

**JOURNEY'S HAVEN
RIDING SCHOOL**



**YOU CAN FLY
IF YOU BELIEVE**

230 ANAWAN STREET

REHOBOTH, MA 02769

508-252-9925

www.journeyshavenrs.com

Informational Handbook

Sherri L. Savoy - Program Director and Head Riding Instructor



As a young girl Sherri Savoy had a dream to someday own and operate her own lesson & show facility. After years of dedication and hard work and with the help of her family and friends, in 2003 Journey's Haven (named in the memory of her late show horse) became that dream come true!!

ABOUT ME.....For many of my junior years I rode under the instruction of Acres Wild Farm and Fox Lea Farm. I excelled as an equitation rider earning many awards in the hunter and equitation rings. Later I rode with Susan Anderson where I competed in dressage and eventing. I have been a MA Licensed Instructor and Trainer for over 30 years. I believe there is not enough "true horsemanship" in the world today and I design all my programs at Journey's Haven with that in mind. Through my working student program each student is taught almost every aspect of horse farm management and many of my students move on to work at other facilities or operate their own businesses throughout the USA. My students have earned many Year End Awards throughout New England as well as receiving ribbons in the Equitation Finals. My teaching and training techniques are geared towards my students and horse's abilities and goals. Never will I turn away a horse and or rider as I believe there is a place for every horse and every rider. I also believe you are never too old to start riding. I instruct riders of all ages in equitation, hunters and western. I customize all programs for each individual, creating a positive educational experience within a safe, relaxed and joyful environment! I am also a graduate of Sawyer School of Business, certified in Medical Assisting.

AS I'VE LEARNED..... "YOU CAN FLY IF YOU BELIEVE"



Welcome to Journey's Haven Riding School!

The information in this packet is a brief
introduction to our programs.

Please read through this handbook and keep it for your reference.

Sherri is the owner, manager and head riding instructor so you should communicate with her about lesson scheduling, questions you might have or anything to do with your time spent here with her horses.

Email:

journeyshaven@comcast.net

Cell:

774-254-1125

We are always here for you and are happy to talk with our students, parents and families with any questions or concerns.

We look forward to having you as a part of our program.

See you in the arena & always ride *Happy!*

Sherri Savoy & the JHRS Team

Horsemanship and Riding Instruction

Our lessons focus on the fundamentals of riding as well as establishing strong horsemanship skills. In order to become competent riders, students must first understand the horse: how they think, how they move, and what care they require.

Students are first taught how to safely handle the horse, proper grooming techniques, care and maintenance of tack, and the unique characteristics of the horse. It is the mastery of this basic knowledge, combined with safe riding practices, that creates a true "horseperson." Lessons are available for children as young as 4 and adults of any age.

Instruction is offered in varying levels of English and Western riding.

Beginners:

- Basic handling and horse care
- Correct use of the aids
- Introduction to the three gaits
- Establishing a strong seat and good balance

Intermediate:

- Mastery handling and horse care of the Basic level
- Learning simple patterns & using obstacles
- Development riding over ground poles

Advanced:

- Mastery handling and horse care of Intermediate level
- Learning challenging patterns & using obstacles
- Development riding over small jumps

About our Lesson Horses & Ponies who are here at JH:

We know you will fall in love with our horses and ponies but we want you to also understand we operate a sales and leasing business to help support our programs.

We feel our horses and ponies work very hard at our facility and they should find their own person at some point in their lives, or they might show they may need a different type of lifestyle.

We realize you may feel sad if your favorite horse or pony has found another home, but please know that those homes will be the best place for them to spend the rest of their lives!



The First Lesson and What to Expect

The lessons are always 30 minutes of ground work first, – learning how to handle, groom and tack correctly. We feel it is important to make sure all of our students are comfortable working with the horses on the ground as well as in the saddle. Once the horse is ready, the rider will have 30-60 minutes in the saddle, depending on the type of lesson. Please also plan on staying 30 minutes after the lesson to help care for horse, clean the bridle and put away equipment.

