

# Horseback Riding Waiver & Release for MoonRise Farm in Taftsville, Vermont 05073

MoonRise Farm is contracted by Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports to run a Therapeutic Riding program for people with disabilities. Although we have insurance for this program, all other riders without disabilities are not covered under that policy and choose to ride/volunteer at their own risk. We must convey to you that people have been seriously hurt, and even killed, in horse-related accidents. It is a hazardous sport because horses are animals and despite training, history and great care, they can still do the unpredictable. They can be startled and kick, stumble and fall, lie down with riders or run away. Riders also make mistakes which cause horses to react dangerously. Dogs, cars, bees, other horses and people have all been known to startle horses and cause them to shy or jump or even buck. Trails can cause a horse to lose footing and fall or a rider to fall. Staff, though trained and experienced, can also make mistakes leading to accidents. So please, do not ride at MoonRise Farm unless willing to accept any and all responsibility for accident or negligence no matter where the blame might lie. In light of this we need you to read and sign the following.

In consideration of being allowed to participate in Moonrise Farm horse programs, an equine\* activity, and related events and activities, including transportation, I and/ or the minor participant for myself, and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin:

1. **Agree** that prior to participating I will inspect or will instruct the minor to inspect the facilities and equipment to be used, and if anything appears unsafe for me to participate I and/ or the minor will immediately advise MoonRise Farm of each condition(s) and refuse to participate. **All participants must wear an approved helmet while riding**
2. **Acknowledge** and fully understand that participants will be engaging in activities that involve risk of a serious injury, including permanent disability and death, severe social and economic losses which might result from our own actions or inaction's, from others negligence, the rules of play, or the condition of the premises or any equipment used. Further, that there may be other risks unknown or not reasonably foreseeable at this time.
3. **Volunteer to assume** all the forgoing risks and freely accept personal responsibility for any and all damages due to injury, including permanent disability or death.
4. **Release, waive**, discharge and covenant not to sue MoonRise Farm, the property owners Dorothea Jesser and Dan Mapes, employees, agents, volunteers and other sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, lessors of premises used to conduct the event (the "Releasees") their heirs and assigns and next of kin from any and all liability from any and all claims, demands, losses or damages on account of injury, including death or damage to property, caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by negligence of the Releasees or otherwise.

**\*Under Vermont Law, an equine activity sponsor is not liable for an injury to or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities that are obvious and necessary, pursuant to 12 V.S.A. sec. 1039**

**I have read the above waiver & release, understand that I give up substantial rights by signing it, have not changed it orally and sign it voluntarily.**

**Client Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Client Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## **FOR MINOR PARTICIPANTS**

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for the minor, do consent and agree to their RELEASE as above, and for myself, my heirs and, assigns and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to their involvement or participation in these programs as above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE.

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent / Guardian Signature**

**Print Parent / Guardian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEDIA/PHOTO WAIVER:** I hereby **authorize** \_\_\_\_\_ I hereby **do not authorize** \_\_\_\_\_ (check one) and give my full consent to MoonRise Farm to copyright and/or publish any and all photographs, videotapes and/or film in which I appear while participating. I also agree MoonRise Farm may transfer, use or cause to be used, these photographs, videotapes, or films for any exhibitions, public displays, publications, commercials, art and advertising purposes, and television programs without limitations or reservations.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_