



# Concord Equestrian Center

Head Trainer/Owner: Mark Conley

858-259-1148

<http://www.concordequestriancenter.com>

**Concord Equestrian Center (CEC)** has been introducing horsemanship and english riding skills to beginning adults & children as well as polishing rider's skills for the horse show arena for twenty years in Del Mar Horsepark. We offer many unique individualized programs to suit riders of all ages and levels.

Our program is based in the established & proven fundamentals also used by 4-H and Pony Club to guide young riders safely through learning horsemanship skills on the ground and in the saddle. We strive to nurture a strong family oriented community by holding special events and clinics as well as using mentor programs to help new students and families learn more about riding and showing. Learn more specifics on backside of this sheet.

## Programs and Fees

**Pony Rides-** \$35 Ideal for children under the age of 7. Kids have the opportunity to 'meet' a pony and have a 20-25 min. pony ride in our arena or on the property. Riders should wear closed toe shoes & pants. Helmets supplied.

**Lessons-** Our lessons are taught by seasoned instructors on safe and knowledgeable ponies and horses. We are careful to match children with the appropriate mount. Riders are taught how to groom and care for their mount before and after their lessons\*. Basic riding equipment is included (bridle, saddle and pads).

**Introductory or Evaluative Lesson-** Barn orientation and first lesson 1 1/2 hrs--\$75

**For Beginners-** Time is split between learning horse care and riding.

Program 1: One hour private lessons- - \$75 each.

Program 2: Two one hour private lessons a week(8/mo.)-- \$520 a month.

**For Experienced or Continuing Students-** Rider is responsible for horse care\*.

Program 1: 1/2 hr. private or 1 hr. group lessons 1x/wk. or less-- \$65 each.

Program 2: 1/2 hr. private or 1 hr. group lessons 2x/wk. (8/mo.) -- \$440/month.

Program 3: 1/2 hr. private or 1 hr. group lessons 3x/wk. (12/mo.) -- \$660/month.

**Lease Programs-** Rider's learning curve is accelerated through to the consistency and relationship building of having one mount. Crucial for anyone wishing to show seriously.

**Lessons w/Head Trainer Mark Conley** on our school horses - \$70

\*Preparation of the horse before the lesson (tack-up) and care after (tack down) available for \$15 each.

**MISSED LESSONS AND CANCELLATION POLICY:** If you need to cancel a lesson, 24 hour notice is required. The barn answering machine (858-259-1148) will take your message. All lessons canceled with proper notice may be made up within the same calendar month; just call to reschedule. Lessons not canceled with notice are forfeited. Inclement weather does not necessarily mean a canceled lesson. Please call the barn answering machine for daily lesson information. Classes on horse care, feeding, horse equipment, horse showing, and medical care are sometimes given as a substitute during inclement weather.

**P.O. Box 675788, Rancho Sante Fe, Ca 92067**

## Program Information

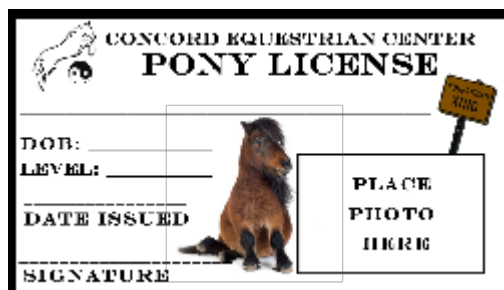
**Riding Essentials** - Proper riding attire is essential to comfort and safety.

- Helmet: Recommended brands: IRH, GPA and Charles Owen.
- Paddock boots: Lace-up is better for very small kids. Brands: Ariat.
- Breeches or Jodhpurs: your discretion, belts are useful.
- Collared or crew neck shirt that can be tucked in.

## FAQ.'s

**What do we do in the introductory/evaluative lesson?** The first lesson lasts approximately 1 1/2 hours and consists of a barn orientation, learning to care of your mount before and after your ride and a 25-30 min. private riding lesson. All riders new to CEC start with this lesson regardless of previous riding experience. For new riders, this gives an overall introduction to horses and riding. For experienced riders, the introductory lesson allows the instructor to evaluate the student's riding level without the distraction of other riders. After the lesson, the instructor will consult with the rider and/or parent to choose the best program for the rider. Please call for available times to set up an introductory lesson.

**How do I know how my child is progressing?** We utilize a testing program that sets a parameter on when it is appropriate for a rider to 'go to the next level', i.e. to start riding in groups or to start cantering. For the younger kids we award them a 'pony license' according to their level. We also employ a point system to reward especially smart riding. Riders turn in points for prizes or special lessons.



**How long before my child will be able to ride in a group?** For those who have never ridden, expect to take a number of 1/2 hr. private riding lessons in the beginning. Private lessons are required to teach the skills necessary for safe group riding. With many individuals, especially young children, a few months of private lessons may be necessary before moving to group lessons. We try our best to bring together groups as soon as students are ready so that they benefit from repetition as well as camaraderie.

**How often should a student ride?** Very young children do well starting out riding once a week as an introduction. Recreational riders also do fine riding once a week. However, for a student to truly build up their physical abilities as well as confidence in their skill set it is recommended that they ride at least twice a week. Our competitive riders typically ride a minimum of three times a week.

**What happens as the rider advances?** Once skills are honed in the practice arena it is time to test them in the show arena. We are able to offer individuals a few opportunities to show on our school horses. Continuing competitors often choose to lease or buy a horse or pony and become a part of our training and showing programs.