



## RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY | ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

Read this agreement carefully before signing it. Your signature indicates your understanding of, and agreement to, its terms. By signing this agreement, you (your child) are giving up certain legal rights, including the right to recover damages in case of injury, death, or property damage for any reason including, but not limited to, the negligence of the trainer, owner, employees, agents, assistants and/or volunteers.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (and my minor child \_\_\_\_\_) (hereinafter the "Undersigned") reside at (Street Address) \_\_\_\_\_, in (City) \_\_\_\_\_, (State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_. In consideration for allowing me (or my minor child) to handle and ride a horse and on behalf of myself, my child or our personal representatives, heirs, next-of-kin, spouses and assigns.

### THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY:

1. Acknowledge that a horse may, without warning or any apparent cause, buck, stumble, fall, rear, bite, kick, run, make unpredictable movements, spook, jump obstacles, step on a person's feet, push or shove a person, saddles or bridles may loosen or break, all of which may cause the rider to fall or be jolted resulting in serious injury or death to the Undersigned or any person within proximity of the horse handled or in proximity.
2. **ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HORSEBACK RIDING, THE HANDLING OF A HORSE, AND BEING IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO A HORSE IS AN INHERENTLY DANGEROUS ACTIVITY AND INVOLVES RISKS THAT MY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY AND IN SOME CASES DEATH** because of the unpredictable nature and irrational behavior of horses, regardless of their training or past performance.
3. Voluntarily assume all risk and danger of injury or death inherent in the handling or riding of the horse or being in close proximity to a horse or on the premises of the stable or the failure to wear a protective helmet when riding a horse, and use of saddles, bridles, equipment and gear provided to me or by my trainer Sarah Dowling/Stepping Out Stables.
4. **RELEASE, DISCHARGE AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE** Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling, or any of her assignees, for any loss, damage, injury (including death) or cost to me or my child's arising out of the handling or riding of a horse or being in close proximity to a horse or on the premises of the stable or the failure to wear a protective helmet when riding a horse, and use of saddles, bridles, equipment and gear provided by my trainer Sarah Dowling/Stepping Out Stables.
5. Release Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling from any claim that such Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling were negligent in connection with my or my child's riding a horse including but not limited to training or selecting horses, maintenance, care, fit or adjustment of saddles or bridles, instruction on riding skills or leading and supervising riders or the use of any equipment provided by Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling.
6. **INDEMNIFY, SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS** Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling from and against any loss, liability, damage or cost they may incur arising out of or in any way connected with either my or my child's handling or riding the horse or being in close proximity to a horse on/or off the premises of the stable or the failure to wear a protective helmet when riding a horse and/or and use of saddles, bridles, equipment and gear provided therewith from or contributed to by my or my child's own negligence.
7. Agree to abide by and follow any instructions given or rules established by Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling or any of its employees, assistants or volunteers with regard to my or my child's riding or handling of the horse or being in close proximity to a horse on/or off the premises of the stable or the failure to wear a protective helmet when riding a horse or any saddles, bridles, equipment and gear provided therewith.

8. Agrees that the Undersigned has read and understands the following language of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code which provides "A general release does not extend to claims which the Creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release which, if known by him, must have materially affected his settlement with the Debtor."

Having reviewed this provision, the Undersigned nevertheless voluntarily releases Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling from all liability for claims arising out of the matters set forth herein. The Undersigned understands the word "claims" to include all actions, claims and grievances, whether actual or potential, known or unknown and specifically but nonexclusively, all claims arising out of the matters set for the herein. All claims are forever barred by this release without regard to whether those claims are based on the alleged breach of duty arising under contract or in tort or any other claims or cause of action.

9. The Undersigned expressly agrees that the foregoing release and waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement is governed by laws of the State of California and is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by California law, and that in the event any portion of this Agreement is determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable for any reason, the balance of the Agreement shall not be affected or impaired in any way and shall continue in full legal force and effect.

10. Acknowledge that this document is a contract and agree that if a lawsuit is filed against Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling or its assistants, agents, employees, or volunteers for any injury or damage in breach of this contract, the Undersigned will pay all attorney's fees and costs incurred by Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling in defending such an action.

**11. IT IS REQUIRED THAT I, MY CHILD, AND ALL RIDERS WEAR AN ASTM/SEI APPROVED PROTECTIVE HELMET MANUFACTURED SPECIFICALLY FOR HORSEBACK RIDING. I, MY CHILD, WILL PROVIDE THE ASTM/SEI APPROVED PROTECTIVE HEMET DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR HORSEBACK RIDING, AND ATTEST TO THE HELMETS CONDITION AND MAINTENANCE, HOLDING STEPPING OUT STABLES/SARAH DOWLING HARMLESS IF SAID HELMET SHOULD FAIL.**

**I have read this document in full and understand it is a promise not to sue and to release and indemnify Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling, employees, agents, assistants, or volunteers for all claims. I have made a free and deliberate choice to sign the Release and Waiver as a condition to Stepping Out Stables/Sarah Dowling allowing me or my child to ride or handle a horse. I have concluded that the risks involved and the Release and Waiver of Liability is worth the pleasure of horseback riding experience and acknowledges that the same is valuable consideration for this Release and Waiver of Liability.**

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Date/Print Name/Signature