

Horse Safety Program/Wrangler Training Sample Agenda

Part I: Course Work (9am-11:30am)

1. Introduction

- a) History of the program
- b) Why the program was created and how has it been beneficial to ranches
- c) Current accident rates statistics after completion of program
- d) Program not designed to be a rigid set of rules that ranches must follow, rather a series of suggested practices known to be effective

2. Category reviews and discussions

Applying real life scenarios to Site, Trails, Horses, Equipment, Staffing, Guest Orientation, Ride Management, Wagon Rides, Arena Activities, and Working Cows

- a) Review description of each category to participants; explanation of a scenario relative to category; and review of category bullet points relating to the scenario
- b) Open discussion on how the scenario can be managed effectively using suggested practices and brief discussion on any scenarios experienced firsthand relative to category

3. Adaptive First Aid for the Trail

- a) Well-packed first aid kit
- b) Items readily available to be used creatively in the event of an emergency
- c) Brief review of CPR/First Aid practices and importance of this certification

4. Liability

- a) What it means and how it pertains to us

5. Review of orientation ride information

- a) Importance of wranglers using the same language while teaching
- b) Review of common verbiage

6. Review

Review the horse safety booklet information, e.g., back-country first aid information, importance of landmarks for emergency reference, general emergency protocol specific to ranch, etc.

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Part II: Barn Section (12:30pm-3:30pm)

1. Nose to Tail Horse Check

- a) Injuries and illnesses to look for when grooming and saddling horses (nasal discharge, eye injuries, puncture wounds, cinch and wither sores, identifying loose or missing shoes, lameness, hoof abscesses, colic, choke, coughing, wheezing, bloody noses, etc.)
- b) The importance of communicating issues to head wrangler before allowing guests to mount

2. Tack Check

- a) Names and functions of saddle parts
- b) Saddle fit and importance
- c) Importance of making repairs timely before accidents take place
- d) How to identify and prevent cinch and wither sores

3. Trailering

- a) Safe trailering practices (securing horses in trailer, loading/unloading, managing horses while in the trailer)

4. Knot tying

- a) Common ways to secure horses and why they are or are not effective
- b) Importance of staff securing horses the same way
- c) Allow staff to practice securing horses safely

5. Orientation Ride Overview

- a) Outline of instruction
- b) Important topics to include in orientation ride and why
- c) Useful structure to orientation ride to allow for a smooth and efficient ride

6. Short Trail Ride

- a) Application of first aid scenarios, ride management, and risk management on the trail
- b) How to use tack and other items creatively in the event of an accident

7. Review of backboard training, if applicable

- a) Brief instruction on this practice should staff need to assist with this process in the future

Course Wrap Up (3:30-4:00)

Review of course and questions regarding material

Distribution and signing of course forms

Verify Wrangler Training Checklist for Certification at End of Course

To obtain certification, participants must exhibit a general knowledge and confidence in the following:

- Ranch's emergency procedures
- Risk management
- Handling accidents on the trail and at the barn
- Ride management and organization
- Riding, handling, and managing horses safely
- General back country practices
- Adaptive first aid for the trail