# Standard Operating Procedures STABLE RULES AND POLICIES

# 1. GENERAL

- a. Smoking is limited to outside the front gate only. No smoking in the arenas. Please use appropriate containers for butt disposal.
- b. The speed limit is 5 mph.
- c. No horses or motor vehicles, except the MEA tractor, are allowed inside the tack barns.
- d. Horses will be ridden at a walk in the paddock and stall areas.
- e. Driving in and around the stall areas is prohibited, except when unloading feed, supplies or equipment.
- f. No horseplay or other actions that are disruptive or offensive to others are allowed.
- h. Close and secure the main gate upon entry and exit at dusk.
- i. The sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages is limited to outside the front gate and only at club sponsored social activities involving club members and their guests.

### 2. SAFETY

- a. Everyone will comply with all rules and policies.
- b. Because of the potential for serious injury to people or animals, on the spot safety decisions by Board members will be followed.
- c. Horses must be ridden in a safe and controlled manner at all times.
- d. In case of a serious fall or other injury, please use common sense or first aid training if qualified.
- e. Any accidents involving injuries must be reported to the MEA Board of Directors.
- f. Do not tie horses to panels. Tie only on appropriate, secure hitching posts.
- g. When trailing riding alone it is recommended that you inform someone about where you are riding and when you will return.
- h. Refer to MEA document *SOP: Emergency and Safety Procedures* (to come) for complete information.

# 3. CHILDREN

- a. Children under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult and not be left on the stable grounds without supervision.
- b. Children under 10 years of age must be actively supervised, within eyesight, by an adult or babysitter at all times. Baby-sitter must be 13 years or older.
- c. Children under 10 years of age can not be left unattended while the adult or baby-sitter rides in the arenas.

d. Children under 18 will jump only when directly supervised by their parent or guardian in the arena or when participating in a lesson.

### 4. HELMETS

- a. Helmets are recommended for all riders at all times. Adults who choose not to wear a helmet do so at their own risk.
- b. All children under 18 must wear a hard hat when riding.
- c. All riders, adults and children, must wear a hard hat while jumping.

# 5. Pets

- a. Dogs must be on a leash at *all* times in hand or tied to fixed object or post. They must be well behaved and not left unattended or allowed to bark excessively.
- b. Dogs are not permitted in or around arena.
- c. No animals other than horses and authorized cats will be maintained at the Center. For authorization to bring a cat to the premises, please put request in writing to the Board. Nonauthorized cats will be taken to the Marina Animal Shelter.
- d. Owners of cats authorized by the Board must submit documented proof of either spaying or neutering and copies of immunization records and provide yearly updated shot records.
- e. All dog owners will pick up after their dog.

# 6. PUBLIC CONDUCT

- a. Members are expected to behave in a manner that promotes good order and discipline.
- b. Any member that behaves in a manner that is contrary, to include disorderly conduct, foul or abusive language, cruelty and/or intoxication, will be subject to loss of stable privileges and/or termination of membership.

# 7. ARENAS

- a. All arenas will be shared by all users.
- b. Lunging is permitted if other riders do not object.
- c. Pass left shoulder to left shoulder.
- d. When sharing the arena, do not block rail for other riders.
- e. No unsafe galloping or other actions that could disturb or endanger others are allowed.
- f. Close arena gates on entry and exit.
- g. Use common terms such as "heads up" or "hold hard" when passing, jumping or when an emergency situation occurs.

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(Arenas continued...)

- h. In large arena, jumps must be placed past the gate (only in the right 2/3 of the arena) in order to keep an area free for flatwork.
- i. Jumps may be placed on rail temporarily; jumps on rail must be removed at end of ride.

## 8. TACK AND FEED ROOMS

- a. Tack and feed rooms are for the storage of horse feed and supplies and horse-related equipment only.
- b. Hay and other debris will be swept and/or raked up by the person moving the hay or other items inside the barns and immediately outside the entrance.
- c. No dangerous, inappropriate or flammable materials such as paint and gasoline, etc., will be stored in tack and feed rooms.
- d. All stable lights will be turned off when not needed.
- e. For the safety of both horses and riders, no horses are allowed in the tack barns.

### 9. EQUIPMENT

- a. Stable property, such as wheelbarrows, will be returned to their proper place in a clean and serviceable condition. Broken or damaged items will be set aside and called to the attention of the Stable Master.
- b. Wheel barrows will be returned to designated areas next to dumpsters and not kept by stalls.
- c. Hoses will be coiled and not left lying across pathways.

#### **10. SADDLE AND GROOMING AREAS**

- a. Manure will be removed and holes caused by horses digging will be filled by the person responsible.
- b. The wash rack and crossing ties will be kept clean of manure and debris.

# **11. TURNOUTS**

- a. Riding in any turnout is strictly prohibited.
- b. It is recommended that halters are removed from all horses prior to turn out.
- c. Ensure clean fresh water is available at all times. Fill turnout water containers 1/3 full only.
- d. Boarders feeding in turnouts must remove any residue prior to removing their horses.
- e. No oat, wheat or forage mix hay is allowed in turnouts due to residue.
- f. Turnouts can accommodate multiple horses, therefore members are encouraged to share

turnouts. Some turnouts are for 2 or more horses at a time only and are marked accordingly.

- g. Only one turnout may be used by a membership within any 24 hour period, limited to either day or night use. (Exception: After 12:00PM a membership may use one additional turnout if available. A turnout will not be reused by the same membership within a 48 hour period.
- h. Caretakers may use a maximum of 3 turnouts (but only 1 per membership), regardless of number of memberships involved. Caretakers may not rotate horses and cannot reuse the same turnout within a 48 hour period.
- i. For night time turnouts, please bring horses in as early as possible the next morning, but absolutely no later than 9 a.m.
- j. Hoses will be removed from water containers after filling.

# **12. TRAINING**

- a. Members are allowed to have their personal trainers provide lessons to them at the facility, provided the trainer comply with the Insurance and Liability rules below, as well as all other MEA governing documents.
- b. Only a trainer approved by the Board of Directors and complying with the Insurance and Liability rules below may offer lessons to the general public.

#### **13. INSURANCE AND LIABILITY**

- a. Guests must be in presence of a member.
- b. Prior to riding at the Center, guest must sign an MEA Non-member Release of Liability form and submit it to the MEA office.
- c. All trainers must provide proof of insurance for a minimum amount of \$1,000,000.00, listing the Marina Equestrian Association and the city of Marina on the policy. This must be provided one week prior to any lessons given. It is the responsibility of the trainer to keep all insurance policies current and updated and provide MEA with notification of such.
- d. Organizers of any events must have prior approval from the Board and provide proof of insurance, as listed in "c" above, one week prior to event or the event will be cancelled.
- e. Only official MEA forms are valid and accepted.
- f. All required MEA forms must be completely filled out and signed before membership becomes effective.