



## Graham Equestrian Center, Inc.

A Maryland non-profit corporation and equine education center

~ Graham Equestrian Center is an educational equine organization that promotes the joy of horses to a diverse community, regardless of income or ability, through riding and therapeutic horsemanship activities, while preserving the open space of Gunpowder Falls State Park.

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### Graham Equestrian Center (GEC)

10301 Harford Road, Glen Arm, Maryland

MHIB Licensed

Office #: 410-663-4445

Holly LaBarre – 410-937-7531

DNR Police - 410-260-8888

Emergencies (Fire, Medical Assistance): 911

Beth Hartka - Barn Manager - 410-790-4764

Emergency Vet - 410-592-3131

### **BARN RULES AND REGULATIONS**

GEC management reserves the right to change any policies, pricing and regulations at any time.

**Property Hours:** dawn to dusk, enforceable by Maryland Department of Natural Resources Police.  
Persons who are not staff, students or boarders at GEC are not permitted on the property after dusk.

**Barn and farm operation hours applicable to students, staff and horse owners:** Daily, dawn to 10:00 p.m. Security system installed. Contact the Barn Manager if on premises before 6 a.m. or after 10 p.m.

### **RIGHT OF GRAHAM TO ACCEPT OR REJECT BOARDERS AND/OR LESSON STUDENTS**

Notwithstanding any agreement of any kind in which the Graham Equestrian Center (GEC) is a party, GEC expressly retains and reserves the absolute right and privilege to deny or reject any application or request by any person to board a horse, lease a horse, or take lessons at the facilities for any reason whatsoever, in their sole and absolute discretion. GEC further retains and reserves the absolute right and privilege to deny or reject any person on the premises for violation of any barn rule and regulation.

### **Park Rules**

Graham Equestrian Center (GEC) is part of the Maryland State Park system and is open to the general public. All State Park rules and regulations must be followed at all times, including:

- Pets must be leashed at all times per Maryland state law.
- Park hours are dawn to dusk. No one is allowed in the greater park area before dawn or after dusk.
- Individuals using the State Park who are not GEC boarders/students/employees/contractors/volunteers are not permitted inside the barns, outbuildings or inside fenced fields/areas unless accompanied by a GEC boarder/student/employee/contractor/volunteer.

- Unauthorized persons inside Graham’s fenced areas, barns or outbuildings may have trespassing charges brought against them.
- Absolutely no firearms, alcohol or drugs.
- **DO NOT FEED HORSES WITHOUT EXPLICIT PERMISSION.**

**CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILING TO COMPLY WITH RULES & REGULATIONS ANY ONE OR ANY COMBINATION OF THE FOLLOWING CONSEQUENCES**

<b>Verbal warning</b>	<b>Denial of services</b>
<b>Late fees or other fines</b>	<b>Expulsion from the property</b>
<b>Permanent ban from facilities</b>	<b>Law enforcement, County or DNR</b>

**General Rules**

**Manure Removal - EVERYONE (owners, students, staff, leasers) is responsible for cleaning up manure generated by your horse anywhere outside of the pastures. This includes pathways, the barn, the parking lot and all arenas and common areas. Manure must be disposed of in:**

<b>Manure pile</b>	<b>Muck tub</b>	<b>Woods (all the way in)</b>
	<b>A nearby horse pasture</b>	
<b>Manure is not to be disposed of in grassy areas or common areas</b>		

- All persons on the premises must sign a General Waiver of Liability.
- All persons on the premises must abide by all posted signs/warnings/rules.
- Visitors are welcome during barn hours. Please notify management of your arrival so that security can be adequately maintained and visitors have a proper introduction to the facility.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for the behavior and safety of their minor children/wards at all times. Uncontrollable behavior, including throwing rocks or other objects, running and screaming, will not be tolerated, and **you will be asked to leave the premises. Such behavior may contribute to the injury of other people or horses.**
- All animals on the property are to be treated with respect. No teasing, taunting or otherwise bothering any animal on the property including wildlife.

- Bicycles/scooters/skateboards are not permitted to be ridden in or around the barn area or riding arenas unless briefly passing through to trails (this includes the parking lot).
- Speed limit on the facility's property is 20 MPH. **Speeding will not be tolerated.**
- Park only in the designated parking lot within the painted lines, or in the field if the overflow gate is opened. **No stopping or standing in the driveway for drop-off/pick-up.**
- Toilet facilities are available on the premises. House facilities are off-limits.
- NO SMOKING in or within 20 feet of any building or arena. **\$25.00 fine per offense.**
- NO LITTERING! Place litter in trash cans or the dumpster and abide by recycling standards. Do not put food trash anywhere except the dumpster.
- NO PROFANITY or abusive language or behavior.
- NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES are to be consumed on premises (including trails), with the exception of sponsored events where an alcohol permit from Maryland Department of Natural Resources is displayed.
- NO ILLEGAL DRUGS are allowed on premises.
- NO FIREARMS or other dangerous weapons are allowed on the premises.
- **PETS MUST BE LEASHED** at all times per State Park rules and regulations. Dogs are not permitted off-leash on the property and must be under the control of the handler at all times. **\$25.00 fine per offense.**
- **No one** is allowed on the property before dawn or after 10:00 p.m. Exceptions will be made if a horse is ill or injured, or show preparation is taking place. The Barn Manager must be notified as soon as you are aware that you need to be on the property before 6:00 a.m. or after 10:00 p.m
- Graham is not responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged items left at the barn or in personal vehicles.

