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**Equest Waiver and Release of Liability Specific to Covid-19**

**For Clients and Volunteers**

Equest is working hard to protect clients, the public, all staff and volunteers. To this extent, Equest is following the Center for Disease Control (CDC) as well as state, and local health department guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

I understand that these safety precautions may be amended at any time and communicated to me verbally.

I understand that the CDC identifies the following groups to be at higher risk for severe illness from Covid-19:

**People with:**

* Asthma (moderate to severe)
* Chronic lung disease
* Diabetes
* Serious heart conditions
* Chronic Kidney Disease- being treated with dialysis,
* Severe Obesity (Body mass index of 40 or higher)
* Age 65 or older
* People living in nursing homes or long-term care facilities
* Liver Disease
* Immunocompromised

**I also understand that** alongside the identified high-risk groups listed above, the following populations, if served or interacted with at Equest might be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness:

* People who have limited mobility or who cannot avoid coming into close contact with others who may be infected, such as direct support providers and family members
* People who have trouble understanding information or practicing preventive measures, such as hand washing and social distancing
* People who may not be able to communicate symptoms of illness

I understand and agree that to participate in Equest activities I will comply with all of the following safety precautions:

**ALL CLIENTS AND VOLUNTEERS:**

* Cancel my appointment/ or volunteer obligation if I’ve experienced any symptoms that may be related to COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
* Cancel my appointment/or volunteer obligation if I’ve have been exposed to a person lab-confirmed with COVID-19.
* Take my temperature prior to leaving my home. If my temperature is above 99.6 degrees, I will cancel my appointment/ volunteer obligation.
* Maintain a minimum 6-foot distance from other people.
* Wear a face covering.
* I understand that although everyone at Equest misses our clients and volunteers dearly and cannot wait to see us again, there will only be “air hugs”. No contact hugging, elbow bumping, or handshaking allowed.
* Water to be consumed only from personal water containers that I bring with me, or purchased from the beverage machine.
* Should I or a family member have to use the restroom, we will wash our hands using the 20 second method outlined by the CDC when entering the Equest building and again just before leaving the restroom.

**IN ADDITION**

**Counseling clients:**

* I will comply with mandates in previous section labeled **ALL CLIENTS AND VOLUNTEERS.**
* I will remain in the car until texted that my counselor is ready for me.
* Wash my hands using the 20 second method outlined by the CDC when entering the Equest building, after restroom breaks, and prior to leaving Equest.
* I Understand that Parents and Caregivers will be allowed to wait for their client ONLY in their car unless they must use the restroom.

**Therapeutic Riding clients:**

* I will comply with mandates in the section labeled **ALL CLIENTS AND VOLUNTEERS.**
* Remain in the car until texted that my horse is ready for mounting.
* Provide my own ASTM/SEI approved for equestrian use riding helmet.
* Know that Equest highly recommends to provide my own riding gloves.
* Understand that Parents and Caregivers will be allowed to wait for their client ONLY in their car unless they must use the restroom.

**P.T./O.T. (Hippotherapy) clients:**

* I will comply with mandates in the section labeled **ALL CLIENTS AND VOLUNTEERS.**
* Provide my own ASTM/SEI approved for equestrian use riding helmet.
* Remain in the car until texted that my horse is ready for mounting. Warm up exercises will be conducted at ring-side prior to mounting.
* Parents and Caregivers will be allowed to wait for their client ONLY in their car after their client has begun a session, unless they must use the restroom.

**Volunteer Riding Students:**

* I will comply with mandates in the section labeled **ALL CLIENTS AND VOLUNTEERS.**
* Know that I will groom and tack my assigned horse.
* Provide my own ASTM/SEI approved for equestrian use riding helmet.
* Know that it is highly recommended to provide my own riding gloves.
* Comply with the requirement of no more then 4 people in the tack room at one time.

**Volunteers assisting with classes or helping in the stables:**

* I will comply with mandates in the section labeled **ALL CLIENTS AND VOLUNTEERS.**
* Wash my hands using the 20 second method outlined by the CDC when entering the Equest building, after restroom breaks, and prior to leaving Equest.
* If side-walking, I will wear disposable gloves provided by Equest
* If working in the stables, I will bring my own and wear work gloves.
* If working in the stables I will use the same apple picker, broom, and/or shovel that will be disinfected at end of day. Equest staff will direct me to the location to place the implements when finished.

I am fully aware that there are a number of risks associated with me and/or my child entering Equest property including contracting COVID-19 or other diseases which could result in a serious medical condition requiring medical treatment in a hospital or could possibly lead to death. I knowingly and freely assume all risks, both known and unknown, relating to my and/or my child’s visit to Equest. I hereby forever release, waive, relinquish, and discharge Equest, along with their employees, volunteers, or other representatives from any and all claims, demands, liabilities, rights, damages, expenses, and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, and other losses of any kind, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen as a result of my visit to Equest.

By signing this Waiver and Release of Liability form, I, the undersigned client (or guardian), acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to be bound by all the terms, conditions, and information it contains. Ample opportunity has been offered to me to ask questions and seek clarification of anything unclear to me. Failure to comply with these written instructions or verbal instructions from staff or volunteers may result in your removal from the premises.

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Printed Name of Client/Volunteer Date

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Signature of Client or Parent/Guardian if Client/Volunteer is a Minor Date

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Signature of Equest Employee Date