



## Rider Eligibility

Turning Point Ranch does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, age, religion or national origin, however in order to protect the health and safety of participants and our equine partners, the following issues will be considered in accepting or releasing riders from the program:

1. **COMPLETION OF PAPERWORK:** Turning Point MUST have a full set of completed paperwork including Physician's Release, medical history, liability release, photo release, Emergency Medical and Information Release forms before a rider may enter the arena.
2. **EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT:** All private clients must attend an assessment session with a TPR Certified Instructor prior to admission to the program. Riders referred thru the contract with the Stillwater Public Schools will be admitted on a provisional basis until they can be assessed during their initial session.
3. **AGE:** Riders must be at least 4 years old. There is no upper limit on age but current physician's approval is required for all riders.
4. **DISABILITY:** Physician's approval is required for all riders, however, TPR Certified Instructors may decline or temporarily or permanently dismiss a rider:
  - a. if his or her physical disability appears to make mounting, dismounting or riding unsafe,
  - b. if follow up investigation with the physician reveals contraindications to riding,
  - c. if a developing or new physical condition or surgery makes riding unsafe or
  - d. if uncontrolled behavior or emotional issues threaten the safety of the rider or others in the arena.
5. **SIZE:** Turning Point cannot accept riders who weigh more than 185 pounds. As current riders appear to approach that weight, parents, guardians or school officials will be reminded of the weight restriction which is set to protect our horses and volunteers.

6. **RULES COMPLIANCE:** Riders who cannot or do not follow the guidance and requirements of instructors during sessions will receive verbal followed by written warning. If the out of control behavior continues, the rider may be released from the program.
7. **FINANCIAL:** If a rider falls more than two months behind in payments, he or she will not be allowed to attend sessions until the account is brought up to date or a payment plan has been arranged with the Turning Point office.
8. **SKILL ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Riders whose skills advance to a level beyond the instruction Turning Point can supply will be “graduated” to seek riding instruction elsewhere. Additionally, riders who have achieved the goals set by either the schools or their parents/guardians may be evaluated for graduation from the program through conferences with schools/parents/guardians.
9. **FAMILY COMPLIANCE:** Safety rules at Turning Point apply to staff, volunteers, riders and family members or others who observe sessions. Family members and observers whose behavior disrupts sessions or violates safety rules in the Parents Manual or posted in the barn will be given verbal and written warnings. If the situation continues, those individuals and their rider may be asked to leave the program.