### **Student Specific Rules:**

- Students or guardians are required to complete the Lesson Welcome Packet and the General Waiver of Liability. The General Waiver of Liability must be renewed when minor students reach 18 years of age.
- Students are required to complete an Intro Lesson before they can take any other type of lesson.
- Students are required to take the Safe Horse Handling Class to be able to catch their own horses before lessons (scheduled in lesson scheduling software).

- Students are required to wear helmets when mounted, including lease rides.
- Students are expected to accept direction from any staff member, not only instructors.

### **Facility Rules apply to all:**

- Hay in the main barn is provided as a convenience to boarders should their horses require hay for some time while stalled. All posted rules must be followed regarding using the hay supply. Scissors must remain on the chain, and bales must be re-tied by both strings if a partial bale is left.
- Only breakaway halters are to be used by students and staff. If owners wish to use non-breakaway halters they may, but the halter must be stored in the tack room, not on the stall, so that it is not used by others accidentally.
- Chain shanks are not to be used by students who are not owners. Chain shanks must be stored in the tack room and not on the stall to prevent accidental use by others.
- Knots are not to be tied into the end of lead ropes. If owners have lead ropes in this condition they may use them but they must be stored in the tack room so they are not used by others accidentally.
- Horses are not to be left in the stall with a halter on, and horses are not to be put in the field with a halter on. The Barn Manager must approve any deviation from this policy.
- Horses are not bridled in the field for any reason.
- Horses are not ridden in their turnout field for any reason.
- Everyone must follow GEC-approved blanketing/unblanketing protocol. There are students all around, and we do not want them to learn unsafe practices by observation (on - chest/belly/leg, off - leg/belly chest).
- Stall guards are not permitted.
- Horses are not to be left in cross ties, unattended, for any period of time longer than a bathroom break
- Horses are not to be cross-tied close enough to a stalled horse for a problem to arise.
- Horses are never to be tied to blanket bars, fence boards, gates or other moveable objects.
- White buckets in the barn aisle are for staff only and are used to water/feed the horses - no one other than staff is to use them for any reason.
- Handwashing and any other cleaning must be done using the faucet next to the counter in the main barn.
- Hoses must be put back exactly as they were found, both in the barn and in the wash stall. The ends of hoses are always kept OPEN. Turn water off at the faucet.

- Turn out lights and close chain link gates at the end of the barn and secure appropriately if you are the last to leave.

### **Boarder Specific Rules:**

- Boarders must complete the Boarding Agreement and all associated paperwork, as well as the General Waiver of Liability. The General Waiver of Liability must be renewed when minors reach 18 years of age.
- Tack trunks of a reasonable size are permitted in the tack room. Please keep all items inside or on top of the tack trunk. No items are allowed on the floor other than the tack trunk or storage tote.
- Tack trunks and other storage must be clearly labeled with the boarder's or horse's name clearly visible.
- First aid supplies must be stored by the boarder such that they are easily accessible by staff.
- Horses who are prone to cribbing must wear an effective cribbing strap. Uncontrolled cribbing is grounds for removal from the facility.
- Feed tubs, buckets, fans, mats and salt holders that are found in the stall may be used by the boarder; however, these items were not originally purchased by GEC. If a new bucket, mats, fan, feed tub or salt holder is needed it is to be provided by the boarder at their expense.
- Fans must be labeled for barn or outdoor use and have a sealed motor and a built-in fuse/breaker. The cord must have ample give when plugged in. GEC staff will install fans upon request.
- Boarder must supply a heated water bucket for winter.
- Boarder must provide a salt/mineral lick for their horse if the horse is on stall rest.
- Boarder must provide a labeled breakaway halter, with a snap throatlatch with a lead rope on their stall for use by staff for turnout, vet, farrier or emergency.
- Boarders must use care with all infrastructure, facilities, supplies and tools. Boarders who consistently abuse or misuse GEC property may have action taken against them. A three strike written warning policy applies to such issues - upon a 3rd written warning the Boarding contract will be terminated.
- GEC reserves the right to move or remove items from stalls that are found to be a safety hazard.

**IF YOU ARE NOT SURE ABOUT SOMETHING PLEASE ASK**

**Boarder Initials:**