



True Vine Equestrian Center

22759 E McGillen Ave. Mattawan, MI 49071 269-501-0529

www.truevineequestrian.org

Dear Students and Families,

We celebrate many blessings as the year 2022 comes to an end. We will continue to offer winter lessons in our indoor arena starting with our first two sessions of 2023! We will stick with smaller group sizes in our lessons and less overall capacity for the first couple of sessions until we are able to move outside again. We will also be offering a couple of nights with Stable Management Teams. Please see the additional registration form for more information.

Due to changes in our herd and a few horse injuries we have had to adjust our max weight limit to **215 pounds** for riding lessons.

Group Lessons Schedule: (Lessons are offered in 5-week sessions)

Session 1 (Winter): Begins January 9th (5 weeks)

Registration to be released at a later date:

Session 2 (Winter): Begins February 20 (5 weeks)

Session 3 (Spring): Begins April 10 (5 weeks)

Session 4 (Summer): Begins May 22 (5 weeks)

Session 5 (Summer): Begins July 31 (5 weeks)

Session 6 (Fall): Begins September 11 (5 weeks)

Session 7 (Winter): Begins October 23 (5 weeks)

We have made some changes to our riding levels to help with better placement of students within classes. Instead of Beginner-Advanced groups, we will have Levels 1-7. To help navigate this new change we will be putting both level names for the first few sessions. **Note:** During the remaining winter sessions, our instructors will have the horses groomed and tacked up prior to the students arriving for our beginner and beginner/intermediate groups or levels 1-4. These lessons will only be one hour long. The students have the option to be evaluated by the instructor to get approval to groom and tack up during the half hour prior to their lesson.

Please pre-register for group lessons through Equine Office. Use the attached form to help choose the lesson day and time that works for you. Once logged in to Equine Office choose the account member you plan to schedule lessons for and click the orange "Book Lesson" button. A list of available lessons will appear. Click on the day and time of the lesson you would like to book. When you sign up in Equine Office, select the first day of the class to sign up for the session. If you do not have an account for Equine Office or have difficulty signing up, please contact the office.

One requirement for signing up for Levels 5-7 (intermediate/advanced) lessons is that your student plans to be at the lesson for the first 30 minutes and knows how to groom and tack up a horse independently. We do not provide volunteers for these lessons. This allows us to appropriately lesson plan and be prepared for our more skilled students.

New Forms Due: All students and volunteers are required to complete forms for the **2023 season**. Our lesson forms (Waiver of Liability, Photo Release & Safety Instructions, and Emergency Medical) are available through Equine Office. If the forms are not completed when lessons start then that student will not be allowed to participate in the lesson. Forms only need to be completed once per calendar year.

All registrations must include a minimum \$40.00 non-refundable deposit to hold your spot for each session you register for and **payment in full is due** prior to the session starting. We are offering a winter discount to all who sign up for our winter sessions and will continue our Early Bird discount for the remaining sessions. If you are registering 3 or more students in the same session, please contact our office about a discount. To pay online please also contact the office.

Reminders:

One of our main focuses at True Vine is Horsemanship. Horsemanship encompasses learning about the care, training, nutrition, behavior, and equipment used while interacting with equines. Our Horsemanship lessons may be a combination of mounted and unmounted skills including but not limited to riding skills, basic handling skills, groundwork, horse behavior, anatomy, and training techniques (for appropriate ages/levels). For various reasons, our winter lessons WILL include more unmounted work. Please be aware that lessons will not always include 60 minutes of riding.

“The ability to interact with the horse offering a two-way Conversation, and then believing, addressing, and supporting the horse during the interactions to create a mental availability, emotional quiet, and physical softness.”

