

ABOUT NEW CANAAN MOUNTED TROOP

“More than just a riding program”



Cadet Enrollment **2009-2010 Academic Year**

New Canaan Mounted Troop, Inc. (“NCMT”) is a non-profit 501c(3) educational and charitable youth organization. It was founded in 1939 as part of the Junior Cavalry of America by noted horsewoman, educator and author Margaret Cabell Self (1902-1996). In her lifetime, Mrs. Self wrote more than 40 educational books for children. In addition, she personally trained thousands of young people at NCMT and considered the organization her greatest accomplishment in life.

*Her vision was simple yet innovative: **to build leadership, responsibility and confidence in youth through sound horsemanship.** NCMT continues to follow this mission, providing an environment to help youth develop character and realize their individual potential.*

Students will not be permitted to participate in the programs without completing **ALL** forms.
Please read, complete and return all documents to:

New Canaan Mounted Troop
22 Carter Street
New Canaan, CT 06840
(203) 966-0634

PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

NCMT takes pride in its unique approach to teaching horsemanship through hands-on experience. All programs are designed to encourage children's personal growth by promoting fundamental values such as leadership, responsibility, confidence, work ethic and teamwork. These are not only important around the barn but are also valuable through life: they can help each child excel in his or her future.

THE COMPLETE HORSEMANSHIP PROGRAM (available to students between 7 and 18 years old) combines weekly group riding lessons and the Equine Care Program. Students are required to attend both riding lessons and a designated "Barn Day". All riding lessons are taught in a group format, with up to 6 riders per class. Each class is one hour long, with exclusive use of the riding arena. Students learn to ride a variety of horses appropriate for their level. Full time professional instructors teach hunt seat equitation from a comprehensive curriculum that ensures consistency across riding levels.

EQUINE CARE PROGRAM (available to students between 7 and 18 years old) consists of a weekly "Barn Day" that includes a ½ hour lecture and training in horse care and stable management. Students acquire complete knowledge of the horse and practice learned skills.

REVIEW CEREMONIES are held in December and June. Cadets are honored with awards and promoted to recognize individual achievements at each ceremony, which is followed by a horse show. This is an important NCMT tradition that all Cadets should attend.

OFFICERS' COUNCIL – NCMT students are known as Cadets. They are ranked based on evidence of leadership and commitment to the programs regardless of athletic ability. Those achieving upper level ranks are invited to join the Officers' Council. Officers' Council participants work along side the Cadet Major (the highest ranking cadet) to organize regular meetings held for all Cadets, to host Trooper Nights, to manage the Officers Fund, to help plan special events and fundraisers, and to run the community service task force. They are also eligible to participate in the Drill Team.

TROOPER NIGHTS are scheduled each semester and present an opportunity to participate in open conversation, to discuss the riding program and upcoming clinics and special events. Cadets also participate in games and activities. Special guest speakers may also be invited. Pizza, snacks and refreshments are served!

REGULAR EVENTS include the **Halloween Costume Parade and Carnival** held in the fall: cadets are invited to dress up their favorite horse for the Parade. Prizes and refreshments are available. It is a fun event for the entire family. **Horseless Horse Shows** and **Gymkhanas** also take place at NCMT. Finally, Cadets participate in the **Memorial Day Parade of New Canaan**, dressed in NCMT's traditional Junior Cavalry uniforms.

FUND RAISERS: The **Barn Dance** is held each spring at NCMT. It features entertainment, a BBQ dinner, line dancing and a silent auction. The **Holiday Party** is held in November at Waveny, with dancing and a silent auction. Great times for all families!

New Canaan Mounted Troop ("NCMT") Enrollment Agreement
(2009-2010 Academic Year)

The undersigned parent(s) or guardian(s) hereby enroll(s) _____

as a Cadet ("Cadet") in the Full Horsemanship Program (or) the Equine Care Program of NCMT.

Date of Birth: _____ School & Grade _____

Previous Riding Experience: _____

Can the Cadet participate in all normal NCMT activities? Yes _____ No _____

If "NO", please explain: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Business Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Parent E-mail: _____ Occupation: _____

Parents are encouraged to participate in volunteer committees (please check area of interest):

Parent *Finance* *Community Outreach* *Facilities & Maintenance* *Fundraising*
 Communications *Building*

The undersigned understands that:

