

# **Double Diamond Equestrian Center LLC Riding School**

## ***CLASS INFORMATION***

### **Lesson Programs:**

We offer educational, riding classes for ages 7 to adults. We have programs for the beginner as well as the advanced equestrian student. We teach our students to ride properly. Teaching good horsemanship, equitation, confidence, and safety are significant aspects of the program.

Private lessons are also available throughout the year for our current students.

Double Diamond is a member of the following:

**Certified Horsemanship Association  
American Riding Instructors Association  
American Association of Riding Schools  
American Quarter Horse Association  
American Paint Horse Association**

Safety is our ultimate priority! Each mounted class is limited to only 4-8 students to ensure proper supervision. Side-walkers are available for beginning students until they learn to control their horses. Horses are selected for their gentle personalities.

### **Registration:**

- Space is limited so register early to reserve your slot.
- All of our classes fill very quickly!!
- A non-refundable tuition is due along with the registration form before a student is considered enrolled.
- All students **MUST** have current liability releases, medical releases, and class lesson contracts turned in at or before the semester's orientation.

## **Class information:**

### **Intro to Horses:**

Students will learn the basics of horse care, grooming saddling, catching, haltering, leading, and above all SAFETY! They will also be learning about the names and proper use of tack and equipment. This is a great educational class that goes beyond what is learned in the arena while riding. After students have mastered the ground work with their horses, they will move on to learning basic horsemanship skills in the saddle. All the horses and tack will be provided for the students. Tuition for this class includes a riding helmet.

**Pre-requisites: Ages 7-18**

### **Horsemanship 101 classes:**

All students will be continuing their education from the intro classes. They learn control, cues, commands, and learn to speak “horse”. They will also study the proper movements of their horse, as well as correct speed in different gaits. All the horses and tack will be provided for the students. These students are eligible to participate in the DDEC student work program.

**Pre-requisites for this class: Ages 7-18 Student must have excelled and mastered all skills from the Intro to Horses class, or have their abilities evaluated by our instructors.**

### **Equitation 101 classes:**

All students will be continuing their education from the Horsemanship 101 class. These classes are split between English and Western disciplines. Students will be focusing on correct riding position, riding aids, rider etiquette, poise, and learning how to be a “quite rider”. All the horses and tack will be provided for the students. These students are eligible to participate in the DDEC student work program.

**Pre-requisites for this class: Ages 7-18 Student must have excelled and mastered all skills from the Intro to Horses, and Horsemanship 101, or have their riding abilities evaluated by our instructors.**

### **Advanced Horsemanship classes:**

All students will be continuing their education from the Equitation 101 class. They will be perfecting their equitation along with correct transitions in all gaits. Students will be taught different elements in both showing and performance horse events. Students will also be learning how to properly execute more difficult transitions and maneuvers. These students are eligible to participate in the DDEC student work program.

**Pre-requisites for this class: Ages 7-18 Student must have excelled and mastered all skills from in an Equitation 101 class, or have their riding abilities evaluated by our instructors.**

**REMINDER: As of September of 2020, all students moving up to an advanced level class, must purchase or provide their own horse for that class.**

## **Riding Level Requirements:**

*Horseback riding is a very difficult and complicated sport. It requires strength, endurance, and coordination. To ensure the safety of all participants and horses, all new students coming into our riding program must start with Intro level classes. If they have previous experience, they can schedule to have an evaluation with our instructors, to make sure they will excel in the next level available to them. Each student must excel not just participate in each level of class to move on to the next level.*

*Due to the extreme difficulty of this sport, a student's muscle memory, and horsemanship skills must be maintained on a regular basis. If a student has been unable to participate in any of our riding classes, camps, or private lessons, for longer than 3 months, they must repeat a level lower than they were previously in.*

## **IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE**

- Students are required to come to the classes on the dates they are originally signed up for. There are no make-ups allowed. Students are not allowed to switch classes once they have started, unless approved by the instructors.
- If a student has more than **one** unexcused absence or more than **two** excused then they will be dropped from the class. Student must give at least 2 hour notice or a doctor's note to be considered an excused absence. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- Students must be on time for each lesson! **If a student is 10 or more minutes late they will be considered absent and only be allowed to "audit" the class, unless prior arrangements have been made.**
- All tuition is NON REFUNDABLE. However, we understand that circumstances can change that may cause a student to not be able to participate in a class lesson for that semester. If notice is received before registration for the semester ends, then we will be happy to credit the student's account for the half of amount of the tuition. This credit can be used towards any services that DDEC provides. The credited amount must be used within a 60 day time that the notice is given or that money will be forfeited. Again, no money will be refunded. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- Orientation is always mandatory for **every** student/parent in **every** class. Those who choose **not** to attend orientation are never as informed about our program as those who do attend. Therefore, if for any reason a student/parent is not able to attend orientation, they must reschedule a makeup time to meet with our director. This **must** be done before the student is allowed to attend any classes, unless the student is in the advanced horsemanship class. This makeup orientation will cost \$50 per student.

### **RIDER ATTIRE AND FOOTWEAR:**

- All riding students must wear proper attire to every riding lesson.
- Wear long pants (jeans or English riding pants), and slick sole boots with at least a one inch riding heel. (brown or black boots are preferred)
- Extremely loose or baggy clothing is not allowed. Students are also not permitted to wear hats that may fly off while riding, dangling jewelry or rings that may impede the use of reins, or hoods that may impede visibility. All jackets must be zipped.
- All students must have their hair secured back and away from their faces. Long hair should be in a low ponytail that does not interfere with wearing a helmet.
- Students will also not be allowed to chew gum while working with horses on the ground or while riding.
- If any student is not dressed appropriately they will not be able to participate in the class.

### **HELMET POLICY:**

- Helmets are required to be worn by every student under the age of 18 during all mounted activities. Equestrian helmets made to the current ASTM F1163 standard and certified by the Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) are considered to offer the best possible head protection for horseback riding activities.
- Helmets can be purchased through our school for \$60.

**ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A HELMET!**

### **THINGS TO BRING EVERYDAY**

1. Water jug
2. Helmet

### **CAN I STAY TO WATCH MY CHILD?**

Anyone who wishes to stay and watch any class is welcome to watch from the observation area in the classroom. The safety of your child is our first priority. We CANNOT have parents or siblings in the barn with the students. Our full attention needs to be on the students and nothing else. Please make sure that any other children that come with you stay with you at all times. We have many other horses on the premises and cannot be responsible for their safety.

Also, dogs are NEVER allowed on the property. We appreciate your help to continue to make our facility a fun and safe environment.

## **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?**

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