



**2017/2018 Riding  
School Package**

# Riding School Policies

## Lesson Format

Students are expected to arrive 30 minutes before their lesson time to catch their horse (Novice +), groom and tack up. Students should be in the ring, mounted and ready to ride, at the scheduled start of their lesson. Private lessons are expected to mount 15 min early to warm up (once approved by their instructor). After the lesson, students are expected to properly cool out and groom their horse before putting them away. Students are also expected to clean their tack and put it away before leaving and leave their grooming stall raked/tidied. Overall, it will take approximately 2 hours for a group riding lesson.

Once students are deemed ready to jump, group classes will alternate dressage and jumping. However, in the interest of the well-being of the horses, lesson content will always be subject to the discretion of the instructor/riding school and in some instances a jumping lesson may need to be replaced by a dressage lesson (i.e. the day after a schooling show, extreme heat, etc.).

## Required Equipment

All riders must have the following gear:

- Correctly fitted, ASTM helmet
- Boots with a 1/2" - 1" heel (paddock boots and half chaps or field boots are preferred, rubber riding boots do not bend well in the ankle)
- Long pants for riding (we suggest breeches or snug fitting track pants as loose pants and jeans can rub)
- Riding gloves & a crop are recommended

Long hair should be tied back and loose jewelry is not recommended. We strongly suggest you put your name on all your riding equipment, as Raynham Stables is not responsible for lost items. Please store your gear in the provided lockers during your lesson.

## Payment

**All lessons must be paid for in advance** (view lesson pricing here). If you would like to take advantage of the discounted rate offered by purchasing a lesson package, payment must be received by the second class of the session. Installment plans are available for our longer fall & spring sessions. Lesson packages are non-refundable and non-transferable. Lessons can be paid for by cash, cheque payable to "Raynham Stables", Visa, MasterCard or Interac e-Transfer.

As riding is a year-round sport, all students are automatically enrolled in the next session. If you wish to discontinue classes, we ask that students notify the office via email at least three weeks prior to the end of the session so we can adjust the schedule as needed.

## Missed Classes

We realize that students occasionally have to miss a lesson, so to simplify the process of rescheduling we have set up an online lesson scheduler:

<http://www.raynhamstables.com/online-lesson-scheduling.html>. It is the responsibility of the student to book their make-up lesson by the end of the session.

We are aware that it can be difficult to find an open spot, especially during the busy spring and fall months, so please do not cancel unnecessarily. **Spaces to reschedule are made available by other students canceling, so please be courteous and PROVIDE AS MUCH NOTICE AS POSSIBLE IF YOU ARE GOING TO MISS A CLASS so we can open your space on the scheduler.** Please be aware that we cannot guarantee you will be able to make-up a missed class.

- **RESCHEDULING A LESSON:** We ask that students provide **at least one week's notice** if you are going to miss a lesson. This gives other students enough time to be book your now-open time slot. Please notify the office via email or cancel through the scheduler to reschedule a lesson. If you do not provide at least one week's notice, it is considered a late cancellation.
- **LATE CANCELLATION:** We realize sometimes things happen at the last minute – illness, car problems, etc. Students may have **ONE** late cancellation per session provided you notify the office via email by 7:30am on weekends or 1:00pm on weekdays.
- Please be aware that if you cancel a private lesson, there may not be an opening for a private lesson make-up so you may have to do a group lesson instead.
- Make-up lessons are only available to students currently enrolled in lessons. If you stop taking lessons, any missed classes are void.
- Make-up lessons are nontransferable and **cannot** be deducted from the next session fees.

In the unlikely event that Raynham Stables has to cancel a class, we will ensure that you are able to reschedule the lesson or we will deduct it off the next session's fees.

## Inclement Weather Cancellations

We know that living in Canada, there are going to be some unpleasant days from December to March and we do not want anyone driving to the barn in unsafe conditions. **Lessons will be cancelled in the event of freezing rain, heavy snow or extreme cold (temp. is below -12c before the wind chill).**

For the winter session, we bill for one less class so if we have to cancel a class, we are square. If we have to cancel a second time, students have the option to deduct the class of the following session or schedule a make-up lesson (can be in the following session as well).

**Please note that cancellations will be posted on the blog ONLY** so please check before heading to the barn. On the weekends we will post any cancellations by 7:30am and weeknight lessons will be posted by 1:00pm.

# Raynham Stables Rules

- Only riders are allowed in the barns and tack-up area. If the rider is under 8 years old, a parent may stay with them (no siblings allowed).
- No open toe shoes allowed in the barns or around the horses.
- All riders must wear an ASTM approved helmet and a boot with a heel.
- All riders must sign a release waiver before riding.
- Please do not leave personal items in the tack rooms or grooming stalls while riding. Please use the provided lockers to prevent items from getting lost & keep the tack-up area tidy.
- Riders must leave ALL areas tidy (sweep/rake up your stall before & after you ride, put away tack, brushes, brooms, etc).
- No running or screaming allowed in the tack-up area/barns or anywhere near the horses. Horses are prey animals and can be frightened by loud noises or sudden movement.
- Avoid walking or standing directly in front or behind a horse as horses have blind spots in these areas.
- Do not feed anything to the horses without permission from staff.
- Friendly dogs are welcome but please keep away from the horses.
- Only students and boarders are allowed in the paddocks. Students under the age of 12 MUST wear a helmet and be accompanied by a staff member when entering a paddock.
- Please note that the yard around the house is private property. Please stay off this area.
- Please drive SLOWLY on the driveway as there are always many children and animals on the property. When pulling in, if there is someone already coming up the hill, please WAIT at the top of the driveway as there is insufficient room to pass on the hill approaching the road.
- Absolutely NO SMOKING allowed on the property.

