

## Frog Field Farm – Information and Policies for Students and Parents.

Thank you so much for welcoming me to DeCarli Farm. I have a safe, goal oriented program, that focuses on excellent horsemanship, sportsmanship, and positive reinforcement for riders of all ages. I have a reputation for providing my students with a fun but progressively challenging learning environment. I have a fundamental teaching style, ensuring my students have mastered one skill before moving on to the next. As I get to know the students, I may be asking them to review what perhaps they already know as a means of measuring aptitude. I have experience with children, teens, and adults of all abilities, representing a myriad of learning styles and have many techniques for implementing learning how to ride correctly, effectively, and in a way that reflects the adoration we all have for this animal. Some analogies and vocabulary will be new to many of you so if you have questions during your lesson (riders) or if you have questions before or after the lesson (parents) please do not hesitate to ask.

I come to you with over 10 years full-time teaching experience. I have been riding for 20 years, the later 10 of which I have trained and competed many young horses for myself and for my customers. My specialty is retraining off the track Thoroughbreds who show promise for the Hunter/Jumper, Dressage, or Eventing disciplines. I have also started many young horses of various breeds under saddle. I am certified with the American Riding Instructors Association to Level 2 in both Dressage and Huntseat. For more information on certification requirements you can check out the link to their website at [www.riding-instructor.com](http://www.riding-instructor.com). I am also a Massachusetts Licensed Riding Instructor. I have participated in clinics and regular lessons with many top professionals including the renowned Olympian Jumping Joe Fargis, Eventing icon and coach for the Irish team, Eric Horgan, FEI competitors and Dressage Judges Lois Heyerdahl and Ann Marie Gregiore, and many others including (longtime mentor) Certified Centered Riding Instructor Deb Moynihan.

While freelancing as Frog Field Farm, I also have taught full-time at two barns prior to leasing my own facility, and was the 4H leader at one of the barns. My students have participated at many local, 4H, open and schooling shows. They have competed at Mt. Holyoke College in their schooling and open series, and have participated in a number of schooling Combined Training competitions and Horse Trails. They have also recently expressed interest and participated in rated shows with the CHSA, CHJA, NEHC, AQHA, and USEA. I encourage students and parents to discuss their show goals with me. I am familiar with the USEF rules and division requirements in many disciplines and can help you formulate a show itinerary that is in your interest and within your budget.

I do have fairly **strict safety policies** and also have **procedures for before and after you ride**, so please read the following information carefully. Riding is considered an elite sport, and as such, a riders attire and behavior need to reflect the dedication that such a sport requires. All students under 18 years of age must wear a properly fitting ASTM certified safety helmet with a fastened harness regardless of skill or discipline (includes Western riders) when riding at DeCarli Farms and Frog Field Farm even if not in a lesson. And we highly recommend riders of all ages and disciplines wear a properly fitting certified safety helmet. Girls and women riding English should have their hair pulled back and under their hard hat, with no loose ends showing. Students are required to wear fitting long pants and hard soled shoes (paddock boots, tall boots, cowboy boots, or ropers) to their first lesson. No sneakers, clogs, or shorts permitted. Students who ride weekly should have essential equipment, their own helmet, tall boots or half chaps and paddock boots, breeches or jodhpurs, riding gloves, and their own crop. Advanced students should have their own spurs. Additionally, girls and women are discouraged from wearing tank tops or spaghetti strapped shirts. Polo shirts with a collar and short sleeves or long sleeves is the proper attire, but T-shirts, sweatshirts, turtlenecks, button downs, and blouses are acceptable. Parents should be committed to safely supporting their children's equestrian pursuits by also wearing proper shoes in the barn. Please no flip flops.

**Before you ride**, check with your instructor to find out what horse you will be riding (it will be posted daily) and if that horse requires special equipment (like boots or a martingale). If your horse lives outside with other horses and you are going to get him for a lesson, be sure you have someone with you to help you at the gate of the paddock where he lives so other horses don't escape. You will be instructed on how to groom and properly tack your horse for the discipline you are learning to ride and eventually you will be proficient enough to do it on your own without supervision from your instructor or your parents. Don't take short cuts, the horse's health and well-being may suffer.

