



Hello to all leasers. Leasing is designed to be a step towards the responsibilities involved when you own your own horse. It is also set up to be fun, rewarding and a confidence builder for the leaser. It is a time when the rider can enjoy experiences with both their favorite equine friend and the human friendships they have made at the barn along the way. Having said this, the following are rules that will help the owner have peace of mind, keep the horses safe and sound, and the leasers to enjoy their experience to the fullest while being as safe as possible. If you have any concerns about the following or during the leasing process, please don't hesitate to contact the owner or Kelsey Overbey Boos. Open communication in the relationship between owner or trainer and leaser will make this a very positive experience (as it always has been). Happy riding!

Leasers and guests are responsible for following these rules along with all barn rules when they are at the stable.

Any guests should sign a Stillwaters Farm Release and a Watership Downs LLC Release and Hold Harmless Agreement when they arrive at the facilities with the leaser.

A parent or person deemed responsible and with transportation (over the age of 16) must be at the barn for the entire time the leaser is there (regardless of the leaser's age). This person shall also accompany the leaser when they are getting or returning the leased horse to pasture.

No one other than the leaser has permission to ride the leased horse without direct permission from owner.

Lease rides should be enjoyable for both the rider and the horse. This means they should last for no more than one hour and should be fair, kind and fun for the horse. This includes not doing anything in a lease ride that has not been done in a lesson, and anything that is currently being learned in lessons cannot be practiced in a lease ride without direct permission from owner or Kelsey Overbey Boos. This is for the safety of both horse and rider.

There is to be NO JUMPING during lease rides. This is for the well being of the horse and safety of riders.

When lease riding, the leaser is responsible for the horse, the tack and equipment they are using. All must be cared for appropriately. This includes proper grooming/cleaning of

both. If tack becomes damaged due to negligence on the part of the leaser, the leaser is to replace the item. If the damage is due to the tack being old or in need of repair, the owner will replace it (though a note of this should be made by the leaser prior to the lease ride).

If the leased horse goes lame, either the owner or trainer will find an alternative horse for leaser to lease ride for the duration of the lameness, assuming this lasts for less than a month. If recovery is to last for longer than a month, the leaser is not expected to continue leasing if they do not wish to.

A safe and good working relationship between horse and leaser is the foremost consideration in making the lease arrangements for a particular rider with a particular horse. Because horses are unpredictable animals and the working relationship is inherently dynamic, situations may occur where the compatibility between rider and horse does not work out as anticipated.

In consideration of the owner and the health of the horse, riders are expected to comply with the riding schedule on a consistent basis. Leasers are to notify the owner regarding planned absences (family vacations, etc.) prior to missing the leased rides and arrange for alternate riding times. If a normal leased ride is missed due to something that arises unexpectedly, please contact Kelsey to arrange a different day and time to make up the ride *during that same week*. It is not fair to the horse or owner to “store up” missed lease ride days. **Please don’t ever assume you can make up a lease ride on a particular day without first making arrangements** with Kelsey.

If the leaser wishes to terminate this agreement, the owner needs at least 30 days notice in order to find a proper replacement. It is assumed when this agreement is signed that the leaser will continue leasing the said horse indefinitely. The owner will not terminate this agreement without reason (such as horse being sold) if the leaser is following these rules. If the trainer feels that the leaser should change lease horses, this will be discussed with the owner and leaser until a suitable leasing alternative is reached.

Lease riding schedules and any other rules that are particular to this leasing situation:

Non-compliance with any of the above rules will result in a termination of the lease. If the owner feels that a warning is appropriate, then this will precede termination, but repeat warnings will not be given.

If violation of any of these rules or another instance of gross negligence results in injury to or death of a horse, the leaser may be held financially responsible for restitution.

**Leasing Contract:**

This particular leasing contract for horse \_\_\_\_\_ is between owner \_\_\_\_\_ and leaser \_\_\_\_\_ and begins on \_\_\_\_\_. The arrangement for this lease is a fee of \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid to owner by the seventh day of each month. Any chores or duties specific to this lease should be listed here

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**The signatures below demonstrate that the leaser has read and understands this Leasing Contract and agrees to the rules fully.**

Under the Michigan Equine Activity Liability Act [1994 P.A. 351] an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in an equine activity resulting from the inherent risk of the equine activity.

**Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Leaser:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature: \_\_\_\_\_