1. There is an inherent risk of accidental injury and damage in horseback riding and related activities. The undersigned accepts that risk, and with respect to facilities provided by or in association with NCMT and its activities, agrees to hold NCMT free from any liability for any injury, loss or damage resulting from the risk reasonably incidental to horseback riding and horse related activities, including but not limited to:
 - A. *Sustained by the undersigned and his/her children.*
 - B. *Caused by or resulting from the use by him/her or on his/her behalf of any horses owned by him/her or NCMT.*
 - C. *Suffered by any horse owned by him/her. A separate **Liability Release/Emergency Medical form must be completed before participating in any horse related or NCMT activities.***
2. The undersigned agrees to hold NCMT free from any liability for any injury, loss or damage caused by neglect or fault on his/her part of the enrolled Cadet, and agrees to indemnify NCMT with respect to any such injuries, loss or damage.
3. The Cadet is enrolled for the entire academic year, which runs from September 8th through June 12th. **Once enrolled, the undersigned is obligated for full payment of the academic year tuition.** (Tuition is not pro-rated for missed riding lessons or missed Equine Care days).
4. Tuition for the Full Horsemanship or the Equine Care Program is paid on an installment basis. Horsemanship tuition is billed bi-monthly in five equal installments while Equine Care tuition is billed in 2 equal installments over the academic year. A monthly service charge of \$25 will be added to accounts not paid by the tenth of the month. Any accounts outstanding for 60 days may cause the Cadet to be excluded from activities until account is paid in full.

5. Annual Dues are charged to each participating family and are payable at the start of the academic year.
6. Participation in horse shows, summer camp, gymkhanas and certain additional activities is payable separately from tuition fees.
7. The Cadet who is newly accepted into the Full Horsemanship Program is required to become an NCMT member upon acceptance. Payment for the membership fee, annual dues and the first tuition installment must accompany this agreement.
8. NCMT reserves the right at all times and for any cause that it may consider sufficient to suspend or dismiss a Cadet from NCMT with approval of the Board of Directors.
9. The Cadet is expected to participate in all assigned duties and fulfill responsibilities designated to them by higher ranking officers.
10. Proper dress and footwear is required for all lessons and on Equine Care Days (*Please see **DRESS CODE** for details*). **ASTM-SEI approved riding helmets with harness are mandatory**. NCMT logo T-shirts and sweatshirts are available for purchase.
11. The Cadet should allow approximately 2 hours for grooming, tacking up, actual riding time, untacking, wrapping or bathing the horse on riding days.
12. All Cadets are required to participate in an “Equine Care Day” for 2 to 4 hours on each assigned day (*Please see **EQUINE CARE DAY** for details and time shifts*).
13. Make-up lessons may be offered, depending on availability, when NCMT cancels due to **inclement weather**. Make-ups for missed lessons are available upon specific request and according to NCMT’s policy. (*Please see **MAKE-UP POLICY & the 2009-10 calendar**.*)

Note: At appropriate events, the Cadet shall wear an NCMT Uniform Jacket and is responsible for cleaning and repairs, or replacement costs of the uniform in the case of damage or loss. A cleaning fee may be charged for jackets returned un-cleaned. Jackets must be signed out prior to each event and returned in comparable condition. Officers (2nd Lieutenants – Captains) will be assigned a jacket for the year which must be signed out at the start of the academic year.

The undersigned has read and understands the obligations and responsibilities involved when enrolling in the NCMT programs as well as the payment terms for tuition.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

Registration Form 2009 -2010

Cadet Name: _____ Age: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name: _____ Tel.: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Parent's e-mail: _____ Cadet's e-mail: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> FULL HORSEMANSHIP PROGRAM Riding: <input type="checkbox"/> one lesson per week <input type="checkbox"/> two lessons per week <input type="checkbox"/> two lessons/one hack per week* <small>*Requires permission from instructor</small> Membership Fee: (\$775 - new members only) \$ _____ 1 st Tuition Installment: \$ _____ Annual Dues: \$ _____ Total Amount Due: \$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> EQUINE CARE ONLY PROGRAM <input type="checkbox"/> Please wait list my child for a riding spot in the Full Horsemanship Program <i>Membership Fee not required for Equine Care</i> 1 st Semester Tuition Installment: \$ _____ Annual Dues: \$ _____ Total Amount Due: \$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Date: _____ Check #: _____
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LESSON DAY, LEVEL AND TIME

one lesson/week two lessons/week two lessons & one hack/week

First Choice: *Lesson/Hack Day:* _____

RETURNING STUDENTS: Please call or e-mail office for potential lesson/hack times.

Second Choice: _____

NEW STUDENTS: Please review the "New Student Information" and contact the office for lesson placement and available times.

Third Choice: _____

EQUINE CARE DAY

(Mandatory for all students –please choose a day DIFFERENT from your riding day).

