

## VIRGINIA INTERMONT COLLEGE RIDING CENTER RULES

The following rules are designed to protect both the horse and the rider at the Virginia Intermont College Riding Center. Compliance with these rules is expected at all times. When in doubt about a specific rule, please ask. The rules apply to students, faculty and staff.

### GENERAL RULES

1. Smoking is **PROHIBITED** anywhere on the Riding Center property. Smoking is restricted to private vehicles only. Cigarette butts are not to be discarded at the Riding Center. Alcoholic beverages or drug possession is not permitted on the premises.
2. Horses should never be tied to the doors, front bars or blanket racks of the stalls. While you are tacking up, the horse must be tied with a quick release knot to the ring in their stalls. Do not leave a tied or tacked horse unattended. Stall doors are to be closed when horse is unattended. All horses must be led with a lead shank. Horses must be lead into their stalls.
3. Horses are to be groomed in their stalls. Horses should be washed only in the appropriate wash areas, never in the aisles. The rider or handler is responsible for cleaning up after their horse to include manure in stall, aisle or washrack. Also clean up clipped body hair and manes.
4. Students are responsible for the care of their assigned horse both before and after each mounted class as well as any extra riding or private lessons. This includes picking the stall and dumping, scrubbing and refilling the water buckets. A complete grooming before and after is required. Questions regarding proper care should be directed to the student's instructor. Any irregularities such as sick or wounded horses, loose stall boards, etc., should be reported to the instructor.
5. Students are responsible for damage to or loss of school equipment. After each mounted class, school equipment should be cleaned and returned to the appropriate tackroom. Any needed repair should be reported to the instructor.
6. If a class is in progress in an arena, all riders must wait for the instructor's acknowledgement before entering. Avoid a gathering of horses at the gates and in the aisles. No one is allowed to ride or lunge in an arena while a class is in progress unless permission has been received from the instructor.
7. Students are not to turn out horses without faculty or staff's permission. No turn out permitted in Arena A or C; turnout is permitted in Arena B around the class schedule and with permission. Permission should also be obtained before medicating, trimming, body clipping or bandaging a college horse and before using any questionable tack unless approved by the instructor. Cutting of any horse's mane or tail is prohibited.
8. Students who show a college horse are responsible for that horse's care for the day after the show as well as proper cleanup of any VI equipment and trailer. Proper exercise and grooming are to be followed. Any braiding should be done that day and braids removed as soon as possible.
9. All Riding Center offices are off limits to students except those on official business. The viewing room (when not in use) is available for lounging and every effort should be made to keep this room as clean as possible.
10. All student phone calls must be made and received on the phone in the washroom. That phone number is 276-669-6050. The main office number is 276-669-8398, faculty and horse management staff can be reached at 276-669-0026 and caretaker's number is 276-466-9177.
11. Student parking is confined to the area to the north of Arena B. Please try to avoid parking on the grassy areas and care should be taken not to block the drive access to the main barn.

12. Students may bring their own horses from another farm to ride during class with prior permission of the instructor. Coggins and current immunization records (flu, rhino, eastern/western encephalitis, tetanus, potomac horse fever, strangles, rabies, west nile) must be provided in advance. Permission of the Director is required before these horses may use a VIC stall.
13. No riding in the barn aisles or parking lot. College horses are not to be ridden bareback unless permission has been obtained.
14. Personal equipment left unattended can disappear. Any such equipment will be turned in and can be claimed in the horse management staff's office.
15. Horses are not to be in the front of the main barn in the area of the vehicles unless being taken to or from the front paddocks. Students going to Arena B must walk through Arena A or behind the barns.
16. Riding "out back" is permitted only if there are no horses turned out. At least 3 riders are required for such trail rides. One rider must be carrying a cell phone. In order to take a college horse permission must be granted by an instructor. Students are to notify faculty or staff before they go out and upon their return.
17. Students are to follow the posted hours of the Riding Center .

#### **ATTIRE AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT**

1. While mounted at VIC or showing with the college or on a college horse all riders are to wear a ASTM approved helmet. The rider is responsible for the maintenance and fit of that helmet.
2. Consult your instructor's syllabus regarding proper attire for mounted classes. Riding outside of class should be done with proper and professional attire: i.e., boots, breeches, half-chaps, paddock boots or proper shoes that include a heel. Hair should be placed up under the helmet with a hair net. Shirts with sleeves must be worn with all shirt tails tucked in. No cut off shirts showing the midriffs or sleeveless shirts are allowed.
3. You are encouraged to have proper equipment for riding, showing and grooming as to be used in your chosen profession. All horses are to ridden in a properly fitting saddle with extra padding such as a gel or cashel pad, girth covers and leg protection on all legs.
4. No riders are allowed to ride with a cell phone or any other electronic equipment.
5. Proper footwear is to be worn in the horse areas. No open toed footwear is allowed.
6. **Tack Trunks:** Students will be allowed to keep 1 tack trunk at the riding center. Trunks should have the owner's name or initials prominently displayed and should be kept locked. A limited number of lockers are available for students to use. Is a locker is available and chosen; the student may not have a trunk.