



## HEROES ON HORSEBACK

Phone: 843-757-5607 ♦ Fax: (843) 757-5612

Thank you for your interest in Heroes on Horseback (HOH). The first step toward participating in a HOH program is to complete and return the necessary forms.

Before a participant can be considered for inclusion in the Heroes on Horseback programs the attached forms must be completed and returned to Heroes on Horseback.

- New and present participants must meet the HOH age and weight policy as stated on attached sheet
- Physician's cover letter and medical history & physician's statement must be completely filled out and signed by the participant's physician
- Participant's Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment to be completed
- Participant's Application and Health History to be completed

Once all forms are received at Heroes on Horseback and are verified for completeness, an evaluation will be arranged. The deposit for the session is \$25. During the evaluation, we will ensure that our program is appropriate for the potential participant and that there are no contraindications to participation in horseback riding activities. A brief mounted evaluation will take place if appropriate. Receipt of your payment will reserve your space in the riding session. Spaces are reserved on a first come first serve basis.

HOH strives to provide the safest possible conditions for participants, volunteers, employees and horses. The acceptance and continued participation of a participant in our program depends on the availability of instructors, volunteers and suitable horses, and is based on our determination that we can safely accommodate the participant. HOH adheres to precautions and contraindications for participants established by the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association. HOH retains the right to refuse any participant that we cannot safely accommodate. Participants must inform HOH of changes in their health status and an annual update of the Medical History Form and Physician's Form is required.

HOH offers week day sessions and Saturday sessions. Private and Semi-Private lessons are available upon request.

The Winter Program will run from February 2<sup>nd</sup> through March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Tuition cost is \$288.00 + \$5.00 registration fee = \$293.00. Please contact us regarding special Tuition Assistance for qualified riders. Persons seeking Tuition Assistance should schedule a meeting with me at your earliest possible convenience prior to the beginning of the session.

We thank you for your interest and look forward to serving you soon. Please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions at (843) 757-5607.

Sincerely,

Peggi Lyn Noon  
Program Director

1/5/2010



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### POLICIES

Unfortunately, riding is not an appropriate activity for everybody and we occasionally have to decline services to those to whom riding is contraindicated. As a NARHA (North American Riding for the Handicapped Association) Premier Accredited program, we must follow NARHA guidelines. To be in compliance with NARHA national standards, we have established the following:

#### Session Fees Policy

For riders to participate in the program there is a \$25 dollar deposit for each rider, due no later than one week prior to the start of a session. The remainder of the balance is due by the beginning day of the session. If you are setting up a payment plan, please make arrangements with the office prior to the beginning of the upcoming session.

#### Age Policy

**Minimum Age:** 3 years old for therapeutic riding lessons

**Maximum Age:** There is not a maximum age. The only requirement is that the person is able to physically and safely perform what is required in a therapeutic riding lesson.

#### Weight Policy

According to NARHA guidelines, riding is contraindicated:

1. If the staff is unable to safely manage the participant in any situation, including an emergency dismount.
2. If safety or comfort of the horse is compromised during mounted activities.

**Maximum Weight Limit:** 175lbs . However, certain factors such as cognitive skills and the balance of the rider are taken into account at the time of assessment. Riders will be evaluated by staff to determine if riding is a safe and appropriate activity.

#### Tuition Refund Policy

- If a rider cancels prior to session classes commencing, full tuition minus a \$30 administrative fee is refunded.
- If a rider cancels during the first week of classes, HOH refunds the full tuition minus \$55.
- No refunds are available after the first week of class.

## **Absence / Make-Up Class Policy**

- Classes are held rain or shine.
- If a rider is absent, there is no make-up class. Make-up classes are scheduled only when HOH cancels a class.
- Because a number of volunteers commit their time to ensure a safe ride, we request 24 hr notice when a rider knows they will be absent. Please contact the class coordinator or instructor directly.
- 3 absences without notice will result in cancellation of the rest of the session & registration for the following session will be disregarded.



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### Participant Registration and Photo Release Form

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Participant Name:	Date of Birth:	Sex: M F
Address:	City:	State / Zip:
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	E-mail:
Parent (custodial) or Gaurdian:	Address if different:	Phone if different:
School or Programs presently attending:		
Please describe previous experience with horses / riding (no experience is required):		

**I would like to register for the following session: Winter 2010**

#### Photo Release

- I consent
- I do not consent

to and authorize the use and reproduction by Heroes on Horseback of any and all photographs and any other audio-visual materials taken of me for promotional material, educational activities, exhibitions or for any other use for the benefit of this program.

