Back In The Saddle Equine Therapy Center

334 College Hill Rd. / Hopkinton, NH 03229

(603) 746-5681 fax: (603) 746-3522

bitsetc2003@aol.com

www.bitsetc.org

CLIENT APPLICATION PACKET

Hello to all BITS ETC Participants,

Thank you for your interest in our programs. We schedule lessons Monday through Saturday. Please fill out this application form completely and indicate the program you wish to pursue. Once completed, you may reserve your lesson time with the instructor. Lessons will be billed at the end of each month and due upon receipt. We accept cash or check made payable to BITS ETC. Your prompt payment is appreciated. Should a client have two outstanding invoices, lessons will be put on hold until account is paid in full.

Pages 1 through 4 are for your information – please keep them for reference.

Pages 7, 8 and 9 of the application for riding should be removed and given to your doctor for him/her to return to BITS ETC. These forms may be faxed to our secure fax by the MD's office.

Should you need to cancel a lesson we ask that you contact your instructor directly. You'll find your instructor's contact information on page 2 as well as our attendance policy. Missed lessons without notice will be forfeited. For weather above 85 degrees, or below 20 degrees, lessons may be cancelled, or changed to unmounted lessons. If this occurs, your instructor will contact you in regard to the lesson. Any snow days in which Hopkinton schools are cancelled BITS will be closed. We will notify you of other times if lessons must be cancelled or rescheduled.

I look forward to seeing you all "back in the saddle!"

Best Regards,

Pauline Meridien

Director, BITS ETC

BITS ETC CONTACT NUMBERS

Office & Barn Number: (603)-746-5681

E mail: bitsetc2003@aol.com

Office Secure Fax: (603)-746-3522

Executive Director: Pauline Meridien (603) 491-2889

Melissa LoVetere, Admin/Lead Instructor: (978) 886-0392
(not case sensitive) MelissaBITSETC@gmail.com

PATH registered therapeutic riding instructor offering Therapeutic Riding, Vocational Education, Equine Assisted Learning, Ride UP for Uniformed Professionals, and Balanced Seat

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Kathy Mauzerall, Instructor: (603) 344-8848
(not case sensitive) KathyBITSETC@gmail.com

Hippotherapy certified instructor offering Therapeutic Riding and Ride UP for Uniformed Professionals

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Jill Thompson, Instructor: (978) 257-2611

(not case sensitive) JillBITSETC@gmail.com

PATH registered therapeutic riding instructor offering Therapeutic Riding, Vocational Education, Equine Assisted Learning, Ride UP for Uniformed Professionals, and Balanced Seat

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Elizabeth Lamy, Instructor: (603-491-4473)
(not case sensitive) Eliharris000@gmail.com

Equine Assisted Learning, Vocational Education, Balanced Seat

BITS ETC General Information

BITS ETC offers therapeutic riding, vocational education, and equine assisted learning Monday through Saturday, year-round. Please note your instructor's name and contact information on our contact sheet

- Lessons are reserved by completing application packet and scheduled with instructor.
- On-going lessons may be maintained with payment of monthly invoices, sent at the end of each month.
- Snow policy: If Hopkinton NH schools are closed, BITS is closed.
- At the instructor's discretion, if it is hotter than 85 degrees, or colder than 20 degrees, astride lessons will be replaced with equine centered activities held in the classroom, or unmounted activities in the barn.
- Make up lessons will be offered as needed for excused lessons missed each month.
- For the safety of riders and our horses, a weight limit is set for each horse. We offer ground work lessons and equine assisted activities for those who do not currently meet the guidelines.

BITS BACK IN THE SADDLE ETC EQUINE THERAPY CENTER
603-746-5681
www.bitsetc.org

Class Attendance Policy

Thank you for choosing BITS ETC!

We schedule lessons by the month. Many people are involved in providing safe lessons: leaders, side-walkers and your instructor. Your time and our time are valuable. Your lessons begin with completed paperwork, including MD clearance to ride. Once completed we will schedule your lessons on a particular day and time that works for all. Invoices will be sent out following the month's lessons. Should you need to reschedule lessons for a different day or time, or schedule time off from lessons, please contact your instructor. Lessons cancelled by BITS, and **excused** absences may be made up.