Samantha Harvey - Alternative Horsemanship

We will continue to make an allowance for the cancellation of one make-up class per session due to the weather. If the local schools are closed then we will be as well. **Make-up lesson times are used only if TVEC cancels a lesson. You will receive an email to notify you that your lesson is canceled at least 30 minutes before your scheduled lesson time (when possible).** If TVEC cancels more than one lesson during each session True Vine will make an effort to schedule a make-up lesson for you or you will receive a credit or refund. **We make every effort to provide volunteers for our lessons but in the event that we are unable to find the help that is necessary we may need a parent or guardian to assist during the lesson. Please confirm that we have enough help prior to just dropping off your student for lessons.**

Our grooming and tacking area will be in the blue barn and trailer during the winter sessions and moved to the tack shack for Session 3. Due to safety reasons, we will need to limit people within the aisles of the barn and in the hitching area while the horses are tied to just the students, volunteers (parents if helping with the lesson), and staff. Also, please prepare your students for the cold weather by sending them with gloves and ear warmers that can be worn under a helmet.

Blessings,

Brandy Zantello (Program Director)

TVEC Lesson Registration 2023 Session 1

New students must call 269-501-0529 ASAP to schedule an evaluation lesson (\$45).

Please check the class and time you are signing up for. Registration will be completed through Equine Office and payment can be made through Paypal or turned into the office. A **\$40 per student non-refundable deposit is required to reserve a spot.**

Payment in full for Session 1 is due by January 9th.

If a student cancels less than 2 weeks before the session begins, they will receive a 50% refund. If a student cancels anytime after the session begins, there will be no refund.

Monday: January 9 -- February 6 (5 weeks) Makeup: February 13 Cost: \$225 Winter Price: \$200

- 1:30-2:30 pm (Levels 1-2 Beg - Homeschool option-- class size limit: 5) Children under 10 years need a parent/older sibling to assist
 - 6:30-8:00 pm (Level 5 Int/Adv – class size limit: 5)
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Tuesday: January 10 -- February 7 (5 weeks) Makeup: February 14 Cost: \$225 Winter Price: \$200

- 6:30-8:00 pm (Levels 6-7 Adv – class size limit: 5)
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Wednesday: January 11 – February 8 (5 weeks) Makeup: February 15 Cost: \$225 Winter Price: \$200

- 1:30-2:30 pm (Levels 2-4 Homeschool option – class size limit: 5) Children under 10 years need a parent/older sibling to assist
 - 6:00-7:00 pm (Levels 2-3 Beg/Int – class size limit: 5)
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Thursday: January 12 – February 9 (5 weeks) Makeup: February 16 Cost: \$225 Winter Price: \$200

- 4:30-5:30 pm (Levels 1-2 Beg – class size limit: 4)
 - 6:00-7:00 pm (Levels 2-3 Beg/Int – class size limit: 5)
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Friday: January 13 – February 10 (5 weeks) Makeup: February 17 Cost: \$225 Winter Price: \$200

- 4:30-5:30 pm (Levels 2-3 Beg/Int – class size limit: 5)
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Don't see a time that works for you?

Feel free to call our office at 269-501-0529 to schedule Private or Semi-Private lessons!

Please note that availability is very limited.

TVEC Stable Management Team Registration 2023 Session 1

Stable Management Team (Participants 12 and up)

Come out and learn the basics of equine management and care with TVEC staff! Lots of hands-on learning including how to do groundwork. While learning the aspects of taking care of horses our students learn so much more like responsibility, confidence, leadership skills, and the application of biblical principles. Join us for the bible study portion to dig deeper into God's Word.

(Evaluation lessons are not required for Stable Management Teams)

Mondays 4:00-5:30 pm Barn Time. 5:30-6:00 Bible Study

Winter: 5 weeks (6 slots)

(January 9 - February 6, Makeup: Feb 13)

Cost: \$100

Tuesdays 4:30-6:00 pm Barn Time. 6:00-6:30 Bible Study

Winter: 5 weeks (6 slots)

(January 10 - February 7, Makeup: Feb 14)

Cost: \$100

Adult Stable Management Team (Participants 18 and up)

Join us for a time of fellowship and an opportunity to learn to care for and manage horses. Learn groundwork principles while handling True Vine horses. Bible Study following barn time if interested. Geared towards participants of all experience levels.

Saturdays 9:30 -11:00 am Barn Time. 11:00-11:30 Bible Study

Winter: 5 weeks (6 slots)

(January 14 - February 11, Makeup: February 18)

Suggested Donation: \$100