Please sign below only if you checked "I do consent":

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Client,  
Parent/Guardian

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### Authorization of Emergency Medical Treatment Form

In the event emergency medical aid/treatment is required due to illness or injury during the process of receiving services, or while being on the property of the agency, I authorize Heroes on Horseback to Secure and retain medical treatment and transportation if needed. Release client records upon request to the authorized individual or agency involved in the medical emergency treatment.

Participant Name:	Phone:	Phone:
Address:	City:	State / Zip:
If I cannot be reached Contact:	Phone:	Phone:
Alternate Emergency Contact:	Phone:	Phone:
Physician's Name:	Phone:	
Preferred Medical Facility:		
Health Insurance Company:	Policy #:	

#### Consent Plan

The authorization includes x-ray, surgery, hospitalization, medication and any treatment procedure deemed "life saving" by the physician. This provision will only be invoked if the person below is unable to be reached.

Consent Signature: (Client, Parent or Guardian):	Date:
Please Print Name:	Phone #:

#### Non-Consent Plan

I do not give my consent for emergency medical treatment/aid in the case of illness or injury during the process of receiving services, or while being on the property of the agency. In the event emergency treatment/aid is required, I wish the following procedures to take place:

Consent Signature: (Client, Parent or Guardian):	Date:
Please Print Name:	Phone #:

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### Client Medical History & Physicians' Statement

( PAGE 1 OF 2 )

Participant Name:	Date of Birth:	Sex:	Race:	Height	Weight:
Name / Address of Guardian:			Tetanus Shot:      YES      NO		
Diagnosis:			Date:		
			Date of Onset:		
Medications:					

Please indicate if patient has a problem and/or surgical history in any of the following areas:

AREA	YES	NO	COMMENTS	AREA	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Auditory				Muscular			
Visual				Independent Ambulation			
Speech				Crutches			
Allergies				Braces			
Cardiac				Wheelchair			
Circulatory				Neurological			
Learning Disability				Orthopedic			
Mental Impairment				Pulmonary			
Psychological Impairment				Other			
Seizures			Type:	Controlled:			Date of Last Seizure:
<b>** Please complete required information on page 2 for SEIZURE patients      ** See Page 2 for list of precautions and contraindications</b>							

#### ATLANTO-AXIAL INSTABILITY ASSESSMENT FOR PATIENTS WITH DOWN SYNDROME

If the patient has Down syndrome a full radiological examination establishing the absence of Atlanto-axial Instability is REQUIRED before they may participate in equestrian activities which, by their nature, may result in hyperextension, radical flexion or direct pressure on the neck or upper spine.

Yes    No

    Has an x-ray evaluation for atlanto-axial instability been done?    DATE of X-RAY \_\_\_\_\_

    If yes, was it positive for atlanto-axial instability? (positive indicates that the atlanto-dens interval is 5mm or more)

If this X-Ray is more than 1 year old Please state the result of the most recent visual examination conducted within the past six months:

   The client has not had a timely physical examination and so cannot at this point be so certified.

   The client's annual physical examination reveals no symptoms of AAI

   The client's annual physical examination shows symptoms of AAI. Riding is CONTRAINDICATED.

I have reviewed the attached list of conditions which may present precautions and contraindications to therapeutic horseback riding on page 2, to my knowledge there is no reason why this person cannot participate in supervised equestrian activities:

Physician's Signature:	Date of EXAM:
Physician's Name (please print):	Physician's Phone:
Address:	Physician's FAX:

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## Client Medical History & Physicians' Statement ( PAGE 2 OF 2 )

### SEIZURE DISORDER PARTICIPANTS

NARHA (North American Riding for the Handicapped Association), recommends the following information for NARHA Operating Centers for riders with seizure disorders.

Would you consider \_\_\_\_\_'s seizures to be:

- Completely controlled       Very well controlled       Fairly controlled by medication

Type of seizure:	
Typical aura:	
Typical motor activity during seizure:	
Description of client's behavior during post-ictal state:	Post-ictal state duration:
Specific directions as to what to do if a seizure should occur at Heroes on Horseback:	
Physician's Signature	Date:

### INFORMATION FOR PHYSICIAN

The following conditions, if present, may represent precautions or contraindications to therapeutic horseback riding. Therefore, when completing this form, please note whether these conditions are present and, if so, to what degree.

