the most desirable) prior. This will allow you time to prep yourself and horse with plenty of opportunity to be on time. Please also allow at least 30 minutes after your lesson slot to untack and clean your horse and tack as well. You should plan on spending at least 1.5-2 hours at the barn from start to finish after you have become independent grooming and tacking up/untacking.

Grooming Areas

Our grooming areas are used by multiple riders throughout the busiest lesson hours of 5pm-8pm. We ask that you make yourself aware of where brooms and manure bins are located and how to safely scoop manure while your horse is in the crossties. Because we have

many riders using these crossties throughout the evening, we ask that you clean up all hoof cleanings, manure and dirt from your area PRIOR to entering the arena for your lesson and AFTER your lesson when you have finished untacking and grooming your horse.

Tack Care

We are happy to provide the proper tack for our horses and ponies but we do require that these items be treated with care during each use. You will be taught how to clean and properly wrap your bridles as well as how to clean your saddle and girth. We do expect that all bridles be wrapped in a figure-8, bits clean and hung in their spot. No tack should be left out before you leave.

Rider Independence

We encourage all riders to become independent but realize that there will be tasks that parents will need to help with on occasion. We encourage parents to help, but please help us in teaching independence and discipline in this sport by allowing your child to work through their responsibilities even if they may take some time to get the swing of in the beginning. This discipline and attention to detail carries over into the arena and will be much appreciated later in their riding career.