

SAMPLE- WEIGHT LIMIT POLICY

TRANSPARENCY OF WEIGHT LIMIT POLICY

It is suggested that your weight limit policy is available at minimum, in the following places:

- Website
- Program brochures
- Participant Application
- Renewal Paperwork

Being upfront and transparent about your weight limit policy on marketing materials (ex: website, flyers, etc) helps to filter out individuals who may be over the weight limit for mounted activities or therapies. This helps to alleviate frustration of those individuals who were unaware of the policy and may have started to fill out paperwork.

MOUNTED EQUINE ACTIVITY OR THERAPY WEIGHT LIMITS POLICY

At CENTER NAME, safety is our primary concern. We must insure the health and wellness of our participants, volunteers, instructors, and horses as mandated by PATH Intl. Horses are selected for participants based on a rider's skill set, stability on the horse, equipment available, appropriateness of volunteers available, horse conformation and movement, and rider's weight.

CENTER NAME has maximum weight limits of 220lbs for balanced and/or independent riders and 140lbs for unbalanced and/or supported riders. In addition, CENTER NAME can accommodate riders up to 120lbs in PT, OT, or speech therapy sessions incorporating mounted work on the equines.

All individuals in Adaptive Riding and Hippotherapy will be evaluated to ensure the safety of their participation in mounted activities or therapies. Among the factors to be considered will be the availability of appropriate horses, volunteers, and tack. Please note that the herd, volunteers, and tack at CENTER NAME is dynamic and due to this fact, we may not always have horses, tack, or volunteers available to safely accommodate every individual who wishes to participate.

The Adaptive Riding Program at CENTER NAME is unable to accommodate unbalanced and/or supported riders above 140lbs. An unbalanced and/or supported rider is an individual who may demonstrate one or several of the following: chronic leaning to one side, unable to consistently sit astride a horse without support, needs help supporting the upper body, needs physical assistance during the mount or dismount, needs physical assistance during an emergency dismount (or is unable to consent to the risks of being unassisted during an emergency), is easily left behind the horses movement, etc.

Clients participating in therapy sessions involving mounted work at CENTER NAME may not exceed 120 to enable the therapists the ability to incorporate position changes, dynamic stretches, interactive activities, etc.

The policy above is a sample and should be tailored to your program/center/barn.

Hoof Falls & Footfalls chooses to use the term Adaptive Riding in lieu of Therapeutic Riding (click [HERE](#) to learn why)