#### ORTHOPEDIC

Spinal Fusion  
Spinal Instabilities/Abnormalities  
Alantoaxial Instabilities  
Scoliosis  
Kyphosis  
Lordosis  
Hip Subluxation and Dislocation  
Osteoporosis  
Pathologic Fractures  
Coxas Arthrosis  
Heterotopic Ossification  
Osteogenesis Imperfecta  
Cranial Deficits  
Spinal Orthoses  
Internal Spinal Stabilization  
Disease

#### NEUROLOGIC

Hydorcephalus/shunt  
Spina bifida  
Tethered Cord  
Chiaril Malformation  
Hydromyelia  
Paralysis due to Spinal Cord  
Injury  
Seizure Disorders

#### SECONDARY CONCERNS

Behavior Problems  
Age under 2 years  
Age 2 - 4 years  
Acute exacerbation of chronic  
disorder  
Indwelling catheter

#### MEDICAL/SURGICAL

Allergies  
Cancer  
Poor Endurance  
Recent Surgery  
Diabetes  
Peripheral Vascular Disease  
Varicose Veins  
Hemophilia  
Hypertension  
Serious Heart Condition  
Stroke (Cerebrovascular  
Accident



**HEROES ON HORSEBACK**  
**Bluffton, South Carolina**  
**Phone (843) 757-5607**

**GENERAL ACTIVITY RELEASE, ASSUMPTION OF RISK and WAIVER OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT**

*This document waives important legal rights. Read it carefully before signing.*

I **AGREE** for myself, and/or my child, my/our administrators and assigns, in consideration for my, and/or my child's, participation in Heroes on Horseback activity of the following:

I **AGREE** that I choose to participate voluntarily in Heroes on Horseback activities as a rider, handler or spectator. I am fully aware and acknowledge that horse sports and Heroes on Horseback activities involve inherent dangerous risks of accident, loss, and serious bodily injury including, but not limited to, broken bones, head injuries, trauma, pain, suffering or death ("Harm"). I fully understand that this release covers, but is not limited to, inherent risks of an equine activity which mean a danger or condition that is an integral part of an equine activity, including but not limited to, any of the following:

- The propensity of an equine to behave in ways that may result in injury, death, or loss to persons on or around the equine;
- The unpredictability of an equine's reaction to sounds, sudden movement, unfamiliar objects, persons, or other animals;
- Hazards, including, but not limited to, surface or subsurface conditions;
- A collision with another equine, another animal, a person, or an object;
- The potential of an equine activity participant to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to injury, death, or loss to the person of the participant or to other persons, including but not limited to, failing to maintain control over an equine or failing to act within the ability of the participant.

I **AGREE** that I/my child/my ward would like to participate in the Heroes on Horseback program. I acknowledge the risks and potential risks; however, I feel that the possible benefits to me/my child/my ward are greater than the risk assumed. I hereby, intending to be legally bound for myself, my heirs and assigns, executors or administrators waive and release forever all claims for damages against Heroes on Horseback, it's Board of Directors, instructors, therapists, aides, volunteers, employees, Tulfifiiny Preserve of the Lowcountry, and affiliated organizations for any and all injuries and/or losses I may sustain while participating in the Heroes on Horseback program including activities occurring outside of the scope of the program itself, including, but not limited to transportation, care giving, horse exercising etc.

By signing below, I **ACKNOWLEDGE** that I enter into this release after having read the same, and place my signature hereto of my own free voluntary act and deed. By signing below, I represent to Heroes on Horseback that I fully understand its contents, that I do not need any further explanation, and I waive any further explanation.

I **AGREE** to assume all risks of Harm to me and/or my child, and **specifically agree to the SOUTH CAROLINA LIABILITY LAW** regarding equine/ farm animal activity liability: **Under South Carolina Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in an equine activity resulting from an inherent risk of equine activity, Pursuant to Article 7, Chapter 9 of Title 47, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976.**

**ACCEPTED BY: (if under the age of 18 years old, there must be a legal guardian signature below)**

PARTICIPANT Signature / Legal Guardian Signature(s):	VOLUNTEER Signature / Legal Guardian Signature(s):
Print Participant Name / Legal Guardian Name(s):	Print Volunteer Signature / Legal Guardian Signature(s):
DATE:	DATE: