



# Riding Centre Updates

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## NOT JUST ANY RIDING SCHOOL...

What is your reason to ride? What is it about horses that make you smile? Is it how they are so carefree, or maybe it's because they don't judge. No matter the reason we all share that common feeling: LOVE THE HORSE!

So show your love and affection to the horse not by hugging and kissing its face, but by grooming and caring for all of the things that we use when riding.

### How Do You Carry Your Gear?

We have been learning about how our sport is more complex than meets the eye. Some examples are:

\*you don't just sit on a horse and they do all the work

\*keeping our tack and our equipment in good condition will make it last a long time.

Helmet, boots, gloves, and all of the other goodies should have somewhere to go to keep them tidy and safe. Throughout the past couple of months, we have noticed some neat ideas for transporting riding gear. Here are a couple:

**Finnuala** and her big and bright Red duffle bag.



**Claire** upholding the true meaning of the reusable bag

**Sierra** sporting her "I love my horse" bag. How appropriate!



**Lucy** filling up her strong and sturdy rubbermaid bin.

## Everything Has a Place

*Did you know...* Alborak has 9 school horses and 2 horses that are leased out to the program?

That means there are 11 grooming kits, 11 bridles, 11 saddle pads, 11 halters and leads, 11 girths and 10 saddles (because one of them is shared) to take care of. Do the math! You will understand why we continue to encourage students to put things back to where they came from.

Now let's think about how many students are in the program and how many times the horses get groomed. What would you prefer:

1. grooming a horse with a nicely cleaned brush
2. grooming a horse with a brush that is full of hair.

As we are all a part of the Alborak School, we should work together to help one another- from cleaning out your brushes before putting them away to swiping up the aisle. Working together evens out the work load for all!

## Safety Tip: Helmet Expiry Check

My helmet is not edible, how can it expire? The material that protects your head in a moment of impact has a shelf life. Over time the material "breaks down" and loses its protective qualities.

We have printed out an article from our Canadian Pony Club Regional Chair and placed it next to the helmet shelf in the lounge. Have a read and learn more about helmets, an important piece of equipment in your riding adventures.

**Additional tip from Becky**, certified instructor and Greenhawk past employee

"After purchasing your new helmet, attach the receipt to the box. This is the easiest way to

## THINK SMART; THINK SAFE

keep track of your helmet's record and registration material. Some companies offer a discount on the purchase of a new helmet if you are replacing it due to a fall."

### ATTENTION PARENTS: Additional safety protocols in the works

Accidents happen even though our school horses are so well trained. With safety of both horse and human being our top priority, we are continuously looking at ways to improve our safety processes.

Here are a couple of NEW points:

- children under the age of 16 must be supervised by a parent or guardian when an instructor is NOT present
- carpooling parent(s) will act as temporary guardian(s) to the student(s) of which parents are not present
- parents/guardians who wish to leave the viewing area, contact information must be left on the lesson board in the barn

We will be including a more detailed policy within the session's information package as well as posting it on the front entrance notice board. Please continue to reach out to us with any suggestions and/or questions

## REMINDERS

2019 Summer Camp registrations are OPEN

Spring Session: April 15 - June 23, 2019

Horse Day 2019: June 1, 2019  
[www.equestrian.ca/events-results/horseday](http://www.equestrian.ca/events-results/horseday)

All lessons run as usual on all holidays EXCEPT Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day and Labour day