

Welcome to Nomad Farms!

We are so excited for you and your horse to join our barn family! There are many boarding options around DFW, so we consider it an honor to be your chosen home! It is our goal for everyone to be comfortable, safe, and happy both during the transition and once settled in, so please take a moment to read through the following information and sign at the bottom.

Boarder Barn Rules

1. A properly fitted ASTM certified helmet is required when mounted. No exceptions. Please see the included lesson packet for more details.
2. No jumping outside of a lesson. Simple ground poles are allowed, but risk of injury to horse and rider is exponentially increased when jumping and all aspects need to be supervised by a trainer. Horses at any level also don't need to be jumping more than 20% of the weekly ride time for their own health and safety and this amount is best monitored in lessons.
3. Proper footwear is required when riding with a saddle. (Hey Dudes and sneakers do not have a heel so are not safe to use in stirrups.)
4. If a lesson is taking place in an arena and the other arena is available, kindly use the arena which doesn't have a lesson rider.
5. When jumping solid cross-country jumps, riders are required to wear a safety vest.
6. We encourage everyone to take advantage of our beautiful natural spaces and ride outside of the arena! Be respectful of the property and your horse's safety and keep it slow if it is muddy, do not make contact with the neighbor's horses, and limit your speed to well within you and your horse's comfort zones at all times. No riding in spaces where horses are loose/turned out.
7. **The barn is a shared community space- please be respectful of that fact.** If your horse poops in the aisle, clean it up. Keep your belongings neat and contained in your tack box, and hung/placed along the edges of the aisle when in use. If you're shedding your horse out, sweep the hair up when you're done. Etc. We encourage you to label your name on what you can so that if something is left out, we know who it belongs to and the chances of it being mistaken for someone else's and taken is minimized. You are welcome to purchase any style tack box for your storage needs (one per boarder) so long as it roughly meets the standard dimensions of Height 24 inch Depth 37 inch Width 23 inch (no portable upright lockers, oversized bins, etc).
8. Barn tack and supplies are reserved for the lesson program. Please be respectful of that and use your own supplies and tack.
9. Theft and bullying are zero tolerance in our barn. We want this space to be a safe haven for everyone where we can all escape the real world together. Incidents will be handled by the staff, so please feel free to share with us if you/your child are having any issues.
10. **Keep your horse's best interests #1 at all times.** Your trainer will help you with this, but use common sense and be a responsible horse owner. i.e., if he's sweaty after a ride, hose him off. If he's been caked in mud for three days, give him a bath. If he's tired, do a light ride instead of whatever you had planned.

11. We are a professional facility and not the open range or a backyard, so good horsemanship will be expected and required at all times. No wild cowboy dreams will be lived out here, sorry!

Barn Hours

The barn is closed on Mondays. Horses need one day per week with no agenda- just bum around in the pastures and be a horse. Our humans need that one day as well, as much as we love you all! Thank you for respecting Mondays. Tuesday-Sunday the barn is open 8am-9pm. Please be understanding of the fact that if you do not have a lesson scheduled and are at the barn to just relax/free ride, our trainer will likely have other responsibilities or students to attend to so one-on-one time will be limited or non-existent. Remember that people live on property and the neighbors' property line is fairly close to the barn, so be mindful of music volume/noise level especially during morning or late evening hours. On Sundays, we are often away at horse shows and if not, our trainer is at church in the AM, so play it safe and do not make Sunday the day where you attempt something with a higher risk because there won't be as many people around to call 911 for you! (We're kind of kidding but also not really- be safe y'all!)

Stall Usage

Horses are generally happiest and healthiest on turnout and it helps to avoid a myriad of health and behavior issues, so we do not offer full stall board. However, every horse is different, and many need or enjoy stall time and we acknowledge that as well. Nomad Farms is 40 acres and set up extremely well for horses to live off of expansive turnout year round, with plenty of grazeable pasture (all with shelters) which will be supplemented with free choice hay during the months when the grass has died out. Stalls are assigned to the lesson horses, for regular daily use so students can easily catch their horse, however a stall will be available to any horse if/when needed. This need can be medical, weather-related, just needs a break, clean for a show, etc. **Stall usage is at the discretion of our trainer**, so please be respectful and communicate if you have a need and do not take a stall just because it looks available. We are aware that some horses are coming from different routines and will need extra time to adjust. These needs will be discussed before/during move-in so a good routine (can include stall time) can be established and then re-evaluated as needed with our trainer.

