

University of New Hampshire Equine Program  
Department of Agriculture, Nutrition, and Food Systems

ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK, RELEASE, HOLD HARMLESS, AND INDEMNITY  
AGREEMENT WITH EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a rider participating in activities of the UNH Schooling Jumper Show within the UNH Equine Program, a part of the Department of Agriculture, Nutrition, and Food Systems at the University of New Hampshire.

**I. DESCRIPTION**

I understand that these activities entail the following activities: leading, handling and caring for horses; horseback riding activities, including, but not limited to, flatwork at the walk, trot and canter. I also understand that travel to the sites where team activities will take place is a part of these activities and may include travel by car, van and plane.

I acknowledge and understand that this activity is voluntary and that I do not have to participate in order to complete my degree program at the University of New Hampshire.

**II. RISKS INVOLVED**

I understand that the activities undertaken in this course may pose significant risks including, but not limited to: (a) the propensity of horses to behave in ways that may result in injury, harm, or death to persons on or around them; (b) the unpredictability of a horse's reaction to such things as sounds, sudden movements, and unfamiliar objects, persons, or other animals; (c) hazards such as surface and subsurface conditions not obvious to me, or not known and reasonably not known by the course instructors; (d) collisions with other equines or objects that can be reasonably foreseen as a result of normal equine activities; and (e) the potential of course participants to fail to maintain control over the animals or to fail to act within their ability, which could cause injury to other participants.

**III. ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS**

A. Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 508:19, the University shall not be liable for injury or death to participants in this course resulting from inherent risks of equine activities.

B. I understand the responsibilities as well as the dangers inherent in participating in the activities involved in this course and the use of the equipment. With full knowledge and understanding of these activities and their associated risks and responsibilities, I hereby freely and voluntarily agree for myself, my heirs, and anyone acting on my behalf, to:

(a) assume all risks, hazards and dangers involved in participation in this course and in the use of the equipment, including injury, loss, damage or death;

(b) release and hold harmless the University of New Hampshire, its trustees, officers, agents, and employees from and against all claims, demands, actions, and causes of action for damages which I may sustain or incur due to personal injury, loss, death, or property damage sustained by me and arising from my participation in this class, whether or not the result of negligent acts or omissions on the part of the University of New Hampshire.

(c) In the event that my participation in the class causes damage to the property of the University of New Hampshire, I agree to indemnify the University for such loss.

C. I understand that I have the sole responsibility for knowing the range of my ability to manage, care for, and control the horse assigned to me and to perform equine activities, and I have the duty to act within the limits of my own abilities and to maintain reasonable control of the horse at all times while participating in an equine activity, to heed all posted warnings, and to refrain from acting in a manner which may cause or contribute to the injury of any person.

**IV. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HEALTH AND HEALTH INSURANCE**

I hereby certify that I know of no physical, pharmacological, or psychological reason why I should not be able to participate safely in this course, and that I am covered by health insurance.

In case there is an emergency involving me, please notify \_\_\_\_\_ at the following telephone numbers:

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE (Parent/Guardian must sign if rider is under 18 years of age)

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE