



# SEATON HACKNEY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



Where lasting friendships and great memories are made...  
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## 8-WEEK SPRING 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, April 5<sup>th</sup> thru May 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 to 6:30pm**

**Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> thru May 27<sup>th</sup>, 3:30pm to 5pm**

**Followed by 5 compulsory shadowing sessions and a practical test**

Sessions falling on Holidays will be extended.

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RATS: Registered Assistants-in-Training **Why volunteer?** CATS: Certified Assistant Trainees

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 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 or a RAT?**

To become a RAT and ultimately become a CAT, 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 Volunteer Training Program and make it compulsory. Once training is complete and you have successfully passed the **written and practical** tests, you will be able to fill out a Volunteer Card and start earning your valuable \$H\$ Barn Bucks. 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) 3-hr 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 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*Parents are required to attend the first 15 minutes of the first Volunteer session to hear about the Volunteers Code of Conduct and have them sign by both Parent and Volunteer**

**Wednesday Sessions 1- 8 MEET FROM 5 PM UNTIL 6:30 PM** \_\_\_\_\_

- 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!**

**Saturday Sessions 1 - 8 MEET FROM 3:30PM UNTIL 5PM** \_\_\_\_\_

+ 5 Shadowing Sessions (dates of your choice)

If a class is miss you can make up that missed class session by joining in on another day or by working with Chantal, the Volunteer in a private lesson

**\$175 paid by:** Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Or Check # \_\_\_\_\_ or Cash Payment Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Office Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*3.45% Credit Card Service Fee \*\***

**IMPORTANT: CIRCLE SIZE FOR SHIRT!**

Child Sizes: XS S M L XL

Teen/Adult Sizes: XS S M L XL XXL