

Troop horseback riding program guidelines are designed to help ensure a SAFE and ENJOYABLE experience for Girls, Leaders, Volunteers, Trail Leaders and Horses.

1. All Girls and Adults **MUST BE** a registered Girl Scout in order to participate in any of the rides, unless otherwise noted.
2. Adult men registered with a Troop may ride. Younger brothers, a Leaders son, etc may **NOT** ride.
3. For the Trail Rides: Girls **MUST BE** in grade 4. **No Adults are required to ride this ride with the Girls.**
4. For the Arena Rides: This ride is for Girls in graded K-3. Girls in grades K-1 **MUST PROVIDE** an adult to lead **EACH** Girl. Girls in grades 2-3 will steer the horses themselves in the arena.
5. Troops may increase the number of riders for their scheduled ride so long as the maximum has not been met. They must first contact Kim Kirby at the Rock Island Service Center to make this change. If the number decreases for your scheduled ride, you must also contact Kim Kirby. A two week notice must be given to Kim Kirby for these situations in order to receive a refund. Contact Kim at KimK@GSEIWI.org or 800-798-0833 EXT 311.
6. Different troops and individual girls may be added to your scheduled ride if the maximum has not been met.
7. **No one** in a sling, cast, brace, ace wrap, finger splint, neck support or back support may ride. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** This is a council standard and is not the decision of a doctor.
8. **Riding Apparel:** All riders must wear long pants. Capri pants and shorts are not allowed. Socks and shoes are required. No sandals or flip-flops. No boots with waffle pattern soles. Boots or shoes with at least a half-inch heel are recommended. (* *Safety-Wise, page 103* *)
9. All riders **MUST** wear an approved helmet. This must be worn whether mounted on the horse or standing on the ground in the area of the horses. The helmets are provided by the horse staff.
10. Trail rules and the assignment of horses are the responsibility of the volunteer trail leader. When possible, girls' choice of a horse will be considered but cannot be guaranteed. Riders must follow directions of the trail leaders at all times.
11. Horses are not led on the trails. All riders must be able to control their own horse before they leave the corral.
12. Every effort will be made to hold the scheduled riding time as planned. However, weather and trail conditions may require a trail ride to be held as an arena ride, per the discretion of the trail leader.
13. Due to the ages and sizes of our horses at camp, there is a 250-pound weight limit per rider.

WEATHER: If in doubt about weather, call Joanne Dumar at 563-349-6149 to make sure riding is still scheduled. In the event your riding time has been cancelled, the troop leader will be notified via telephone call. **If your ride is cancelled due to the weather by the equestrian staff, please contact Kim Kirby at the Rock Island Service Center at 800-798-0833 EXT 311 to re-schedule or request a refund.**