**After you ride**, properly cool down, groom, sponge, or hose and scrape off your horse after you ride as well (depending on the weather). Never tie the horse to the cross ties on the bit. Always use a halter and a lead rope to lead your horse. Please don't use anyone else's grooming equipment or tack without permission. The school will provide everything you should need for your lesson. Put back your horse's grooming equipment and tack in its proper place in the tack room. It will be easier for the next rider to find. Intermediate and Advanced students should be prepared to help beginners. After all you must remember what it like the first few times you tried to bridle the horse's high head, or you couldn't remember how to tie the western girth knot? Be empathetic and kind. We never stop learning and the horses keep teaching us.

Sincerely and with Thanks,  
Barbara Pierce  
Frog Field Farm Training and Sales  
*"Turning Greenies Into Royalty"*

## STUDENT INFORMATION

Name of Rider \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of 01/01/2008 \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardians full name \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardians Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Health Care Provider \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Any Allergies or Physical  
Limitations \_\_\_\_\_

Making a change of instructors, joining a new barn, even trying to ride a different horse, are all experiences that professional riders have had to do many times. The transitions we all face in life can be just a little easier if we get to know each other better. So please be honest in answering the following questions. My best endorsement, and how I and other equine professionals measure success, is with you, the riding student. Remember I am here to help you do your best at this sport we all love so much. **If you get to be a better rider, you help to make better horses.**

### **How long have you been riding? Circle below:**

Less than 6 months – 6 months to 1 yr – 1yr to 2yrs – 2 to 4 yrs – more than 4 yrs.

**Do you have your own horse? Yes / No**

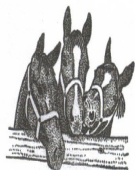
**What is your favorite or primary discipline?**

**What do you feel is your biggest or proudest accomplishment so far in your riding?**

**List one goal you want to accomplish in your riding in the next three months.**

**List two goals for within the year:**

**List three long term goals for your riding and overall horsemanship (relationship with your horse):**



**Please rate the following skills as you feel you are capable: 3 being excellent, 2 being fair, 1 being poor and 0 meaning you've never tried it.** Grooming \_\_\_ Tacking \_\_\_ Mounting and Dismounting \_\_\_ Steering and stopping from the walk \_\_\_ Steering and stopping from the trot \_\_\_ Steering and stopping from the canter \_\_\_ Riding in two point, half seat, or jumping position \_\_\_ Riding without stirrups at the walk and trot \_\_\_ Riding without stirrups at the canter \_\_\_ Jumping Crossrails \_\_\_ Jumping 2ft \_\_\_ Jumping higher than 2ft \_\_\_ Jumping without stirrups \_\_\_ Leg yielding \_\_\_ Shoulder-In \_\_\_ Haunches In \_\_\_  
Cantering in the open \_\_\_ Swimming with your horse \_\_\_ Competition Experience \_\_\_ Please List below:

# Release of Liability

## Barbara Pierce, DBA Frog Field Farm

Please read and understand this before you sign it.

In consideration for \_\_\_\_\_ (the "rider") being permitted to participate in the instruction, care, maintenance and riding of horses provided by Barbara Pierce, DBA Frog Field Farm, the Rider and his/her parents (if the rider is under 18 years of age) agree that Barbara Pierce, DBA Frog Field Farm, their instructors, employees, agents, volunteers and assistants shall not be liable for and agree to hold them harmless from any accident, personal injury, death or property damage that may be sustained by any person or entity, including without limitation the Rider, their family members, or non-relatives that accompany said Rider, as a result or in part from the Rider's participation in instruction, while on the property in any capacity, or participating in activities off premises (horse shows, clinics, beach rides, trial rides, etc.)

This agreement is binding on the Rider and his/her parents, whether or not said accident, personal injury, death or property damage is due in whole or in part to the negligence of Barbara Pierce, DBA Frog Field Farm, their instructors, employees, agents, volunteers and assistants.

The Rider and his/her parents agree to defend and indemnify Barbara Pierce, DBA Frog Field Farm, their instructors, employees, agents, volunteers and assistants for any claims, demands, or suits arising from the Riders participation in instruction, care, maintenance and riding of horses provided by Barbara Pierce, DBA Frog Field Farm including without limitation those arising in whole or in part to the negligence of Barbara Pierce, DBA Frog Field Farm, their instructors, employees, agents, volunteers and assistants.

This Release signed on \_\_\_\_\_

Rider Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Riders Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

