

# Horse Safety Program/Wrangler Training sample agenda

*Part one: Course Work (9am-11:30am)*

1. Introduction
  - a) History of program
  - b) Why did the DRA create it and how has it been beneficial to ranches?
  - c) Current statistics in accident rates upon completion of program
  - d) Nature of program: not designed to be a rigid set of rules 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, Working Cows.
  - a) 1. Review description of each category to participants 2. Explanation of scenario relative to category. 3. Review of category bullet points relating to 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 emergency
  - c) Brief Review of CPR/First Aid practices and importance of this certification.
  
4. Liability
  - a) What does it mean and how does it pertain 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 of information in back of manual: Back country first aid information, importance of land marks for emergency reference, general emergency protocol specific to ranch etc.

*Part Two: 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 whither sores, identifying lose 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 whither sores
3. Trailering
  - a) Safe trailering practices (securing horses in trailer, loading/unloading, managing horses while in the trailer)
4. Know tying
  - a) Review of 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 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 if staff need to assist with this process in the future.

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

1. Review of course and questions regarding material
2. Distribution and signing of course forms

## **Wrangler Training Checklist for Certification at End of Course**

*In order 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

## **WRANGLER COURSE:**

This course has been established to train wranglers & guides in the skills needed to meet the Minimum Horse Safety and Risk Management practices accepted by the DRA ranches. This course helps to provide the skills and knowledge needed to help prevent potential accidents and demonstrates how to anticipate dangerous situations on the trail. Participants in this program must already have a good working knowledge of horsemanship skills. This is both a hands on and classroom experience. The course follows the material presented in the DRA Horse Safety Manual.

- Current First Aid & CPR certification is required.
- Course is eight hours. It can be completed in one full day or two half days.
- Minimum course size is five.
- Participants must sign an acceptance of responsibility.
- Courses are set up through the Dude Ranch Foundation
- Upon completion, the DRA office will issue a card.
- Cost for DRA Ranch Employees\*: Manual: \$30.00 Card: \$10.00 Lunch: \$10.00 to the host ranch
- Not currently employed at a DRA Ranch: \$100.00