***CAUTION: While all of our school horses are very well behaved, all horses have the potential to kick or bite so it is important to exercise caution while working around them.***

# Riding School F.A.Q.

## ***Where can I go to get riding apparel?***

- Greenhawk ([www.greenhawk.com](http://www.greenhawk.com)) - Multiple locations, package for beginners
- Bahrs Saddlery ([www.bahrsaddlery.com](http://www.bahrsaddlery.com)) - Hornby, ON
- Bakers Saddlery ([www.bakerssaddlery.com](http://www.bakerssaddlery.com)) - Markham, ON
- Equestrian Factory Outlet ([www.equestrianfactoryoutlet.com](http://www.equestrianfactoryoutlet.com)) - Sharon, ON
- Pleasant Ridge ([www.pleasantridge.ca](http://www.pleasantridge.ca)) - Brant, ON (Far but has good deals and free shipping over \$100!).

## ***Can I pick who I get to ride?***

One of the advantages of being a riding school student is having the opportunity to learn from a variety of horses! Our instructors work hard to ensure riders and horses are suitable matched and all of our wonderful school horses have something valuable to teach our students. We are happy to hear requests from students but the only way to guarantee a particular horse to ride is to part board, lease or purchase a horse.

## ***How quickly can I expect to advance?***

Progression is very much individual – some students naturally progress faster than others. Some things that can aid progression include; physical activity outside of riding (fitness is important for riders!), staying and watching others ride and nothing beats more time in the saddle! Generally, riders can expect to learn to walk, trot, canter and learn basic figures within 6 months. If riders wish to jump, they are usually ready within 6 to 12 months of starting to ride. Very young riders (under 10 yrs. old) may progress slower due to their more limited strength and attention span.

## ***What are the next steps?***

The best thing about horseback riding is it is a life-long sport – there is always something to learn! Students that are keen to take their riding to the next level may be interested in riding 2x per week, part boarding/leasing a horse or starting to compete. Please speak with your instructor for more details!

## ***What kind of winter gear do I need?***

Dress like you would to go skiing or spend a day outdoors in the snow! Moisture wicking layers, riding specific winter boots & gloves, helmet covers or headbands and hot packs for those really cold days all work to make riding comfortable year-round! For more details, see our blog post - <http://raynhamstables.blogspot.ca/2016/11/winter-riding-tips.html>

## ***Why should I ride year round?***

**Cold weather/Driving Conditions** – As you can see in our ***Inclément Weather Policy***, we have done our best to ensure that there is no reason not to ride – if it is uncomfortably cold or driving is unsafe, classes will be cancelled and no make-ups required!

**Safety & Progression** – If you've been riding all year or even throughout the fall, it's a shame to lose all that momentum! When you add in the winter break and march break, you are actually taking three months off. That is a significant amount of time, which will certainly set back your progress. Students may take quite a while to build back up to their previous level upon their return.

# RAYNHAM STABLES RIDING SCHOOL | 2017-2018 Session Calendar

## SESSION ONE

### September

5 – Session One Starts

SEPTEMBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### October

8 – Closed for Thanksgiving  
29 – Halloween Schooling Show (no lessons)

### November

*Save the date!*  
Holiday & Awards Banquet –  
Friday, November 17th

NOVEMBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### December

28-29 – In-House Clinics  
*Dressage & Show Jumping*  
*See details on the blog!*  
30 – Winter Schooling Show/Show Team Try-outs

## SESSION TWO

### January

6 – Session Two Starts

JANUARY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

### February

*Dressage &/or Show Jumping Clinic TBA*

### March

9 – Session Two Ends  
10-16 Closed for March Break!  
17 – Session Three Begins

MARCH 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### April

1 – Closed for Easter  
28 – Spring Schooling Show (no lessons)

### May

*Spring Volunteer Day TBA for a Sunday in May/June*

MAY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### June

*Register online for our terrific summer camps! See the website for 2018 Dates & Themes.*

## LESSON PRICING

Session Dates	Weekday Classes			Weekend Classes		
	# of Classes	Group	Semi/Private	# of Classes	Group	Semi/Private
Session One: Sept 5 – Dec 21	16	\$880.00	\$1120.00	14	\$770.00	\$980.00
Session Two*: Jan 6 – Mar 9	8	\$440.00	\$560.00	8	\$440.00	\$560.00
Session Three: Mar 17 – Jun 24	14	\$770.00	\$980.00	14	\$770.00	\$980.00

- HST included in all prices
- All classes must be paid for in advance
- Installment plans available for session 1 & 3
- Multi-Session Discount: \$3.00 off per lesson if you ride 2+ times per week or for multiple family members.

\* Session Two is a 9 week session but only billed as 8 classes in case of an inclement weather cancellation