

2018 Winter Session Registration details and other information

New ride times available

Our winter session cannot compete with the fresh powder of the rocky mountains. We hope that offering a couple of alternative lesson times will encourage students to continue on the progression of the Alborak programs. Here are the confirmed Winter 2018 lesson days and times:

Monday (riders must be able to canter and started over jumps)

6:00 - Novice, 7:00 - Novice

Friday

5:30 - Novice , 6:30 - Novice

Saturday

1:00 - Beginner, 2:15 - Novice (no jumping), 3:30 - Beginner

Sunday

1:45 - Beginner, 3:00 - Novice, 4:00 - Novice

Please email if there are any additional ride time inquiries

Primary and secondary choices needed

To help match students to the most appropriate lesson group, we are asking that you indicate your secondary (time/date) lesson choice in the 'Second and third choice preference' box within the online registration form. This will be very useful to both the coordinator and instructor.

Lesson time and length

Our program focuses on the progress of a rider's skills both on and off the horse. Stating this, we believe that the lesson begins as soon as the student takes the lead. We trust our instructors to always finish the riding portion of the lesson on a positive note and create some fundamental activities to fill in any extra time needed for the lesson. Those activities can be anything from learning to wrap polos to identifying the horse parts.

Please note that if a lesson consists only 1 student, lesson time will be maximum 45mins.

We encourage students to work together and assist one and other in the barn to not only encourage good sportsmanship but to also continue to practice their ground and horsemanship skills. Take any safe opportunity to keep learning and working with the horses; they will always have something to teach you.

We would like your feedback

Starting in the Winter 2018 Session, we will be sending out a '*how are we doing*' form to see if we are meeting the goals of riders/parents in week 5. This is just another way to open the lines of communication so that we may consider adjusting any lesson plans or horse and rider matches.

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New evaluation check list

As students progress through the Alborak program, we would like to start handing out evaluation forms at the end of the session. These check lists are the basis for our lesson planning and assists instructor to ensure that progress is being made.

A fun way to keep track of progress is to create your own Alborak passport where you can store the evaluation check lists or other riding certificates. You are encouraged to show the evaluation check list to your instructor in the next session to ensure that we are working on the items that have either been marked as “Needs Improving” or “Not Shown”.

Are you ready for the Novice program?

All students entering or are in the Novice program must note that the most important skill that needs to be mastered is the **catching, grooming and tacking** portion of the lesson. Instructors are not responsible for assisting the students with these tasks, therefore we encourage the parents to be certain that the rider has enough help and/or skill set when deciding on the rider level.

The program coordinator will continue to be monitoring students and horses during lesson times, however it needs to be understood that the Novice Program is built around the understanding that the rider is responsible for preparing the horse for lesson. Parents or other riders are encouraged to assist each other to maintain a safe and efficient lesson preparation process.

Additional lessons can be arrange for those who still struggle with those important skills and please also consider how **important it is to the horse that students are handling them properly**.

Competitive Program

Are you ready to take the next step?

Are you willing to commit to 12 lessons a month?

We are offering competitive lessons with our Lesson Program coaches on the following times during the Winter session:

Wednesday @ 7:30; Friday @ 7:30; Saturday @ 5pm; Sunday @ 5pm.

Additional lessons with Sandra can be arranged. Please email her at: 3days3ways@gmail.com

Please contact Justine Morley for more information.

Make up lesson policy

Please note that we do not offer any makeup lessons for riders that cannot make their scheduled lesson. **Alternatively when registering**, you can ask to commit to a certain amount of lessons during that session. You will need to commit to **50% or more of the lessons** in order to keep you spot (i.e. commit to 5 or more lessons during a 10 week session). This must be approved prior to the first day of program.

If Alborak needs to cancel lessons due to uncontrollable conditions and makeup lessons are not an option, you will be notified if a refund or credit for that lesson is available.

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Refund lesson policy

We currently run under a no refund policy, unless approved by Program Coordinator.

Rest weeks in between sessions

We hope to bring different types of learning opportunities during the down times. We want to continue to offer educational sessions while the horses have some well deserved time off. We will keep you updated with any new sessions in the works.

Spring Session to come

We are still looking at potential start and end dates for the Spring Session.

Tentative start date April 9, 2018 for 10 weeks

Registration opens February 5, closes March 4, 2018

More information to come in January

News about summer camps will be available in the new year

Please continue to email any inquires about our summer camps. We hope to have some confirmed dates in the new year.

***NEW- Intro to Riding lesson**

If you know anyone that wants to try out our program but is new to the equine world, ask them to contact the Program Coordinator with regards to our Intro to Riding session.

Intro to Riding(one on one)-*for riders new to the horse world*

Costs: \$60 + GST

Length of Lesson: 30-40 mins per student

Lesson Details: Students will have a one on one lesson with a certified instructor to see if riding at Alborak is the right fit. Instructor will demonstrate the tasks associated with catching, grooming and tacking up a horse as well as go through the barn safety rules and a quick facility tour. Students will then have a short ride to get a feel of what it's like in the saddle.

Lessoning throughout the off seasons

If students would like to continue to lesson with a certified instructor, we advise you to take the following steps:

- Discuss with your coach about the dates and times that you would like to lesson
- Email your request to alborakstable5726@gmail.com
 - All lessons must be approved by the program coordinator for horse and arena availability

Prices are as follows:

Private: \$85+GST (lessons are 30-45 mins long)

Semi-Private: \$75 + GST

Group: \$65+ GST per rider