

10 Rules to Safety:

**Students must wear a safety helmet
& appropriate attire**

Students must use safety stirrups or no stirrups

Students must have completed an evaluation

**Volunteers must wear sturdy shoes
& appropriate attire**

Volunteers must have completed training

Gates must always be closed and fastened

Every horse's tack will be safety checked

Do not enter the arena without permission

Listen to the instructor, be respectful!

Listen to the instructor, follow instructions!

Additional RideAbility safety rules:

- No rider can mount unless they are wearing a safety helmet**
- If a rider removes their helmet, they must halt and replace helmet**
- No rider can mount unless they signed the liability release form**
- No rider can mount unless another person is physically present**
- Safety stirrups are used on all RideAbility saddles during classes**
- A volunteer rider may use their own saddle without safety stirrups if they have proper boots with a 1” heel**
- Riders must wear long pants**
(in rare cases a rider may be wearing shorts if using a special saddle or riding only a few minutes)
- Anyone near a horse must be wearing shoes that cover their toes**
- Every horse will have their tack safety checked before class**
- Mounting area must be sectioned off with a visible barrier**
- Horse tie area must be sectioned off with a visible barrier
(or horses must be attended by a volunteer)**
- Gates must be closed and fastened every time a person passes through**
- No sitting or stepping under horse’s neck or belly**
- Horses will not be left loose in the arena**
(they will be led, ridden, tied or otherwise supervised)
- No loose horses will be allowed to run where there are tied horses**
- Horses will never be tied by their bit, chain, chin strap or a rope halter**
- When using the tie ring there cannot be any knots in the lead rope**
- You cannot ride/lead a horse beside another horse on the outside
(between the horse and the wall/rail)**
- Students must be supervised to feed treats to horses**
- Cell phones must be turned off/vibrate in the arena during classes**
- No extra equipment or props can be sitting along the rail in arena during classes**
- Keep sliding door latches down and out of the way**
- Hydrant must be covered and hose put away during classes**
- Volunteers stay out of the arena until they have signed a liability release**
- Visitors must stay out of the arena unless accompanied by a volunteer**
- Ramp rules:**
No stepping on/off ramp into the arena while mounting during classes

Additional RideAbility safety guidelines:

- Children at playground need supervision**
- If a rider removes their helmet, they must halt and replace helmet**
if this takes longer than 10 seconds notify the instructor, the student may need to dismount
- Anyone near a horse should be wearing sturdy shoes that protect their toes**
- Every horse will have their tack safety checked 3 times:**
 - Once shortly after the horse is saddled**
 - Once before the rider mounts**
 - Once immediately after the student mounts**
- Be responsible while on the ramp, no jumping and yelling**
- We do not normally use the ramp to enter/leave the arena (use gate)**
- Use the buddy system to catch&release horses when possible**
- Bring horses in through the larger doors when possible**
- When moving horses through people say “Horse Coming Through”**
- When moving around a horse use the 1-2-3 guidelines:**
 - First choice: Move around the front of the horse**
 - Second choice: Move around the back of the horse at least 8 feet behind**
 - Third choice: Move around the back of the horse touching their rump**
- When working around horses use horse exercise safety guidelines**
- Volunteers should have permission to feed treats to horses**
- When in doubt, stop your horse and your team**
- Ramp guidelines:**
 - On the ramp, have students line up at the rail behind the red line**
 - Rather than stepping on/off ramp into the arena go around through gate**
 - If going on/off ramp never jump, be cautious (broken legs have happened!)**
 - Only one student at a time on the steps**
 - A volunteer should walk below each student while they are on the steps**
 - Dismounting at the ramp is not preferred, unless PT has designated it**
 - If approaching ramp for dismount, wait until loading team is ready**
 - When leaving the ramp be cautious of the student’s foot against the post**