Excused Absence:

- Excused absences are those resulting from emergency, illness, or accident of rider or a family member.
- Doctor appointments, vacations or other explained absences (sporting events, school event, etc.) *with advanced notice.* Advanced notice is considered one week notice for vacations, appointments or other explained absence and a minimum of two hours prior to lesson for illness/accident.

Unexcused Absences:

- Lesson is missed with no communication to instructors (No call/No show).
- Lessons missed for reasons not related to disability, illness or injury.

Late Policy:

Lessons are scheduled in ½ hour, 1 hour and 2-hour blocks. If you are late for your lesson, you may still participate but it will only be for your regularly scheduled time slot. For example: Lesson time is 1pm-2pm and you arrive at 1:20pm. Your lesson will run from 1:20pm-2pm.

If you are too late to ride during the time remaining, (i.e. less than 20 minutes) you may have a 'ground lesson' of interaction with your horse for the remainder of time reserved for that lesson.

We look forward to getting you 'back in the saddle!' See you soon.

REGISTRATION FORM

Participant Name____

Primary Contact__________________________________Phone________________

Address [street]____________________________________ [city/zip] ________________

E-Mail [please print clearly] ________________________________

Age______________ Height_______________ Weight_____________

I wish to register for the following program:

__________________Therapeutic Riding
__________________Equine Assisted Learning (EAL)
__________________Vocational Education
__________________RideUP Program
__________________Peer Supported Volunteer
__________________Balanced Seat

I understand that when all required paperwork has been received (medical clearances) BITS ETC shall contact me to schedule a preliminary visit to establish suitability and schedules.

PHOTO RELEASE

I ❑ DO ❑ **DO NOT** consent and authorize the taking and use / reproduction of any and all photographs, and or other audiovisual materials taken of me by BITS ETC for promotional, (printed, or web-based), exhibitions, educational activities, or for any other use for the benefit of BITS ETC.

____ ____________________
Signature (Parent or Guardian if under 18) date

Help us to learn a little more about you. This will assist our instructors to better tailor your experience with us.

Goals (Why are you applying for participation? What would you like to accomplish?):

____

____

____

Previous Experience (have you ridden before, or had experiences with horses?)

____

____

____

Physical Function (mobility skills such as transfers, walking, wheelchair use, driving/bus riding)

____

____

____

Psycho/Social Function (Work/school including grade completed, leisure interests, relationships, family structure, support systems, companion animals, fears/concerns, etc.):

____

____

____

Learning Style (How do you, or your child, learn best? Watching someone show you, listening to an explanation, doing the activities matching your body to the instructor's, or figuring something out on your own.)

____

____

____

Have there been any past surgeries? Are there any limitations or restrictions regarding movement or activity?

____

____

____

Allergies: ____

Other things you would like to share with us

____

____

____

Dear Health Care Provider:

Your patient: ____ DOB_________________

(Participant's Name: **PLEASE PRINT**)

Is interested in participating in supervised equine activities. In order to safely provide this service, our Center requests that you complete/update the attached Medical History and Physician's Statement Form. Please note that the following conditions may suggest precautions and contraindications to equine activities. Therefore, when completing this form, please note whether these conditions are present, and to what degree.

Orthopedic

Atlantoaxial Instability-include neurologic Symptoms
Coxa Arthrosis
Cranial Deficits
Heterotopic Ossification/Myositis Ossificans
Joint subluxation/dislocation
Osteoporosis
Pathologic Fractures
Spinal Joint Fusion/Fixation
Spinal Joint Instability/Abnormality

Neurologic

Hydrocephalus/Shunt
Seizure
Spina Bifida/Chiari II malformation
Tethered Cord/Hydromyelia

Medical/Psychological

Allergies
Animal Abuse
Cardiac Condition
Physical/Sexual/Emotional Abuse
Blood Pressure Control
Dangerous to self or others
Exacerbations of medical conditions (RA, MS)
Fire Settings
Hemophilia
Medical Instability
Migraines
PVD
Respiratory Compromise
Recent Surgeries
Substance Abuse
Thought Control Disorders

Other

Age under 4 years
Indwelling Catheters/Medical Equipment
Medications side-effects i.e. photosensitivity, fatigue
Poor Endurance
Skin breakdown (decubitus ulcers, etc.)