First Choice: *Day:* _____

Time/Shift: _____

Second Choice: _____

Third Choice: _____

Cadet Signature

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature



22 Carter Street, New Canaan, CT 06840
Office: (203) 966-0634 - Fax: (203) 966-8592

WARNING, INDEMNITY, HOLD HARMLESS & RELEASE OF LIABILITY

WARNING:

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §52-557p, a person engaged in recreational activities assumes the risk and responsibility for any injury to his or her person or property arising out of the hazards inherent in equestrian sports, unless the injury was proximately caused by the negligence of the person providing the horse/pony or horses/ponies to the individual engaged in the equestrian activities, or the failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure or activity of the person providing the horse/pony and/or horses/ponies, or his or her agents and or employees.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I, and/or on behalf of my child listed below, understand that there is an inherent risk in equestrian sports, including but not limited to the risk of serious physical injury, loss and/or death. I fully assume all risks associated with equestrian sports, even if due to the NEGLIGENCE of New Canaan Mounted Troop, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "NCMT"), and its instructors, Lori Rakoczy, Michelle Schmerzler, Elizabeth Dubrowski, Lisa Tomaselli, or guest instructors invited by NCMT, its Officers, Directors, Agents, Volunteers, Servants and/or Employees, including but not limited to variations in the indoor and outdoor ring conditions; man made obstacles; collisions with object either inside or outside the riding rings including but not limited to jumps, hay bales, shrubbery, rocks, equipment, employees, participants, or other patrons and spectators on the property; lack of safety devices, or inadequate safety devices; lack of warning or inadequate warning; lack of instruction of inadequate instruction.

HORSES & PONIES:

I, or on behalf of my child listed below, understand that horses and ponies, although tamed, trained and boarded at NCMT are in fact a "wild" animal, and may buck, shy, spook, kick, bite and/or react unexpectedly to the actions of other horses or ponies, riders, employees of NCMT, and environmental effects including but not limited to noise, wind, light/darkness, or any man-made or environmental anomaly beyond the control of NCMT, its instructors, guest instructors, Officers, Directors, Agents, Volunteers, Servants and or Employees.

INDEMNIFICATION:

I, or on behalf of my child listed below, for myself and for my heirs, assigns, successors, executors,

Signors' Initials



22 Carter Street, New Canaan, CT 06840
Office: (203) 966-0634 - Fax: (203) 966-8592

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT PERMISSION

Name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Parent or Adult Name & Work Tel. _____

Emergency Contact Name & Tel. #: _____
(Person(s) living outside the primary household)

Physician Name & Tel. #: _____

Dentist/Orthodontist Name & Tel. #: _____

Medical Insurance & Policy Number: _____

Known Allergies: _____

Special needs/conditions/disabilities: _____

Daily medication (if applicable, please describe): _____

Pertinent Medical History: _____

Special Instructions/Comments: _____

Previous Riding Experience: _____

Height: _____ Weight*: _____ Please note that riders over 200lbs.cannot be accommodated.

THIS DOCUMENT AUTHORIZES THE STAFF OF *NEW CANAAN MOUNTED TROOP, INC.* TO SIGN FOR THE ADMITTANCE AND TREATMENT OF THE PERSON ABOVE AT AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITY, IN THE EVENT THE PARENT/GUARDIAN IS NOT AVAILABLE. ALL INFORMATION SUBMITTED WILL BE HELD STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. IF THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE ABOVE INFORMATION, PLEASE NOTIFY *NCMT* IMMEDIATELY.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

“Dedicated to building confidence, leadership and responsibility through sound horsemanship.”

EQUINE CARE DAY

All Cadets are required to participate in an Equine Care Day (“Barn Day”) when Cadets are responsible for assisting the staff with the care of the horses and the barn as well as helping their peers. Time spent in the barn offers Cadets an opportunity to better understand the responsibilities associated with horse care and stable management. This valuable hands-on experience promotes responsibility and teamwork. Students also attend a half-hour Equine Care lecture. A different topic is introduced each week. Topics include: *Stable Safety, Equine Behavior & Instincts, Recognizing Signs of Illness or Injury, Assessing Vital Signs, Administering Equine First Aid, Wrapping, Conformation, and Skeletal Anatomy among others...*

EQUINE CARE DAY REQUIREMENTS & SCHEDULE

All Cadets are required to select one Equine Care Day shift. Children age 9 and under are expected to devote 1 ½ hours to their designated Barn Day. Children 10 and older are expected to devote 2 to 4 hours to the Barn Day. Please see the Schedule below for options and be sure to indicate your choices on the Registration Form.