As riders grow with our program and becomes independent, from age 12 they have the opportunity to become a working student. This is an important part of growth with the horses, to learn all the other important skills that make a well-rounded horse person.

Hydrate: Please bring water with you as it's very important to stay hydrated while riding and working with our horses.

Equipment required:

Long pants – essential, as the saddle will rub the rider's legs. Jeans or riding pants are best but any type of long pant is suitable.

Boots – necessary to keep a rider safe while working around the horse as well as in the saddle. Paddock boots are a great choice for our riders but you may start out in a laced ankle work-type boot with a 1/2 inch heel.

Average price \$40-\$150

Helmets – the most important piece of equipment. We have helmets to borrow for your first 4 lessons; however these are personal items so we recommend you purchase your own at this time. An approved Bike Helmet is allowed for the first 4 lessons.

Average price \$40-100

Equipment recommended:

Half Chaps – leather zip-ups that protect the rider's lower leg. Many riders really appreciate the comfort of having half chaps. Half chaps also help to stabilize the rider's leg.

Average price \$50-150

Gloves – gloves protect rider's hands from the reins

Average price \$20-40

Crops – We have them for students to use if needed, but some students choose to bring their own.

Average price \$20-40

Saddle – We have the appropriate school saddles to fit you. We welcome students to purchase their own as they progress, keeping in mind they will need to fit our forever changing horses as well. Saddles are like helmets and should fit you perfectly, also buying a saddle with an adjustable gullet to fit our horses and ponies are ideal.

Payment – We always expect to be paid at the time of your lesson.

Rates & Fees

***Fees Subject to Change*

DISCOUNT PACKAGES

"BEST VALUE"

NEW RIDER WELCOME PACKAGE: 1ST 4 LESSONS - \$160.00

DISCOUNT (4 LESSON) PACKAGE: (Rider Must Lesson Weekly) \$200.00

PONY PAL (AGES 4 & 5) DISCOUNT PACKAGE: (Rider Must Lesson Weekly) \$180.00

PAY AS YOU RIDE

Private:	\$70.00
Semi-Private:	\$60.00
Groups:	\$55.00
Pony Pals (Ages 4 & 5):	\$50.00

PRACTICE RIDES

Open to all independent students who are looking for more time in the saddle \$50.00 hr.

HORSEMANSHIP WORKSHOPS:

School vacations: (To be announced) Inquire

SHOWING, ETC.

On-Farm Events: (Horse Leasing & Services) \$50.00

Away Events: (Horse Leasing, Coaching, Horse Transportation) Starting at \$150.00 (varies per location)

Horse Transportation Fee (\$75.00 minimum): \$5.00 per loaded mile or per service provider

LEASING, TRAINING, BOARDING

Lesson Horse Monthly Leasing: (includes 4 lessons per month & 1 practice rides per week) \$300.00

Training Rides: (mounted & unmounted for desensitizing, trail riding, etc.) \$80 per session

Full Board: (Includes - 4 Lesson/Training Sessions a Month) Inquire

Co-op Boarding: (Assisting with farm chores) Inquire

Payment Policies

Payments

- *Payment is due at the first lesson of each month and must be prepaid for the entire upcoming month (4 Lesson Package). If you know you will be on vacation during a regularly scheduled lesson package please pay per lesson and do not purchase a package. Students enrolled in the discount lesson packages are required to ride each week. If your payments become overdue, a \$10 late fee will be charged per lesson.*
- *Payments are accepted by Cash, Check, Credit or PayPal. On cash and check payments (please write student's name in memo area) must be left in the payment box, located on the wall at the entrance of the stable. For cash payments please write the date in which the payment applies to as well as the amount and student's name on an envelope or wrap the cash in a piece of paper. PayPal is conveniently located on our website's lesson page; please use these links only as the 5% convenience fee is already added in. If you prefer to pay by credit please see Sherri to enroll your card. Please do not hand payments to the instructor.*

