



Orientation Spring 2020

Welcome to Turning Point & Prayer –

- **Intro of Board & Staff - Rachel**
 - **Quads**
 - **Tour/Check In/Tack- Rachel**
 - **Students/Disabilities/Dress Code/Rules - Natalea**
 - **SW Responsibilities - Kenzie**
 - **Horse Safety - Mokri**
 - **Sign Up & Send Off - Kenzie**
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:10 Welcome to Turning Point – Rachel

In the barn

- Importance of Volunteers
 - Intro Board, horses
 - Executive Director - Rachel
 - Volunteer Coordinator - Kenzie
 - Instructors – Kenzie, Emily, Rachel
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*****Separate into Quads*****

:20 Tour/Check In/Tack - Rachel

In the Barn

Turning Point Story

Parking

Arrival time - 30 minutes before your class begins

Volunteer Area - Keys & Phones + The Loft

Sign in - Who's in the Barn & Documented Hours binder

Classes

- Read lesson plan - Posted by sign in
- Set up - follow diagram. Ask instructor if you have questions
- Briefing by instructor. Assignments given
- After Class: Debriefing, clean up
- Taking Initiative: see something that needs done, do it. Put things back in their place. Work as a team.
- Helmets - How to fit, putting away helmets/ Coats and gloves if needed (in benches)

Tack room procedures & etiquette

:20 Students/Disabilities/Dress Code/Rules - Natalea

Classroom

Phones

- Cell phones should be left in designated phone cubby, your car or turned off.
- IF you have to have your phone on you, it must be silent.
- Do Not look at or answer your phone until the instructor has secured your student and excused you from your position.
- You will see Natalea, Rachel or instructors taking photos in class, but you are not allowed to do that because of privacy of our riders.

No pets - Occasionally dogs training for Pete's Pet Posse will be in attendance for practice. Do not approach these dogs without permission.

Dress Code

- You will not only be walking in an arena, but also outdoors on the Sensory Trail
- Always wear closed toe shoes. No Crocs, ballet slippers or hiking sandals.
- Long pants are ideal, but if you wear shorts, they need to be mid thigh. If you wear leggings, please wear a long shirt with them. Be conscientious of our riders' reaction to what you wear.
- No low cut shirts. Don't forget that our riders have a bird's eye view.
- Don't wear dangling earrings or necklaces
- Go easy on the cologne or perfume

Clients

- Confidentiality & Protecting Yourself
- Disabilities Served
- Client Communications

:20 Horse Sense & Safety - Mokri

Horse: Chiquita HL: Lisa

Safety:

- Prey Animal instincts
 - Flight before fight meaning horses will run before standing fighting
- Herd Instinct
 - Horses are more comfortable with other horses. If one spooks, your horse might run, too, and ask questions later.
- Horse vision, blind spots
 - Horse's eyes are on the sides. Therefore, horses can not see what is directly in front of them. We should approach horses from the side not behind them and not directly in front of them.
- Horse Body Language - Signs to look for - Ears, nose, tail
 - Ears pinned- anger
 - Ears neutral position (back but not pinned)- relaxed, listening
 - Ears moving from a forward to a back position or one forward and one back- listening to his/her surroundings
 - Ears forward- listening to what is ahead or in front.
 - Steady tail swishing- most likely to control flies
 - Rapid tail swishing- anger, or uncomfortable with rider/surroundings
 - Quivering muzzle- may nip or being curious (we have personal space too)
- Don't pet the horses on the face. Respect their personal space

- None of our horses are fed by hand - they can get nippy looking for treats
- Safe places around a horse
 - If you can't be over 10 feet away, be as close as possible.
 - Keep your hand on the horse as you walk behind him
 - Horses don't like surprises (prey animal)

Mounting Procedures:

- ONLY instructors and those officially trained and documented mount/dismount
- NEVER push a horse closer to the ramp, but let the instructor and leader know if they are going to hit their leg so they can adjust.

:20 SW Responsibilities - Kenzie

Arena

Horse: Sidekick Rider: HL: SW:

Focus on rider - safety of the rider is your TOP priority

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- NEVER push a horse closer to the ramp, but let the instructor and leader know if they are going to hit their leg so they can adjust.

Holds

- Spotter - stay no more than a foot away directly by the rider's leg. Do not fall behind or walk in front. This is used for moral support, if your rider is prone to seizures, helping your rider stay focused....
- Ankle Hold - Make sure not to "Grab" your student's ankle. It is to give confidence, hold leg out from the horse's side if the rider squeezes
- Thigh Hold - Helps keep rider centered, keeps them from unexpected dismount
- Other holds will be taught as necessary

Socializing, Sensory Overload

- Sidewalkers are there to help riders focus on direction given by the instructor.
- Socializing with your rider is fun, but is not priority.
- Socializing with other volunteers during class is not recommended.

Importance of games

- This is the opportunity for our riders to **apply what they just learned** and practiced in a fun way.
- It gives our riders the opportunity to be **creative and use their imagination**
- Games give our riders opportunities to **problem solve**
- Our riders are also able to **practice social skills** with you, their volunteers.

Do not leave your rider's side unless the instructor has approved it. Even when the rider is on the ground. Stick to your rider like glue!!

- Rebounding a ball
- Stopping to catch something they dropped as the horse keeps walking
- Being run into a cone, pole or a barrel - you can move those out of your way - just stick to your rider like glue!

Emergency Procedures:

- Explain emergency drill a couple weeks into sessions. We will go into more detail.
- This is a quick overview of Emergency procedures.
- Stay alert at all times!
- During an emergency your Instructor will give you specific directions. These directions will vary based on that emergency.
- Calling 911, emergency phone, address on tack room door, STAY ON THE LINE WITH 911!
- First aid kits and fire extinguishers.
- If you have any medical issues your instructor may need to know about. Please tell them the first week of sessions. (allergie, seizure disorders, write on back of name tag)

:10 Final Announcements

Sessions Start Sept 9th

Paperwork, TPR # in your phone, Remind Text: **Kenzie**

Feed Team: **Amanda**

Leader Training: **Kenzie**

Horse Care Teams: Feed Team, Schooling, Sidekick, Barn Buddies

Questions:

Registration: **Kenzie**

Pictures: **Natalea & Shelby**

Volunteer to direct parking:

volunteer help:

Lisa Anderson, Shelby, Danny, Dianne