Friends/Family Riding Guidelines

Immediate family members can leadline on your horse with you. (Must stay on lead rope, in an empty arena, with boots and a helmet on.) Beyond that, others interested in riding will need to schedule a lesson. This can be on your horse if level-suitable, or it can be on one of our lesson horses. We are also always happy to get creative and do a group lesson regardless of skill level so that you and your friend/family member can enjoy a ride together. Our main focus is always safety, and teaching others to ride or putting someone unfamiliar with a particular horse onto them comes with a lot of risks which need to be taken on in a formal lesson setting. This also

keeps the barn and arenas from becoming chaotic for you, the other boarders, and the lesson riders.

Full Care Board vs Full Service Board

We offer **full care** board which means all of your horse's basic day-to-day needs will be taken care of by our staff. This includes feeding, stall/paddock/pasture maintenance, and basic incidental first aid. We do not offer **full service board**. Full service board includes all of the above as well as everything else you could possibly need or do for your horse outside of the time you are actually in the saddle. This includes tacking, untacking, grooming, bathing, training rides, etc. We are not full service. Our facility is physically not set up to allow us to be, but also we believe that all the time spent on the ground with your horse is necessary to having a good relationship with them and we want to cultivate that in our horses and owners. There are some nuances here that are important to understand.

- 1) Blanketing is offered by our staff for fully clipped horses at 50 degrees and below, for partially clipped horses at 40 degrees and below, and for unclipped horses at 32 degrees and below. Wind chill does not count. If it is windy *and* rainy, our staff may choose to blanket above these temperatures. If you want to blanket more conservatively than the above guidelines, it is your responsibility to come and blanket your horse yourself.
- 2) We will provide basic first aid as needed for incidentals. If your horse sustains a more serious injury which requires attention and time more than 1x per day, we are happy to accommodate but there will be a reasonable weekly fee associated, as we are not a full-service board program and don't have the man-power to easily take on full rehab responsibilities in our day-to-day.
- 3) If you use our farrier and are on our schedule/rotation, our staff will hold your horse for you and take pictures and any notes on each visit to relay back to you so that you don't have to be present. If you use your own farrier on your own schedule, you are responsible for being at the barn for the appointment and holding your own horse. We absolutely encourage you to use whoever you feel is best for your horse as every horse has different needs! Realistically though we cannot be responsible for managing your appointment if your horse isn't being done with all of ours. There is a \$50 fee if you need our staff to hold your horse during your separate farrier appointment.
- 4) The above does not apply for vet visits. We will hold your horse for any and all vet appointments. We will always communicate with you first if the vet needs to be called. A trailer is available for visits to clinics that may be necessary. Fees are associated with trailered vet visits. These will vary depending on distance and duration of visit.
- 5) We feed Purina products: Active Senior (senior grain), Strategy (adult grain), Enrich (ration balancer), Outlast (ulcer supplement), Amplify (protein & fat supplement), and Impact (hay stretcher). These options are all included in board cost as well as daily electrolytes. Additional supplements or other grain types are not included in board cost, but we will feed whatever you provide. We do recommend switching over to our grain options, but as far as supplements go, we are huge fans of personalized feed programs and will feed whatever supplements your horse needs in order to be their best. We will

notify you when your supplements are running low, but it is your responsibility to reorder and provide them. (Auto-ship is the best and you can have it shipped straight to the barn!) Coastal hay will be provided in stalls.

Turnout Policies and Herd Integration

Because we are a pasture board facility, we work very hard to integrate herds in a way that each horse is safe and happy. Our main herds are separated as mares and geldings, however, for horses with different social, medical, or dietary needs, we create smaller turnout groups as needed. For example, if a horse is overweight or tends to be a very easy keeper, he may need to spend the height of spring grass season in a paddock with a friend instead of out on the lush fresh pasture grass. If a horse struggles with being overly dominant or overly submissive and is struggling with handling the group dynamics of a larger herd, they can be switched from the main herd to a smaller group until they are comfortable again. **Herds/turnout groups are determined by staff.** Our trainer has any years of experience managing the delicate balancing act that is good turnout groups. The safety of each horse is always the top consideration, and she will do her very best to balance herds properly.

I have read, understand, and agree to these rules and guidelines. I acknowledge that based on the needs of the barn and on the best interest of each boarder, staff member, rider, and horse, these guidelines may be changed or expanded.

Horse Owner: _____

Parent (if under 18): _____