

Welcome to GFS MINI PONY CLINICS





We are looking forward to children returning to our GFS Equestrian Center. Our goal is to continue to inspire the love of horses within our community as we provide high quality, individualized instruction and education. We also hope that this will be a welcome break from being at home!

Per Governor Hogan's May 6th order, licensed barns were permitted to re-open with proper guidelines in place. Based on these instructions and recommendations from the CDC, we have made adjustments to our routines and protocols to mitigate the risks for participants, staff, and the wider community as we face COVID-19 together. Please know that we are committed to making sure each participant is safe, learns to ride, enjoys the equestrian environment, and has fun! COVID-19 information and updates evolve daily – we ask that everyone remain flexible and patient if adjustments and/or cancellations need to be made at any time.

Our approach is a multi-layer preventive defense, but **please know that even as we do our best to mitigate risks of transmission around our equestrian center, there is no such thing as eliminating the risk entirely.**

To lower the risk of possible transmission to participants, parents, staff and the wider community, you and your child(ren) can expect these mini pony clinics to look much different than a normal lesson or past full day pony clinic. Please help us by discussing these protocols with your child **prior** to attending their pony clinic.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

The GFS Riding Staff



BEING TOGETHER



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To keep everyone safe, we will be following new rules. This may feel different, but we can still have fun knowing we are following protocols!

SCHEDULE

Mini Pony Clinic

(4 participant maximum)

Morning Block: Ages 6 - 8

9:00am - 11:00am

(Re-set, clean and sanitize)

Afternoon Block: Ages 9 - 12

12:00pm - 2:00pm

(Re-set, clean and sanitize)

Mini Pony Clinics Will Include:

- Small Group & Individual Instruction
- Equine Education
- Craft Lesson
- Goody Bag

WEEKS OFFERED

JUNE

1-5 • 15-19

22-26

JULY

6-10 • 13-17

20-24 • 27-31



DAILY ROUTINES

How will children be grouped together?

- To minimize the risk and follow recommended guidelines, participants will remain in groups of no more than 4 and will be with the same group each day.
- Groups will be assigned to an outside area and/or a designated, well ventilated area in the ring.

DROP-OFF PROCEDURES

For the time being, GFS has designated all of our drop-off and pick-up procedures to manage the number of people around the equestrian center.

Drop-Off

- Morning Mini Clinic drop-off begins at 8:45am and ends promptly at 9:00am.
- Afternoon Mini Clinic drop-off begins at 11:45am and ends promptly at 12:00pm.
- Participant temperatures will be taken before children step out of their cars.
- Participants with temperatures at 100.4 or above will not be permitted to leave their cars or attend the clinic. These participants **are required to remain at home and be free of an elevated temperature without medication for 48 hours before returning.**
- Or, visit one of the COVID-19 testing sites to confirm that the participant does not have the virus.
- If you do not make the drop-off window, please park and remain in the designated area outside the equestrian center marked for pony lessons and call 978-460-8118.
- If you wish to stay during your child's clinic, you must remain parked in the designated area outside the equestrian center and remain in your car. You will not be allowed to watch the clinic or enter the ring/barn area. In addition, the rest of campus is closed to external groups. While it is tempting to take a walk or be outside on our beautiful campus, we are under strict guidelines to prohibit these activities.

NOTE: All participants **MUST enter and exit campus using our lower service gate off of Reisterstown Road.** The temporary code to enter for summer lesson groups is: 7669 (PONY).



GES MINI PONY CLINIC ENTRANCE

Participants will gather (6 feet. apart)
outside the ring door, not the main barn.

There will be a tent for check in.

Clinic participants will not be allowed in the
main barn area unless they need to use
the restroom for an emergency.



DAILY PROTOCOLS

- Social distancing must be observed at all times.
- Before you leave your house, please go to the bathroom and wash your hands - emergencies only will be allowed in our restrooms as a safety measure during the clinics.
- Facial mask must be worn at all times except while mounted on pony.
- Riding gloves must be worn when working with pony.
- Hand sanitizing will be required frequently.
- Personal water bottles may be used during breaks and may not be shared.
- No sharing of equipment or supplies.
- At the end of each clinic all equipment, bleachers, restrooms and high touch areas will be sanitized.



ILLNESS AT CAMP

- If a participant presents symptoms of illness during clinic time, they will be escorted to a designated space away from other children and staff.
- The parent/guardian will be contacted for pick up.
- The parent/guardian is expected to arrive within 30 minutes of our call for pick-up.
- Participants need to remain home for 48 hours and can only return when showing no signs of fever or other symptoms without medication.
- If COVID-19 is suspected, GFS will inform families in the clinic groups.
- We ask that families have their child tested for COVID-19 at any of the Maryland testing sites. You can find the testing sites at: <https://bit.ly/GFS-testing>

PICK-UP PROCEDURES

- The morning clinic pick-up begins at 11:00am and ends promptly at 11:15am.
- The afternoon clinic pick-up begins at 2:00pm and ends promptly at 2:15pm.
- Please pull up and park/wait in the designated area for the Mini Pony Clinics outside the indoor arena.
- Your child will be walked to your car.

COMPREHENSIVE CLEANING & SANITIZING.....

- Scheduled to take place daily before, in between, and after each clinic group.
- Restrooms will be cleaned twice a day.
- During the day, doors, door handles, tables, bleachers, and any other high touch areas will be regularly sanitized.



AFTER DISMISSAL EACH DAY

Your child should return directly home. It is recommended by the CDC to discourage your child from gathering or socializing in new groups after the mini pony clinic day is finished at places like a friend's house, retail store, or grocery store.

BEFORE YOUR FIRST DAY

- Register online and complete the health history and medical form.
- Submit and sign the COVID-19 Waiver.
- To limit physical contact, all forms must be completed and submitted online before your child's first day through the registration system or sent to:
tararosenbaum@gfs.org
- Be sure you have the required equipment:
 - ASTM approved helmet
 - Riding pants (full length leggings or jeans are acceptable)
 - Riding gloves
 - Riding boots (hard soled non-riding boots with at least 1" heel are acceptable)
 - Facial mask
 - Water bottle (no food items please)
- Maryland Saddlery (now offering curbside pickup and appointments by phone).



PARTICIPATION IN GFS MINI PONY CLINIC IS COMPLETELY VOLUNTARY

- By voluntarily enrolling your child(ren) in GFS Mini Pony Clinic, you acknowledge and agree that you are assuming the risk of possibly contracting COVID-19 by you and/or your child(ren).
- Further, you acknowledge and agree that you are voluntarily waiving any claim of liability against the Garrison Forest School and its staff members should you and/or your child(ren) contract COVID-19 as a result of participating in a GFS Mini Pony Clinic.
- Further, you expressly agree to hold Garrison Forest School harmless should you and/or your child(ren) contract COVID-19 as a result of you and your child's/children's voluntary participation in a GFS Mini Pony Clinic.



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See you soon!
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QUESTIONS?

Email Tara Rosenbaum at tararosenbaum@gfs.org

GFS reserves the right to change any of the above information or cancel these lessons at any time.