

#### CONCORDIASTABLES.COM

# **Lesson Program Information**

#### **Our Mission**

The mission of Concordia Stables is to develop well-rounded equestrians through a multidisciplinary lesson program, focusing on the horse and rider connection. Serving all ages and abilities, we emphasize a balanced seat approach with dressage fundamentals, supplementing with jumping, pole work, unmounted lessons, liberty, and horsemanship education.

# **Lesson Program Philosophy**

Our goal is to create compassionate, confident, and well-rounded equestrians. We emphasize safe practices and equine welfare while having lots of fun! Our lesson program emphasizes customized experience and consistency for growth. Students who receive personalized attention feel safer and more confident, fostering the ability to learn. Fear blocks learning, so we are passionate about creating a safe environment, both physically and emotionally, for our riders as they learn from our instructors and lesson program horses. Our lesson program is designed around a match between our students' riding ability and our horses' performance ability. As such, students will experience riding several different lesson horses, which keeps the horse's well-being as a priority alongside the goal of developing well-rounded equestrians.

# **Lesson Program Structure**

Students who participate consistently in weekly lessons develop safely and more effectively, since skill development is dependent on muscle memory and gaining firsthand experience. A student's commitment to consistent weekly lessons also enables us to group similar-level riders

together and utilize our horses, space, and staff efficiently, leading to the best possible outcomes. As such, we encourage all students to make a weekly commitment by taking advantage of our **4-week Session** format session, scheduled at the same time each week plus the opportunity to attend one make-up riding lesson.

## **Group Lesson Format**

The expectation is that each Concordia Stables student participating in group lessons can independently meet their lesson horse in the field, groom, tack, and be ready to ride at the start of their lesson. The rider is also expected to untack, groom, and turn out their horse. If there is no opening in a group lesson, but the rider is ready, the student will be placed on a waitlist for that group.

## **New Student Onboarding**

All new riders to Concordia Stables begin with an orientation process and evaluation starting with an introductory 60-minute private session with one of our instructors. Following the first lesson, the instructor will recommend continuing with private lessons or progressing into group lessons.

# **HorseSense Education Program**

We are proud to offer the HorseSense Levels Education Program as an add-on to our lesson program. This unique educational opportunity, appropriate for both youth and adult students, teaches and tests riding skills, barn safety, and horse knowledge. At the heart of the program is an emphasis on fostering community, developing friendships, and earning achievements without the commitment of horse shows.

# Horsesense Learning Levels

There are seven HorseSense Levels. The first Level, Red Level, introduces basic horse safety and handling. The final Level, Teal Level, prepares a student to manage an equine facility, maintain a performance horse, and/or pursue an equine career. Through a combination of unmounted classes, hands-on practice, instructor support, and independent study, students will master the skills required at each level. When a student can demonstrate the objectives

consistently and confidently, they will graduate to the next level, and be eligible for specific activities and events.

The HorseSense Program includes two separate fees. The **Level-Up** fee, paid at initial enrollment and each subsequent Level-Up, covers the cost of the curriculum, providing each student with the learning content, a tracking system to measure progress, an assessment of skills by the instructor, and overall instructor support. Students will also gain access to the online study guide. The second fee is paid for each **HorseSense Class** a student participates in. These unmounted classes will focus on developing the essential skills and knowledge that help students progress through the HorseSense Levels. There are two HorseSense group classes held per session, with a different topic covered in each class.



# **Lesson Rates**

# July - September 2025

NEW Student Lesson	Fee Per Lesson
Introductory - Private with Kristina	\$80
Introductory - Private with Kaitlyn	\$110
Lessons	Sessions Package includes 4 Lessons
Group (3 students total)	\$180
Semi-Private (2 students)	\$220
Private with Kristina	\$320
Private with Kaitlyn	\$440
HorseSense Program	Fee
Level-Up Enrollment Fee (paid per level)	\$30
HorseSense Group Lesson	\$30
HorseSense Private Lesson	\$80
Specialty Lessons	Fee Per Lesson
Liberty Lesson	Request Quote
Groundwork Lesson	Request Quote
Fitness for Equestrians with Allie	Request Quote
Off-Site Lesson with an Instructor	Request Quote
Half-Day or, Full-Day Intensive with Kaitlyn	Request Quote

# **Policies and Procedures**

## **Scheduling**

- A **Session** includes <u>four</u> lessons in a four-week period, scheduled on the same day of the week and time for all the lessons in the session.
- We confirm session enrollment 7 days prior to the start day of the new session.
- Students who choose to take a session or more off from riding may hold their spot for \$100 a month. Without a hold, the spot may be given to another rider.

### **Payment**

#### Credit Card Payments

For all credit card payments, there will be an additional fee of 3.99% per transaction. To avoid this transaction, we are also accepting cash and check payments. You have the option of utilizing a **one-time payment plan per session** or an **installment plan**, which means the card on file will be charged 24 hours in advance of the class.

#### Cash & Check Payments

All cash and check payments MUST be made in full for the entire session and <u>MUST be</u> received in the black box in the office 7 days before the session begins. Upon receiving your payment, you will be given "tokens" within the Stables Systems that will enable registration for the class. Without payment and thus tokens, you can not be registered for your class.

