RUFF RANCH **Release of Liability**

Must be signed by anyone participating in equestrian related activities at the property.

This document affects your rights in the event of an injury. Please read carefully.

Effect of Equine Activity Statute, RCW 4.24.530 and RCW 4.24.540. Ruff Ranch Stables is an equine facility as defined in these statutes. All activities on these grounds are subject to the limitations contained within the Equine Activities Statutes, RCW 4.24.530 et seq. Copies of these statutes are posted on the premises and a copy is reproduced on page 2 of this form. Please review these statutes prior to entering into any activities on these premises.

By my presence on these grounds I indicate that I have accepted the limits of liability resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities. I have read the Equine Activities Statutes RCW 4.24.530 and RCW 4.24.540 and I am aware that it places responsibility for any personal injury upon myself and that Ruff Ranch Stables, and all employees, agents, representatives and volunteers bear no responsibility for liability in the event I should suffer injury to my person or property.

I understand the limitations of liability contained within the Equine Liability Statutes. I further understand that if I wish to engage in equine activity sponsored by or in which I will be using facilities and/or premises furnished by Ruff Ranch Stables the employees, agents, representatives and volunteers working on or about said premises including the provision of items of personal property, and I understand the inherent risks of equine activities and as a condition of participation in such equine activities do hereby waive all claim(s) which may hereafter arise.

I further waive the right to bring any suit for damages, however incurred, and hereby release and agree to hold harmless Ruff Ranch Stables, all owners, operators, employees, agents, representatives, volunteers, predecessors and successors in interest, and any other persons or entities, known or unknown, associated with Ruff Ranch Stables from any and all actions, suites, claims for relief, demands, damages and any other obligations, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, in law or in equity, direct or indirect, whether now known or arising in the future, for injury or death arising out of or connected in any way with the use of Ruff Ranch Stables facilities including but not limited to riding, training, roping, grooming, penning or riding as a passenger upon an equine or other animal on the premises, or as a participant or spectator in any activity.

It is my intent to provide Ruff Ranch Stables and it's owners, operators, employees, representatives, volunteers, predecessors and successors in interest with the fullest possible release permitted under the laws of the State of Washington. It is further my intent that if any part of this release is deemed to be invalid, the remainder shall continue in full force and effect. I acknowledge that this release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto and that the terms of this release are contractual. I have read and understand this release and sign the same of my own free will.

Parent or legal guardian, or authorized agent, must sign after reading this entire document.

Name _____

_____ _____

Signed By Date

4.24.530 Limitations on liability for equine activities -- Definitions. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the definitions in this section apply to RCW 4.24.500, 4.24.510, and section3, chapter 292, Laws of 1989.

1. "Equine" means a horse, pony, mule, donkey, or hinny.

2. "Equine activity" means: (a) Equine shows, fairs, competitions, performances, or parades that involve any or all breeds of equines and any of the equine disciplines, including, but not limited to, dressage, hunter and jumper training, rodeos, driving, pulling, cutting, polo, steeple chasing, endurance trail riding and western games, and hunting; (b) equine training and/or teaching activities; (c) boarding equines; (d) riding, inspecting, or evaluating an equine belonging to another whether or not the owner has received some monetary consideration or other thing of value for the use of the equine or is permitting a prospective purchaser of the equine to ride, inspect, or evaluate the equine; and (e) rides, trips, hunts, or other equine activities of any type however informal or impromptu that are sponsored by an equine activity sponsor.

3. "Equine activity sponsor" means an individual, group or club, partnership, or corporation, whether or not the sponsor is operating for profit or nonprofit, which sponsors, organizes, or provides the facilities for, an equine activity including but not limited to: Pony clubs, 4-H clubs, hunt clubs, riding clubs, school and college sponsored classes and programs, therapeutic riding programs, and, operators, instructors, and promoters of equine facilities, including butnot limited to stables, clubhouses, pony ride strings, fairs, and arenas at which the activity is held.

4. "Participant" means any person, whether amateur or professional, who directly engages in an equine activity, whether or not a fee is paid to participate in the equine activity.

5. "Engages in an equine activity" means a person who rides, trains, drives, or is a passenger upon an equine, whether mounted or unmounted, and does not mean a spectator at an equine activity or a person who participates in the equine activity but does not ride, train, drive, or ride as a passenger upon an equine.

6. "Equine professional" means a person engaged for compensation (a) in instructing a participant or renting to a participant an equine for the purpose of riding, driving, or being a passenger upon the equine, or, (b) in renting equipment or tack to a participant. [1989 c292 d 1.]

Application – 1989 c 292 dd 1 and 2: "Section 1 and 2 of this act apply only to causes of action filed on or after July 23, 1989." [1989 c 292 d 3.]

4.24.540 Limitations on liability for equine activities – Exceptions.

1. Except as provided in subsection (s) of this section, an equine activity sponsor or an equine professional shall not be liable for an injury to or the death of a participant engaged in an equine activity, and except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, no participant nor participant's representative may maintain an action against or recover from an equine activity sponsor or an equine professional for an injury to or the death of a participant engaged in an equine activity.

2. (a) RCW 4.24.530 and 4.24.540 do not apply to the horse racing industry as regulated in chapter 67.16 RCW. (b) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall prevent or limit the liability of an equine activity sponsor or an equine professional: (I) If the equine activity sponsor or the equine professional:(A) Provided the equipment or tack and the equipment or tack caused the injury(B) Provided the equine and failed to make reasonable and prudent efforts to determine the ability of the participant to engage safely in the equine activity, determine the ability of the equine to behave safely with the participant, and determine the ability of the participant to safely manage the particular equine;(ii) If the equine activity sponsor or the equine professional owns, leases, rents, or otherwise is in lawful possession and control of the land or facilities upon which the participant sustained injuries because of a dangerous latent condition which was known to or should have been known to the equine activity sponsor or the equine professional and for which warning signs have not been conspicuously posted;(iii) If the equine activity sponsor or the equine professional commits an act or omission that constitutes willful or wanton disregard for the safety of the participant and that act or omission caused the injury;(iv) If the equine activity sponsor or the equine professional intentionally injures the participant;(v) Under liability provisions as set forth in the products liability laws; or (vi) Under liability provisions in chapter 16.04, *16.13, or *16.16 RCW. [1989 c 292d 2.]

*Reviser's note: Chapters 16.13 and 16.16 RCW were each recodified and/or repealed in their entirety by 1989 c 286. For disposition of chapters 16.13 and 16.16 RCW, see Table of Disposition of Former RCW Sections, Volume 0.

Application – 1989 c 292 dd 1 and 2: See note following RCW 4.24.530.