EQUINE CARE/BARN DAY SCHEDULE

When an Officer (2nd Lieutenant, 1st Lieutenant or Captain) needs to miss a Barn Day, he/she is required to find an appropriate substitute and to inform the office. Lower ranking Cadets must notify the office of their absence and schedule a make up.

CHILDREN AGE 10 & OLDER: 2 ½ to 4 hours depending on day of week

	<u>1ST SHIFT</u>	<i>EQUINE CARE</i> <u>LECTURE</u>	<u>2ND SHIFT</u>
MONDAY – FRIDAY:	3:15 – 5:30	(5:00-5:30)	5:00 – 7:15
SATURDAY:	9:00 – 12:45	(12:15-12:45)	12:15 - 4:00
SUNDAY:		(12:30-1:00)	12:00 – 4:00

CHILDREN AGE 9 & YOUNGER: 1 ½ hours

	<u>1ST SHIFT</u>	<i>EQUINE CARE</i> <u>LECTURE</u>	<u>2ND SHIFT</u>
MONDAY – FRIDAY:	4:00 – 5:30	(5:00-5:30)	5:00 – 6:30
SATURDAY:	11:15 – 12:45	(12:15-12:45)	12:15 – 1:45
SUNDAY:		(12:30-1:00)	12:30 – 2:30

FOR NEW STUDENTS ONLY

LESSON LEVEL PLACEMENT INFORMATION

Upon registration, it is very important to sign up for the appropriate lesson level. **Please review the descriptions below and contact the office for additional information and available lesson time.**

NCMT instructors teach from a curriculum that specifies required Ground and Horsemanship Skills for each level. Riders can remain at each level for 1 to 2 academic years, developing proficiency in the appropriate skills before moving up to a higher level.

- A) Little or no previous riding experience. In the month of September, 2 students share a horse: each student receives instruction for ½ hour while the other student receives ground instruction. Once appropriate horsemanship skills are mastered, students are assigned their own horse and ride for a full hour.
- B) Currently able to walk and trot independently in a group setting, ready to learn to canter; at this level, students will learn to trot cross rails. Comfortable working around horses; introduction to grooming, haltering, leading a horse, tacking-up. Basic knowledge of the saddle and bridle parts, general stable safety.
- C) Currently able to walk, trot and canter in a group and able to jump multiple cross-rails at the trot and canter. Riders should have a good understanding of “diagonals” at the trot and have had an introduction to “leads” at the canter. Able to groom, lead and tack up with some assistance. Basic knowledge of the saddle and bridle parts.
- D) Currently able to walk, trot and canter in a group and jump small courses up to 2’ in height on an unfamiliar horse or pony. Riders should have a strong understanding of “diagonals” and “leads”, capable of performing simple changes of lead, and riding on the flat without stirrups. Riders should be able to tack-up, know all parts of the horse and equipment.
- E) Currently able to walk, trot and canter in a group and jump courses of 6-8 jumps up to 2’3” in height on an unfamiliar horse or pony. Riders should have an understanding of flying changes, leg yielding, counting strides between jumps; jumping without stirrups.
- F) Currently able to walk, trot and canter in a group and jump courses of 8 or more jumps up to 2’6” in height on an unfamiliar horse or pony. Riders should be proficient at flying changes, leg yielding, and counting strides between jumps; jumping without stirrups.
- G) Currently comfortable jumping more complex courses of approximately 2’6” in height on an unfamiliar horse or pony. Proficient at flying changes, counter canter, calculating strides, lengthening and collection of stride, “flexion” of the horse.
- H) Currently comfortable jumping complex courses (hunter and equitation style) 2’6” – 3’ in height on an unfamiliar horse, strong understanding of lateral and diagonal aids, haunches/shoulder in, impulsion, contact and flexion. Horsemanship skills should include the ability to access vital signs, administer basic emergency care, poultice, lunging, identify conformation flaws, and basic clipping.



MAKE UP POLICY

NCMT offers possible make up lessons for the **Horsemanship Program** on designated make up days at the end of each semester. **To be eligible for a make-up lesson, 24 hr advance cancellation notice is required. E-mail notifications should be sent 48 hrs in advance to:** ncmtd@aol.com, lisatomaselli@comcast.net, and ncmtr@aol.com. We highly recommend scheduling a make up lesson *at the time of the missed lesson* to ensure availability.

Once per week riders: **1 make-up per semester** (Fall and Spring)
Twice and three times per week riders: **2 make-ups per semester** (Fall and Spring)

Please refer to the NCMT Calendar for available make up times.

