

WA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE MORAWA

HORSE AND RIDING POLICY

INTRODUCTION:

As part of the pastoral care programme of the Agricultural College we aim to encourage the holistic development of the young women and men in our care by fostering interest in suitable extra-curricular activities. Horse riding is considered a valuable skill in many pastoral areas and is excellent for building self-confidence, teamwork and responsibility. We would like to be able to encourage such activity and we are aware of our Duty of Care responsibilities. Consequently, the following is an outline of the Horse Riding Policy at the college detailing the Duty of Care responsibilities of the College and students, for the purposes of unsupervised extra-curricular horse riding by students

CRITERIA:

The student must meet the following criteria before they have the privilege to enter the extra-curricular horse-riding programme:

1. Students must have written permission from their parents, using the forms provided by the college.
2. Students must have completed an induction-training course, which includes; horse-care, yard and shed-care and horse riding skills, to demonstrate their skill level before they qualify to participate in the program. Students will not be allowed to participate in the program until they are deemed Competent in this course. The awarding of Competency is solely at the discretion of the instructor.

COLLEGE RESPONSIBILITIES:

The College will provide induction training for those students who wish to enter the programme and supply appropriate safety equipment. All equipment will be maintained in a safe working condition.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY:

Students will act in a responsible and safe manner when participating in this program. Student responsibilities are included in the following conditions:

1. Sign out – ensure Hostel supervisors know where you are and when you will be back. Check College Administration during the week if there are any horses that are unsuitable for riding.
2. Use your common sense. Choose a horse you are comfortable with and that is suited to your experience level.
3. Horses must be brushed, hooves checked and saddled in yards before any riding.
4. Safety helmet must be worn at all times. Smooth soled riding boots with a heel must be worn when riding. Check boot slides easily in and out of stirrup.
5. Horses must first be warmed up and exercised by riding in yards then small enclosure outside yards, until horse is settled, before taking them elsewhere.
6. Recheck girth and tighten after you have exercised horse in yards. Do a buddy equipment safety check before departing.
7. Yards and shed area must be maintained in a clean and tidy manner. Yards MUST be cleaned before riding or at a negotiated time.
8. Students must never ride alone; they must be accompanied by at least two other riders or alternatively, may ride in pairs only if they are carrying suitable communication equipment.
9. Students must remain within the boundary of the Agricultural College farm. Cobweb farm is strictly out of bounds, unless with Instructor.
10. Lane-ways are to be used for access to paddocks to ride in, not as express lanes.
11. If paddocks are sown to crops, students can only ride on the fire-breaks.
12. Students must be aware of and have consideration for other stock and vehicles that may be in the area.
13. Use your common sense – horses love to go home, so slow down on the way home. Give your horse time to cool down.
14. Thrashing a horse will be dealt with seriously. Any mistreatment of horses will bring immediate suspension of activity privileges.
15. Horses MUST NOT be galloped at any time.
16. Inform Hostel or College Administration of any damage to gear or any suspected injuries to horses.
17. Record name, date, horse name etc in exercise book provided in saddle shed.
18. After riding, wash bit in water bucket provided and wash horse as appropriate.
19. At least once a term (as required) students will be responsible for washing saddle blankets.

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MORAWA**

HORSE RIDING COMPETENCY

Student name: _____

PARENTS PERMISSION DETAILS

I give permission for _____ (student's name) to be involved in the Horse-riding program at the College. He/She has permission to ride horses in a responsible and safe manner as outlined in the College's Horse Riding Policy. I recognise that any injury incurred by _____ (student's name) is not the responsibility of the College or the Department of Education.

Parents Name: _____

Parents Signature: _____ Date: _____

SKILL LEVEL

_____ (Student's name) has been riding horses for _____ years. Please indicate below what skill level your child has with riding horses.

Task	Skill Level			
	Beginner	Basic	Competent	Experienced
1. Safely catching and leading a horse				
2. Horse grooming and hoof care				
3. Correct saddling of horse and fitting with bridle				
4. Trotting				
5. Cantering				

Student's Name: _____ Student's Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE

I am aware of my responsibilities to abide by all the rules and guidelines associated with the Horse Riding Program and will comply with these at all times and know that my privilege can be revoked at any time.

I understand that I am responsible and accountable for all damages to any equipment used in association with this program.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____