

TEAM

(Therapeutic Equine Activity Member)

Dear Riders/Parents:

It is registration time at Mississippi State University for the 4-H TEAM Program!

This information is intended to assist you in completing the enclosed paperwork. Please understand that this paperwork is necessary for the 4-H TEAM Program to be in compliance with NARHA accreditation standards.

Session Registration Form: This form applies to the year _____ Session.

Rider's Medical History & Physician's Statement: Requires a doctor's signature on office stationary, and is submitted once yearly. This is a two-page form. Riders cannot participate in any mounted riding activity at TEAM without this form.

Activity Participation Agreement: Riders cannot participate in any activity at TEAM without this form.

Photo Release/Non-Consent: Required for participation. We must know your position regarding photography.

Emergency Medical Authorization Non-Consent Form: All participants and volunteers who participate in the TEAM program must sign consent for emergency medical treatment or a non-consent plan for emergency medical treatment which will be kept on file.

Please note that if the participant is under 21 years of age, then the signatures of both parents are required on the emergency medical consent form. If there is only one parent, or if there is a court order awarding custodial rights to one parent, then only that parent's signature is required. If a custodial parent or guardian is physically present during an activity, then that person must take responsibility for securing emergency medical treatment in the event of an accident or illness.

Fees Classes are _____ each, to be paid in full prior to session. All forms and rider fees must be completed, signed, and returned by _____ in order to participate in the TEAM session scheduled for _____. Please make checks payable to:

TEAM
State 4-H Youth Development Office
Box 9641
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Explanation of Services

Therapeutic Riding-- certified therapeutic riding instructors teach one-hour group lessons. The emphasis is on riding skills development. Maximum class size is four riders.

Hippotherapy-- Hippotherapy is clinical physical therapy using the horse as a treatment tool.

To be in compliance with national standards, we have established the following criteria for participation in therapeutic riding classes.

Minimum Age: 4 years old for therapeutic riding classes
2 years old for hippotherapy

Additionally, in keeping with our veterinarians' recommendations, the following rider weight limits have been established:

Height	Maximum Weight
Under 5' tall	150 pounds
5'-5'6" tall	175 pounds
5'6"-6" tall	200 pounds
6'5"-6'5" tall	250 pounds

Classes will be filled on the basis of disability needs, riding ability, and volunteer ability. Please encourage individuals who are interested in volunteering to contact the MSU State 4-H Department Office. The lack of volunteers is often the only impediment to confirming a scheduled class. There is a great need for committed volunteers!

TEAM Admission and Discharge Policy

It is the decision of the Program Coordinator/Instructor to admit or discharge a rider. The age and weight charts are given on the rider application. Riders can be discharged from the TEAM Program for other reasons, such as failure to appear for classes, inappropriate behavior, or implications that the continuation of therapeutic riding is a contraindication.

A rider possessing the ability and desire to advance to a higher level of instruction than the TEAM Program offers will be discharged and given assistance in locating a program and/or instructor that meets their needs.

It is MANDATORY that all riders, volunteers, and staff ride with (ASTM-SEI) helmets or NARHA approved alternative guidelines.

Safety stirrups or hard sole shoes or boots with heels are MANDATORY for all riders, volunteers, and staff. Stirrups and footwear must be approved by the instructor before mounting.

We look forward to having you with us to ride!

Sincerely,

Mary Ford
State 4-H Therapeutic Riding Program Instructor

MF/mj