Make-up lessons may be offered if NCMT is required to cancel a lesson due to inclement weather. Make-up lessons are **NOT** offered on observed holidays or horse show days. **Non program days are indicated with an *on the NCMT Calendar.**

* * * * *

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND YOUR BARN DAY: 1st Lt., 2nd Lt., and Captains **MUST** find an appropriate substitute or trade barn days with other officers. Lower ranking cadets can make up barn days on an alternate day or on designated Make up days at the end of each semester.

DRESS CODE

Dress Code for Lessons

- Breeches and tall boots (or) Jodhpurs and paddock boots (or) Breeches and half chaps (**Denim britches or Jeans are not permitted**).
- Shirts must be tucked into britches or jodhpurs (sweaters/sweatshirts or jackets must be waist length and as form fitting as possible). **Tank tops** are not recommended.
- Gloves are highly recommended.
- **Safety approved (ASTM approved – SEI certified) helmets with harness are mandatory** for all riders who must bring their own helmet to each lesson. Riding without a helmet is prohibited at all times.
- Hair should be neatly tucked into the helmet.
- Riders should be dressed for weather. Please send riders with gloves and warm clothes in winter to ensure comfort during outdoor activities.

Dress Code for Barn Day

- Appropriate footwear is required. (**Paddock boots or work boots are recommended –flip-flops or open shoes are not permitted in the barn**).
- Baggy pants are not recommended – pants may not drag on the ground.
- Gloves are also recommended.
- Please send students with warm clothes in winter to ensure comfort during barn day.

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT/TACK:

- NCMT provides equipment and tack and requires that you consult with the office prior to using personal equipment or tack on NCMT horses.

RATES FOR CADET PROGRAM

(Full or partial scholarships are available to qualifying Cadets. Please inquire from the office.)

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP FEE

\$1,200.00

Required for **new** Horsemanship Program Cadets - Payable upon registration
Not required for Equine Care only cadets.

ANNUAL DUES (per family)- Required for all Cadets - Payable upon registration

Horsemanship Program:	\$555.00 (1 child in program) \$750.00 (more than 1 child in program)
Equine Care Program	\$355.00 (1 child in program) \$450.00 (more than 1 child in program)

PROGRAM TUITION

HORSEMANSHIP PROGRAM

One lesson per week + Equine Care Day - Annual fee* **\$3,900.00**
Bonded Members **\$3,650.00**
**Tuition fees are payable in five installments of \$780.00*
(\$730.00 for Bonded Members)

Two lessons per week + Equine Care Day – Annual Fee* **\$6,950.00**
Bonded Members **\$6,500.00**
**Tuition fees are payable in five installments of \$1,390.00.*
(\$1,300.00 for Bonded Members)

Two lessons & one hack per week + Equine Care Day – Annual Fee* **\$7,450.00**
Bonded Members **\$7,400.00**
Permission from NCMT Staff is required to be eligible for this program
**Tuition fees are payable in five installments of \$1490.00*
(\$1480.00 for Bonded Members)

EQUINE CARE PROGRAM

Once a week Barn Day – Annual fee* **\$1,500.00**
**Tuition fees are payable in two installments of \$750.00 due at the beginning of each semester.*

Once enrolled, a cadet is liable for the full academic year tuition. For Horsemanship Tuition, Membership Fee (if applicable), the first installment and Annual Dues are due upon registration. For Equine Care Tuition, Annual Dues and the first installment are due upon registration. Late payment fees of \$25 per month will apply.

Trooper Nights, Lectures, Guest speakers, Assistant Teaching Program, Halloween Parade, Officers Meetings, On site service projects, Memorial Day Parade & Review Ceremonies are included in Tuition Fees. Horse Show fees are not included and are payable on the day of the show.

HACKING - 45 minutes on the flat. \$55.00
 Hacking availability and eligibility to be determined by NCMT staff when schedule permits.

PRIVATE LESSONS - available for riders as additional lessons when schedule permits \$75.00
*Must be scheduled with the office separately from regular weekly lesson.
 No private lesson will be counted as a make-up!*

<u>HORSE SHOWS - FEES</u>	<u>Member Rate</u>	<u>Bonded Rate</u>
Horse Use Fee per day		
Home Shows (per rider for 1 division)	\$60.00	\$55.00
Away Shows (per rider for 1 division)	\$90.00	\$80.00
* Additional charge for 2nd division	\$45.00	\$35.00
Additional Show Fees & Training		
Home Shows (per day)	\$60.00	\$55.00
Away Shows (per day)	\$100.00	\$90.00
<i>Grooming Fees (if a groom or additional staff is required for away shows) - will be pro-rated over participants. Braiding, shipping, and entry fees are not included in the above show fees.</i>		
Cadet Program Review Shows	\$100.00	\$90.00
<i>*Includes horse use and training</i>		