Cancellations

- *Cancellations must be received 24 hours prior to your lesson. Lessons cancelled outside the 24 hours' notice are subject to full charges.*
- *Weather Cancellations: If conditions are not conducive to safe riding, lessons may be cancelled.*

Safety Policies

The most important element of our lesson program is safety. These guidelines will help all riders and horses have a safe, enjoyable experience. Those not following safe practices will not be permitted to participate in our programs or be on our property. Review of the following policies and signing a liability form is required before participating in our programs.

- Calm behavior is important around horses at all times. Do not run, yell, throw things, make sudden movements or honk car horns while at the stables.
- Do not approach horses when they are tied or on the cross ties unless you are a student. If you would like to pet a horse, please ask an instructor before approaching.
- Do not feed horses by hand. We welcome feeding treats to our horses, but please use their feed buckets provided to give our horses treats.
- Helmet, boots, and long pants are required while participating in our programs.
- Parents, grandparents, family and friends are asked not to talk to the students or instructor during a lesson. This can be distracting and can be a safety hazard. Comments on the student's performance or suggestions for the instructor should be saved for after the lesson.
- Follow all instructions given by instructors and assistants. If you are not sure how to do something, ask before trying.
- Report any accident or injury to the instructor immediately.
- Students will be supervised during their riding time, as well as before and after with our non-independent students. However supervision is not the responsibility of Journey's Haven, especially after the lesson has been completed. Friends and siblings (minors) who are not students of JH must be supervised by an adult at all times while on our property.

FAQ

What are the 3 keys to good riding?

Balance, Confidence & Strength. Through our horsemanship riding program, we at JH will help you develop these 3 keys.

Will I always have the same horse?

We work hard to match horses and riders but feel you'll learn more when riding different ones. Sometimes we may keep you with the same horse if you start to lose too much confidence. Safety is our utmost concern, and this is what we keep in mind when selecting your horse.

What style of riding do we teach?

We teach 2 disciplines English with a hunter/ jumper emphasis and Western with an emphasis on pleasure riding. Lessons start at 4 years old and continue to adults. We teach able bodied and special need students and are always happy to work with your needs. We also run horsemanship workshops throughout the year and hold different types of events, like clinics and fun horse shows.

Where do your horses come from?

Most of our horses come from other sale's barns, some come from private owners. We retrain them as jumping horses and most of them really like it! Some of our horses are trained both English and Western.

How many horses do you have?

We typically have 6 school horses and ponies.

What breed are your horses?

Most of our lesson horses are the Quarter Horse type.

What gender are the horses and ponies?

They are both mares (girls) and geldings (males). We do not have any stallions (a male horse that can reproduce) in our programs, as we find they may not be suitable in demeanor.

How high are we allowed to jump once we are ready?

The height of the fences can vary from 18" – 2'3". We keep the jumps low to maintain our emphasis on safety as well as to preserve the longevity of our very special horses and ponies.

Do I need to purchase my own horse?

When you have reached advancement, have outgrown our horses and ponies levels and are financially able; buying or leasing your own is always ideal. Our horses and ponies are limited to teaching you the basics, so buying or leasing your own is always beneficial to advancing your riding skills. When you and your riding instructor feel you are ready we are happy to help.

Resources

- *Horsemen's LTD - 266 Tremont St, Rehoboth, MA
(508) 223-3033*
- *The Saddle Shed - 237 Providence Rd., South Grafton, MA
(508) 839-3016*
- *Dover Saddlery - 1340 B Ten Rod Rd, North Kingstown,
RI (401) 295-2840*

Some great online shops with reasonable prices:

- *www.statelinetack.com*
- *www.doversaddlery.com*

Journey's Haven Riding School
230 Anawan Street
Rehoboth, MA 02769

RIDER LIABILITY FORM

Please fill in all starred areas where applicable

This Release of Liability is made and entered on this*_____day of_____, *20___ by and between Sherri Savoy, dba Journey's Haven Riding School, hereinafter Owner and hereinafter designated RIDER (PRINT) *_____ and, if a minor, RIDER'S PARENT, if no PARENT, his/her GUARDIAN, (PRINT) *_____ and if applicable, Parent #2 (PRINT) *_____.

