



SEATON HACKNEY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



Where lasting friendships and great memories are made...
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8-WEEK LATE FALL VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM

Cost of 8-week program: \$175* includes an SHS "Happy Volunteer" T-Shirt.

SHS VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAM SESSION: CHOICE OF STARTING DATES

Wednesday, November 16th thru January 18th 5:00 to 6:30pm

Saturday, November 19th thru January 21st, 3:30pm to 5pm

- **No Classes Wed 11/23, Wed 12/21st Sat 12/24th and Sat 12/31st**

Followed by 5 compulsory shadowing sessions and a practical test

Sessions falling on Holidays will be extended.

Why volunteer?

RATS: Registered Assistants-in-Training CATS: Certified Assistant Trainees CV: Certified Volunteer.

Every self-respecting Stable has Rats and Cats! Ours are the *humankind* and an integral part of the success and implementation of our many different programs.

Our Seaton Hackney CATS and CV volunteers not only earn valuable Barn Bucks (we abbreviate these "\$H\$") but are also able to:

- Improve their horsemanship and leadership skills.
- Acquire a sense of responsibility.
- Spend quality time interacting with their peers and favorite critters in a healthy and supportive environment.
- Additionally, parents appreciate the fact that they can entrust their children to us for a few hours while running errands or enjoying other family pursuits.

SO, What does it take to become a CAT, a RAT or a CV?

To become a RAT, then become a CAT, and ultimately a CV, you must, of course, demonstrate a love of horses and a willingness to help others. While we make the occasional exception, *the minimum age for volunteering is 12yo (RATs) and 13yo (CATs)*. Before becoming a CAT, you will need to have proven yourself as a RAT!

Because your ability to safely perform your tasks and succeed is very important to us, we offer this compulsory Volunteer Training Program. Once training is completed and you have successfully passed the **written and practical** tests, you will be able to start your Volunteering "career" as an (unpaid) RAT, leading to first the status of (paid) CAT then ultimately as (paid) Certified Volunteers.

Make sure we have a parent's correct email address as the office will contact you regularly and schedule you for **one or two** (consecutive 4 1/2hr shifts)

Until then, as part of your learning process, you will be expected to do 5 "Shadowing" shifts to make sure all of that knowledge you learned can be translated into hands-on volunteering. NOTE that to remain a volunteer and use your Barn Bucks you must maintain at least two monthly volunteering shifts.

What should I wear when volunteering?

It is absolutely essential to clearly show that you are a Member of our SHS Volunteer Team while working your shift at Seaton Hackney Stables. Staff and customers depend on you, may have questions for you, may need your help, and they have to be able to locate you without having to ask around. SHS will have apparel for you to wear, sometimes charging a small \$H\$ token fee or including it in your training program fees. YOU CANNOT come for a shift without wearing the apparel as it clearly states that you are a volunteer who is always eager and prepared to help!

CELL PHONES AND DOWN TIME: OUR (STRICT) POLICY? NO cell phones allowed during your shift. Emergencies can be handled through our office. Down time? Ask the office for a break or our Yard Staff for an assignment.

USE THE BACK OF THIS FORM TO REGISTER ➔

Volunteer Name: _____ Adult? (Y/N) _____ If under 18, DOB: _____

Email Address for weekly assignments/updates. Please print clearly: IMPORTANT!

_____ @ _____

Complete address: _____ Zip: _____

Cell phone: _____ Emergency phone: _____

Current riding proficiency (Y/N): walk ___ trot ___ know diagonals ___ canter ___ jump ___ - if yes, jump height _____

Tack horse yourself (Y / N): English ___ Western ___ Currently in SHS Troop? ___ If yes, which Troop level: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Cell # _____

LIABILITY WAIVER: MUST be signed by Parent / Guardian

I hereby give my permission to Seaton Hackney Stables to transport the child named above off the barn property for the purpose of medical care as deemed appropriate by the Operations Manager. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I give permission to the physician selected by the Operations Manager to hospitalize, secure proper treatment and to order injection, anesthetic or surgery for the child named above. I understand that Seaton Hackney Stables does not provide accident/medical insurance for the child named above. Medical bills, including prescription drugs, will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian named below. SHS has my permission to use photographs taken of my child for promotional purposes. Rules are the same for everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, gender or disability. I understand that all volunteers will be treated as individuals and respect will be shown for a range of abilities and behaviors. I agree that Seaton Hackney Stables reserves the right to dismiss a volunteer from the program whose special needs they are not able to provide for or whose conduct is not in the best interest of the community, without refund. I will notify the Operations Manager if my child has any serious restrictions related to his/her participation in the program. I am aware of the following policies regarding fees: no refunds or credits will be given for canceling; no refunds are given if a volunteer is dismissed due to disciplinary action; no refunds are given if volunteers leave early or miss one or more sessions due to homesickness or personal commitments. I agree that my child may have her/his picture taken in conjunction with promotional purposes.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Date: _____

SCHEDULE FOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM: an 8-week rain or shine training program

NOTE: If you miss a session you may have to schedule a private lesson to make it up!

OR You can make up the same session after calling us by participating in the other, corresponding session!

Wednesday Sessions 1- 8 MEET FROM 5 PM UNTIL 6:30 PM _____

Saturday Sessions 1 - 8 MEET FROM 3:30PM UNTIL 5PM _____

- Session I Grooming and Haltering
- Session II Tacking - English and Western
- Session III Mounting Riders for Trails / Lessons and Pony Rides
- Session IV Mini Cart & Harnessing
- Session V Interacting with Clients and Office + Horse Body Language
- Session VI Proactive Behavior and Practice
- Session VII **Make-Up Class/Q & A's/Practice/Review**
- Session VIII **RAT Test: Good Luck!**

+ 5 Shadowing Sessions (dates of your choice)

Other subject matters will be addressed at will during the Training Sessions.

\$175 paid by: Credit Card # _____ Expires: _____ Zip Code: _____

Or Check # _____ or Cash Payment Date: _____ Office Initials _____

IMPORTANT: CIRCLE SIZE FOR SHIRT!

Child Sizes: XS S M L XL

Teen/Adult Sizes: XS S M L XL XXL