#### Missed Classes, Tokens, and Make-Up Classes

If you cancel with at least 24 hours' advance notice, your class "token" can be utilized for the make-up class within that session. Unused tokens can not be applied to future sessions.

- \*\*Please \*\*complete this form to indicate how you would like to handle payments moving forward and verify that you understand the new policy.
- Payments received more than 3 days late will incur a \$20 late fee.
- Any checks returned for <u>insufficient funds will be charged a \$20 processing fee</u> as well as any bank fees incurred.

## Cancellation, Rescheduling, & Make-Up Lessons

- Lessons canceled by the student with <u>less than a 24-hour notice</u> will result in a missed lesson and will not be rescheduled or refunded. Please communicate with your instructor by text or phone if you are going to cancel or miss the lesson, and follow up by email.
- Lessons canceled by the student with <u>more than 24 hours' advance notice</u> may be made up on the make-up day scheduled by the stables. Please communicate with your instructor by text and follow up with an email regarding your need to cancel and desire to make up the lesson.
- If Concordia Stables LLC cancels a lesson, such as when your instructor is ill, a make-up lesson time will be offered.
- Make-up lessons are typically scheduled for the Sunday following the end of a session block and are taught by Kristina and/or Kaitlyn. Alternatively, your instructor may offer you a make-up slot in another weekly lesson group or a private lesson. Advanced riders who can tack, groom, walk, and trot independently may be offered a practice ride in place of a missed lesson.
- HorseSense classes canceled by the student with <u>less than a 24-hour notice</u> will result in a missed class and will not be refunded.
- If you can not make the class and still want support from the instructor, you can book a
   HorseSense Private Lesson for \$80. This needs to be discussed and scheduled with
   instructors personally.
- There are NO make-up group classes offered for the HorseSense program.

## **Weather Policy**

- Lessons are held even in inclement weather, therefore we encourage dressing accordingly to ride in the outdoor arena in the heat, cold, wind, and light rain.
- If the weather prevents us from having riding lessons outside, but the roads are safe to drive on, students should expect an unmounted lesson or "Joker" lesson.

  Joker is a spring horse, enabling refinement and development of position and strength. We may also devote an indoor session to horsemanship education, such as horse management and care.
- If Concordia Stables LLC determines to cancel lessons due to inclement weather and unsafe road conditions, lessons will be rescheduled.

#### Safety & Equipment

- ASTM/SEI Approved Helmets must be worn. Bicycle helmets are not acceptable.
   Riding helmets should be replaced after five years according to manufacturer standards.
- Boots with a ½" to 1" heel and smooth soles must be worn. Zippers may not be on the inside of the boot because they can poke the horse or scratch the saddle. New riders should consider a pair of paddock boots with half chaps.
- Riding pants, such as riding tights or breeches, are preferred. Leggings are an acceptable alternative. Jeans are not allowed because they rub and tear saddles.
- Tops should be fitted enough to be able to see posture and not get caught in the tack.
- Jackets and sweatshirts with zipper fronts, so that they can be removed or put on easily while wearing a helmet.
- Hanging and dangling jewelry is not allowed.
- All new riders must sign a release before their first lesson.

#### WINTER RIDING

- Fleece-lined riding pants can aid in warmth.
- Heavy, wind and water-resistant jacket.
- Battery-operated heated vest or jacket.
- Winter riding gloves.
- Heavy wool socks (which may require sizing up for a winter boot compared to a summer boot)
- Hand and toe warmers.
- Neck warmer. Please do not use any kind of traditional scarf, which can become a hazard.

#### **SUMMER RIDING**

- Lightweight riding pants are recommended.
- Sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Sun-protective and sweat-resistant shirts.
- Water bottle and/or sports drink to rehydrate.

### **Barn Rules & Etiquette**

- No running, yelling, or horseplay in or around the barn or arena. While handling the
  horses, be aware of the surroundings and try to anticipate and avoid situations that may
  cause danger to yourself, the horse, or others.
- Closed-toed shoes should be worn by guests in and around the barn.
- No smoking on the property.
- Please keep off the lawn around the house.
- Do not enter stalls, pastures, or dry lots without permission.
- Do not feed any horses anything without explicit staff permission.
- Notify staff if something is broken or missing.
- Notify staff immediately if a horse appears distressed.
- Every horse has been fitted with tack. Bridle hooks are labeled with the horses' names
  and the tack sheet lists the saddle number, girth size, and other pertinent information for
  each horse. Treat tack with respect and store tack in the right place so it is not used on
  the wrong horse. While tacking up, place your tack on the wooden saddle rack in the
  aisle. Wipe down bridles and bits after use.
- Sweep up the aisle way **before** and **after** the ride.
- If you use a stall, clean it. Pick out piles, and wet spots, and sweep back. Make it neat!
- Place personal items on shelves in the entranceway.
- Sweep out the wash stall after use with the green broom. Make sure the water is turned off!
- Pick up manure piles in the ring and walkways/driveway.
- Turn off lights and close the tack room door if no one else is at the barn.
- General Rule: Leave it better than you found it!

## **Meet Our Instructors**

We are grateful for our talented instructor team. To learn more, visit: https://www.concordiastables.com/meetourhumans

# **Meet Our Horses**

We are grateful for our wonderful lesson horses. To learn more, visit: https://www.concordiastables.com/meetourhumans