In return for the use, today and on all future dates of the property, facilities, and services of Journey's Haven Riding School, the Rider, Parent(s), Guardian, his/her heirs, assigns, and legal representatives, hereby expressly agree to the following:

- 1) It is the responsibility of the Rider to carry full and complete insurance coverage on him/her, and personal property.
- 2) Rider agrees to assume ANY AND ALL RISKS INVOLVED IN OR ARISING FROM RIDER'S USE OF OR PRESENCE UPON JOURNEY'S HAVEN RIDING SCHOOL'S PROPERTY AND FACILITIES including, without limitation but not limited to, the risks of any illness, death, bodily injury, property damage, falls, kicks, bites, collisions with vehicles, horses or stationary objects, fire or explosion, the unavailability of emergency medical care, or the negligence or deliberate act of another person.
- 3) Rider agrees to hold Journey's Haven Riding School and all of its successors, assigns, subsidiaries, franchises affiliates, officers, directors, employees, sub-contractors, agents, riding instructors and working students completely harmless and not liable and release them from all liability whatsoever and AGREES NOT TO SUE them on account of or in connection with any claims, causes of action created by any illness, injuries, damages, costs or expenses arising out of Rider's use of or presence upon Journey's Haven Riding School's property and facilities, including without limitation, of any illness, death, bodily injury and property damage.
- 4) Rider agrees to waive the protection afforded by any statute of law in any jurisdiction whose purpose, substance and/or effect is to provide that a general release shall not extend to claims, material or otherwise, which the person giving the release does not know or suspect to exist at the time of executing the release.
- 5) Rider agrees to indemnify and defend Journey's Haven Riding School against, and hold it harmless from, any and all claims, causes or action, damages, judgments, costs or expenses, including attorney's fees, which in any way arise from Rider's use of or presence upon Journey's Haven Riding School's property and facilities.
- 6) Rider agrees to pay the full lesson fee for any cancellation and an additional non-payment fee of \$10.00 for any lesson not paid at time of service.
- 7) Rider understands the discount packages are non-refundable and may be charged the full session fee for any lesson not taken.
- 8) Rider agrees to pay all fees by cash.
- 9) Rider agrees to abide by all Journeys' Haven Riding School's RULES AND REGULATIONS.
- 10) Rider, parent(s) and/or guardian agree to adhere to all current Massachusetts and if any, Federal Covid-19 Guidelines; including but not limited to providing their own masks & PPE while participating in any equine activity at Journey's Haven Riding School.

WARNING: Under MA Law, the equine professional is not liable for an injury to or death of a participant in the equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities pursuant to section 2D of Chapter 128 of the general laws. This Contract is non - assignable and non-transferable and is made and entered into the State of Massachusetts, and shall be enforced and interpreted under the laws of the state. Should any clause is in conflict with State Law, and then that clause is null and void. When the Rider, Rider's Parents, or Guardian sign this contract, it will then be binding on all parties, subject to the above terms and conditions.

BOTH PARENTS (IF APPLICABLE) AND GUARDIAN, IF NO PARENT(S) MUST SIGN IF RIDER IS UNDER 18

PLEASE FILL IN ALL BELOW

Signature(s): (UNDER 18)

*RIDER, PARENT or GUARDIAN _____

*PARENT #2 _____ / _____
(If applicable)

*ADDRESS _____

*PHONE # (LANDLINE) _____ *(CELL) _____

*EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSON _____ *PHONE # _____