



**Guidelines for Discharge of Participants from Program Activities  
March 14, 2022 to November 12, 2022**

At Northland Therapeutic Riding Center, safety is our primary concern. We must ensure the health and wellness of our participants, volunteers, staff, and horses as mandated by PATH Intl. This is why there are guidelines for possible dismissal if not followed. The guidelines are as follows:

- NTRC currently has a maximum weight limit of 235lbs for balanced and/or unsupported riders and 170lbs for unbalanced and/or supported riders for our MOUNTED program. An unbalanced and/or supported rider is an individual who may demonstrate one or more of these: chronic leaning to one side, unable to consistently sit astride a horse without support, needs help supporting the upper body, needs physical assistance during the mount/dismount, needs physical assistance during an emergency dismount (or is unable to consent to the risks of being unassisted during an emergency), is easily left behind the horse's movement, etc. **THESE NUMBERS CAN CHANGE IF OUR HERD CHANGES. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IF THIS AFFECTS YOUR RIDER.** Horses are selected for participants based on a rider's skill set, stability on the horse, equipment available, appropriateness of volunteers available, horse conformation and movement, and rider's weight.
- When a rider is unable to control behaviors that could harm themselves, their horse or their volunteers such as intense bouncing or rocking, pulling hair, spitting on others, biting, kicking, self-harm, hitting, and inability/refusal to remain mounted during class.
- When a rider or parent becomes threatening, uses disrespectful language, or violates safety protocols.
- Consistently misses class or doesn't communicate absences

A private conversation will be had with the client/parent/caregiver, instructor, and Executive Director to help all parties understand the situation before any rider is removed from the program. Any disputes about the decision made can be taken to the Board of Directors for possible resolution. Before being dismissed NTRC will refer the rider to alternate local programs, or if appropriate, our groundwork class (if eligible). NTRC may consider placing the rider back on the waitlist if circumstances as to why they were dismissed have changed, but must first be approved by management.

I understand that by signing this policy that I agree to these terms

---

Name of parent or rider if above 18

---

Date