Thank you very much for your assistance. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this patient's participation in equine assisted activities, please feel free to contact BITS ETC at the above address/phone number.

PARTICIPANT MEDICAL HISTORY AND PHYSICIAN STATEMENT

Participant ___________________________________DOB____________Height__________Weight_________
Address____
Diagnosis ____Date of Onset______________________
Past/Prospective Surgeries____
Medications____
Seizure Type ___________________________________Controlled Y ____N ____Date of Last Seizure_________
Shunt Present? Y____N____ Date of last revision: ____
Special Precautions / Needs

____

____

Mobility: (circle one) Independent Ambulation Assisted Ambulation Wheelchair

Braces/Assistive Devices____
For those with Down's syndrome: AtlantoDens Interval X-Rays done _____________ Result: ___________
Neurologic Symptoms of Atlanto-Axial Instability: ____

Please indicate current or past special needs in the following systems/areas, including surgeries. If "Yes," please explain.

	Y	N	Comments
Auditory			
Visual			
Tactile Sensation			
Speech			
Cardiac			
Circulatory			
Integumentary / Skin			
Immunity			
Pulmonary			
Neurologic			
Muscular			
Balance			
Orthopedic			
Allergies			
Learning Disability			
Cognitive			
Emotional / Psychological			
Pain			
Other			

Given the above diagnosis and medical information, this person is not medically precluded from participation in equine assisted activities. I understand that the NARHA center will weigh the medical information given against the existing precautions and contraindications. Therefore, I refer this person to BITS ETC for on-going evaluation to determine eligibility for participation.

Name ____MD DO NP PA Other___________

Signature____ Date__________________

Address____

Phone ( )___________________NPI #__________________________________

PARTICIPANT CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I hereby authorize ______________________________________ Phone #__________________

(*Healthcare Provider, School, Other Party:* **PLEASE PRINT**)

To share protected personal information with Back In The Saddle Equine Therapy Center, for the purpose of developing an equine activity program for the above-named participant. The information to be released is indicated below:

- o Medical History
- o Physical Therapy evaluation, assessment and program plan
- o Occupational Therapy evaluation, assessment and program plan
- o Mental Health diagnosis and treatment plan
- o Individual Habilitation Plan (IHP)
- o Classroom Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- o Psychosocial evaluation, assessment and program plan
- o Cognitive-Behavioral Management Plan
- o Other ____________________________________

This release is valid for one year and can be revoked, in writing at my request.

Name [please print] ____Phone __________________

Relationship to Participant____

Signature____Date__________________

(**Parent or Guardian if under 18**)

Please fax information to Back In The Saddle Equine Therapy Center at secure fax# (603) 746-3522, or mail to 334 College Hill Rd., Hopkinton, NH 03229

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AUTHORIZATION FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

❑ Participant ❑ Staff Member ❑ Volunteer

Name ____DOB_______________________

Address [street]___________________________________[city/zip]______________________

Phone [home]__________________[cell]__________________Email ______________________

Physician's Name____Phone______________

Health Insurance Co _________________________________Policy #_________________

Allergies to medications? ____

Current Medications____

In the event of an emergency, contact:

Name_______________________________Relation_________________Phone___________

Name_______________________________Relation_________________Phone___________

Consent Plan: This authorization includes x-ray, surgery, hospitalization, medication and any treatment procedure deemed "lifesaving" by the physician. This provision will only be invoked if the person(s) above is unable to be reached.

Date _________________Consent Signature______________________________________

(Parent or Legal Guardian if under 18)

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Although every effort will be made to avoid accident or injury, NO LIABILITY can be accepted by BITS ETC, it's officers, board of directors, agents, employees, and any of its members, associates, or the property owners upon whose land the therapeutic riding sessions are conducted.

