



HIGH HOPES THERAPEUTIC RIDING, INC.

Summer Camp Participation Policies

We kindly ask campers, parents and caregivers to please take a few minutes to review the following policies and guidelines relating to participation and eligibility in the program and to contact us should you have any questions.

Attendance

If your child is unable to attend their scheduled week of camp or are sick for a day, notification must be made by calling High Hopes at 860-434-1974 as soon as the absence is anticipated so we may provide sufficient notice to staff and volunteers. There are no make-up opportunities for missed sessions unless High Hopes cancels classes due to an unforeseen circumstance such as inclement weather. A determination will be made at least 2 hours prior to the cancellation and a make-up opportunity provided.

Payment

Camp sessions are prepaid and secure your camper's placement in your desired week of camp. The payment for a camp session must be made in full at least one month prior to camp. Cancellation policy: If a camper cancels their tuition minus a \$50 processing fee will be returned only if another camper fills the spot.

Financial Aid

Through fundraising, High Hopes is able to offer a limited number of financial aid awards, in the form of adjusted fees, to those who demonstrate need. Participants may apply by requesting a financial aid application from the program or business office.

Attire

Campers should dress in weather-appropriate clothing and always wear long pants (even during summer) made of non-slippery material, with sturdy-soled boots or shoes with a ¼" heel for riding. A change of clothes for non-riding activities is encouraged for hotter days. Pre-applied sunscreen and bug spray are recommended during the summer.

Riding Equipment & Safety Policies

All campers must wear an ASTM/SEI approved riding helmet when riding or working around horses while at High Hopes. High Hopes provides these helmets. High Hopes saddles are equipped with safety stirrups and hand holds. Food and beverages are not allowed in the barn area. Please observe the 5 mph speed limit when arriving and leaving.

Photography & Videography

High Hopes takes the privacy of our participants, their families, volunteers, visitors and staff seriously. At the same time we value the use of real images in the promotional and reporting activities which enable us to provide subsidized therapeutic activities.

Non-Discrimination Policy

High Hopes Inc. accepts participants and volunteers regardless of race, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, age, religion or religious creed, disability, sex, gender, gender identity and/or expression (including a transgender identity), sexual orientation, military or veteran status, genetic information, income, or any other characteristic.

The Connecticut Equine Liability Act is Section 52-577p of the Connecticut General Statutes. That Section provides: **Assumption of risk by person engaged in recreational equestrian activities.** Each person engaged in recreational equestrian activities shall assume the risk and legal responsibility for any injury to his person or property arising out of the hazards inherent in equestrian sports, unless the injury was proximately caused by the negligence of the person providing the horse or horses to the individual engaged in recreational equestrian activities or the failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure or activity by the person providing the horse or horses or his agents or employees.

HIGH HOPES THERAPEUTIC RIDING, INC.
Statement of Participant Eligibility or Dismissal

High Hopes Therapeutic Riding offers services to individuals with special needs. Eligibility for participation in High Hopes' programs is based solely upon an individual's ability to participate meaningfully and safely, provided the necessary resources are available including: an instructor, appropriate horse, volunteers and class time available which meets an individual's needs. Financial consideration is not taken into account in determining the eligibility for participation.

As a fully accredited PATH Intl. operating center, High Hopes ascribes to the Precautions and Contraindications as recommended by the Medical Committee of PATH Intl. as well as PATH Intl. Professional Standards. Therefore, our professional staff provides initial and ongoing evaluations for all prospective and active participants.

Due to the nature of therapeutic riding and other equine related activities, there are individuals for whom High Hopes' programs are deemed inappropriate during the evaluation process and they are not accepted for enrollment or are ineligible to continue in High Hopes' programs. This determination is made on the basis of physical, behavioral and other limitations including High Hopes' available resources.

Individuals accepted into High Hopes' programs are required to follow High Hopes' policies and procedures. High Hopes reserves the right to discontinue participation of an individual in its programs when it is deemed that discontinuance is in the best interests of High Hopes and/or the individual concerned.

High Hopes reserves the right to decide we are unable to serve an applicant due to unavailable resource(s) and or/safety concerns including PATH Intl. guidelines relating to precautions and contraindications for participation.

Riding Participation Criteria

- Physically able to sit symmetrically with torso upright and legs astride the horse during dynamic movement
- Physically able to maintain head and neck position independently in proper alignment with dynamic movement
- Weigh less than 120 pounds
- Able to sit independently without sidewalker support
- Does not exhibit physical or behavioral conditions that are contraindicated by PATH Intl. (see Medical History Form)
- Have current signed and dated paperwork – including Registration and Release Form, Medical History Form
- Benefit physically, emotionally, socially and/or cognitively from services at High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc.
- Complete an intake assessment where trained staff evaluate eligibility as deemed necessary (\$50 assessment fee)
- Able to tolerate a riding safety helmet
- Ability to accommodate the movement of the horse without pain
- Adequate range of motion in hip(s) to sit astride
- Safety awareness around animals
- Ability to express pain or discomfort
- Behave in a manner that is safe for self, horses and others