

**HIGH HOPES THERAPEUTIC RIDING, INC.**  
**Summer Horse Camp 2023 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 sign that it has been reviewed. Any questions can be directed to the Summer Camp Director.**

**Attendance**

If your child is unable to attend their scheduled week of camp or is 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 and Paperwork**

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

All paperwork including registration, physician's forms, and camp policies should be submitted by *May 16, 2023* in order for the camper to participate in their desired week of camp.

**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 Summer Camp Director or High Hopes' Finance Director.

**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.

**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 a limited selection of riding helmets. Purchasing your own helmet is recommended. For inquiries about helmet availability or where to purchase a helmet, please contact the Summer Camp Director. High Hopes saddles are equipped with safety stirrups and hand holds. Food and beverages are not allowed in the barn area.

**Pick Up/Drop Off**

Pick up and drop off for camp will be by the front door under the Portico. Campers and families are required to remain in their car until camp staff have performed a health screening for the child. Once the child has cleared the screening they will be allowed to leave the car and either wash their hands or use hand sanitizer. If the child and/or family walks to the Portico they will be asked to return to their car and drive up for staff to perform the health screening. Pick up and drop off on rainy days will be at the classroom door located by the flagpole. 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.

## HIGH HOPES THERAPEUTIC RIDING, INC.

**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.

### 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

**I agree to all of the above policies:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*If applicant is under 18 years of age, parent/guardian signature is required*