According to RSA 508:19:

"…an equine activity sponsor, an equine professional, or any other person engaged in an equine activity, shall not be liable for any injury or the death of a participant resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities and, except as provided in paragraph III of this section, no participant's representative shall made any claim against, maintain an action against, or recover from any other person for injury, loss, damage, or death of a participant resulting from any other inherent risks of equine activities. Each participant in an equine activity expressly assumes the risk of and legal responsibility for any injury, loss or damage to person or property which results from participation in an equine activity. Each participant shall have the sole responsibility for knowing the range of his or her ability to manage, care for, and control a particular equine or perform a particular equine activity, and it shall be the duty of each participant to act within the limits of the participant's own ability, to maintain reasonable control of the particular equine at all times while participating in an equine activity, to heed all posted warnings, and to refrain from acting in a manner which may cause or contribute to the injury of any person…"

I have read and understand the legal limits of liability of BITS ETC, and request to participate in therapeutic riding activities as a (**please initial**):

__________Student ______________Volunteer _______________Visitor/Clinic Participant

I understand the inherent risks and potential for risk of equine activities, and agree to accept them. I hereby, intending to be legally bound for myself, my heirs, and assigns, executors, and administrators, waive and release forever all claims for damages against BITS ETC, its board of directors, instructors, therapists, aides, volunteers, and /or employees for any and all injuries and or losses I (my child, ward) may sustain while participating in the Program from whatever cause including but not limited to the negligence of these released parties. The undersigned acknowledges that he / she has read this Liability Release in its entirely; that he / she understands the terms of this release and has signed this release voluntarily and with full knowledge of the effects thereof.'

____ ____________

Participant [Please print clearly] Date

____ ____________

Signature (Parent or Guardian if under 18 years old) Date

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY

It is the policy of Back In The Saddle Equine Therapy Center to hold absolutely confidential all charts, and communications (oral or written) made by and between or about Therapeutic Riding Center staff, board, volunteers, and clients. It is required that all staff, board members, and volunteers sign this confidentiality agreement. All of these persons are accountable for maintaining the confidentiality of therapy which occurs at BITS ETC. BITS ETC shall treat all communications regarding therapy as protected health information and will be guided by the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) in all dealings with outside agencies or interested persons.

Confidential Communication is any information that is either written or spoken, and shared between client, and / or family-guardian, and staff, volunteers, and board of directors in the course of service delivery of Equine Assisted Therapy and Equine Assisted Learning activities at BITS ETC. The information that is exchanged is considered confidential and is to be kept as such by all involved, and disclosed only to those people who are:

1. Present at the time the information is shared and working to further the interests of the client.
2. Working for BITS ETC, maintaining records of clients for informational purposes (i.e.) to aid in evaluation, and facilitating communications between staff/ volunteers, as well as for medical and psychological documentation.
3. Not associated with BITS ETC, but working on behalf of the client, such as an attorney, counselor, housing worker, or other social service agent.

Maintenance of Records:

1. BITS ETC maintains all records in a strictly confidential manner. Only staff members have access to these records. Clients/guardians may access their records at any time, and copies are available for a nominal copying fee.
2. In cases where information must be disclosed to others, BITS ETC must have a signed release form on file from the client or guardian before said information is disclosed.

(over for signature)

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY (continued)

Exceptions for the Release of Information:

1. Where a staff member or volunteer has reason to suspect a person has been either physically or sexually abused, a report must be made to the appropriate authority. If a volunteer suspects abuse, they should notify a staff member who will be responsible for reporting such. If the client is willing to report the abuse themselves, BITS ETC will have complied with the requirements for reporting. If they assist that individual with making the report.
2. In criminal proceedings, when the court has determined, through the procedure explained in RSA 173-c, that the information contained in the record or testimony is admissible under chapter 173-c, where medical emergency exists and the information from the file is required and the client/family/guardian is unable to authorize the release, information limited to the medical emergency will be **disclosed to any emergency personnel, and / or the medical institution treating the client.**

I [please print name]____
have read and agree to abide by the confidentiality policy of BITS ETC.

____ ____________________

Volunteer / Staff Member / Client-Guardian(if under 18) **Date**

____ ____________________

Witness **Date**