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Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

We are excited that you have shown interest in U-Turn Ranch. Thanks for the opportunity to provide you with a fun and exciting Ranch experience. Right now the date(s) you have temporarily booked for your school is \_\_\_\_\_. To confirm and hold that spot without any problems please do the following.

1. Forward a deposit of \$100.00 and School Group Package (below – Page 2 and 3) to the Ranch to hold your spot. Please note that this deposit is non-refundable, but will be credited to your final invoice. Please read through all the information, including U-Turn Ranch School Group Policies and sign below so that we know you are aware of all our policies and procedures.
2. Please ask your students to dress for the weather as there are no cancellations due to weather. We suggest they bring bug spray, sunscreen, hat, and water bottle. We strongly suggest they wear long pants and must have close toed shoes for riding. We do have change rooms if they need to change. If there is rain in the forecast, please bring rain coats and boots.
3. Finally, when you arrive please bring the following...  
**Balance owing** for your time at U-Turn Ranch. **\$17/student (minus \$100 deposit)**  
**Release Forms** – Most schools already have a form that they get parents to sign. Please ensure you have these with you the day you come to the ranch. If you do not have a standard form, please see release form below.

We look forward to having you and your students here. Please let us know if there's anything we can do aid in your planning or the success of your stay.

Looking forward to working together with you,

Jodie Zehr  
Office Manager

# SCHOOL GROUP PACKAGE

## GROUP INFORMATION

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (s) Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) Requested: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please provide one person called regarding all decisions etc. and someone who will be here for the stay)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Teachers/Chaperons: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: We require that you confirm any changes in your numbers two week in advance. If we are not told differently you will be charged for the number stated on this form within 5 students.

## GROUP SIZE & HELPERS REQUIRED

We ask that students are split into groups (size to be determined). We suggest that each group has 2 adults helpers that stay with the group at all times. U-Turn Ranch staff will be busy with running the program so we ask that adult helpers will be available to help out with overseeing students at all times.

## SCHEDULE

Here is a standard schedule that we have set up for school groups. We will change it if needed according to your age of students, and numbers if needed.

Arrive and Welcoming by U-Turn Ranch Staff

Activity #1 - Archery

Activity #2 – Horses – Theory, or Pony Rides      All this can be customized

Lunch

Activity #3 – Orienteering or Scavenger Hunt

Activity #4 – Team Building

Wide Game

Hope to see you next year

## SPECIAL REQUESTS

We welcome any request or comments that you might have, and ask that you abide by our policies and guidelines, and we will do our best to accommodate you during your stay here at U-Turn Ranch. Please note any special requests.

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CONTRACT

Please keep a copy of this information for your records.

Failure to comply with this School Group Package and U-Turn Ranch School Group Policies as outlined may result in your group being asked to leave early or not being welcome back to U-Turn Ranch. If there are any questions about the information in this package and policies, please contact the office and we will do the best to work out a solution to the issues.

I have read all the information in the School Group Package and U-Turn Ranch School Group Policies and agree to abide by them. I will inform all attending students of these policies and will undertake to conduct our activities in a safe and careful manner. I assume full responsibility for the conduct of our group and for their safety. I agree, on behalf of the group, that we will not hold U-Turn Ranch, staff, volunteers or owners liable in any way for any accidents which may happen while we are at U-Turn Ranch.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount due: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed Schedule: \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHOOL PACKAGE AND PRICIE

School Groups – \$17/Student (If less than 20 students the price is \$20/student)

This includes the following...

- One school day at U-Turn Ranch
- Standard Schedule includes horses, archery, team building and orienteering (scavenger hunt).
  - We can substitute other activities if needed. .
  - Pool attempt to have the pool up and running from June-Sept, but there is an extra cost for this as we need to hire a lifeguard. \$5/student
- Dining Hall to eat
- Teachers and parents may attend at no charge.

\*\*Longer days and Overnight packages are available – Please contact office to discuss options.

## PROGRAMMING/ACTIVITIES

We generally run 4 different activities and the groups of students rotate through each activity. Note that we adjust our activities and what is taught according to the age that is participating. Therefore our program can be great for younger and older students. Depending on the amount of time here, will determine how many activities we can fit into the day.

Please see below a brief description of each activity. We do have other options that can be substituted such as Vaulting, Hike and Nature. This is an idea of what can be involved in our program.

**Horse/Animals** – Horses is a very exciting part of our program at U-Turn Ranch. Depending on what your board will allow, we can do one of the following.

- 1) Riding Option - Each horse activity starts with a brief instruction. Each student will have the opportunity to get up on a horse for a ride. This is led by our experienced horse staff at U-Turn Ranch. While the students take turns riding, the rest of the group will be able to groom and interact with some of the other horses, supervised by parents/teachers if comfortable.
- 2) Animal Class – During this option we allow the teacher to introduce the class to one of our horses. They will teach the class what you should and shouldn't do with a horse. How horses interact with us as humans, and show them the different parts of the horse. This is all done with the horse on the other side of the fence than the students. Then they have time to do an activity sheet based on what they have learned.

**Archery** – At archery the students will learn about safety in the archery area, how to string a bow, how to aim and shoot an arrow. The students will have lots of time to test out their skills and shooting ability. Archery takes place in an area all on its own and there are very strict rules that go with the activity.

**Orienteering** – During orienteering the students will learn the basics of how to use a compass, parts of a compass and how to follow a bearing. Then the students will navigate and travel all over camp to find clues to solve a problem. This is suggested for Grade 3 and up.

**Team Building** – Team building is a set of exercises that require the entire group's participation to solve. Team building gives the students the opportunity to develop their problem-solving skills, listening and cooperation skills, communication and creative thinking. Students will plan, discuss, set a goal and then participate as a group to accomplish the task at hand.

**Frisbee Golf** – This is a game much like mini golf, however it is played with a Frisbee and pylons. This will teach the students accuracy while allowing them to enjoy the outdoors and explore the ranch. This is an activity that is run by the parents of the group.

**Scavenger Hunt** – We have three different hunts that students can work away at. This is something that will help them with their numbers, and discover nature at U-Turn Ranch. This is suggested for Grade 2 and under.

**Nature** – This includes a walk and education around the natural areas and animals we have here at U-Turn Ranch.

## U-TURN SCHOOL GROUP POLICIES

Please ensure that everyone attending is aware of U-turn Ranch School Group Policies below.

**Reservations** – Tentative dates may be set by phone, however no reservation is guaranteed until deposit and school group package is returned to U-Turn Ranch.

**Cancellations** – Deposits are non-refundable. There is no option of rescheduling due to weather. Please prepare students to come dressed for rain or shine.

**Deposit & Payment** - For all school groups we require there to be a non-refundable deposit. This will be credited to your final invoice, as long as there are no damages during your stay at U-Turn. Once school group package and deposit are received in our office, we will send out a confirmation. Two weeks prior to your arrival we ask that you contact us and let us know if your numbers are different than what is stated in this package. If we do not hear from you we will assume numbers are still the same. At that point we will send you a final invoice which is due upon arrival at the ranch. Checks may be used for deposit but we require cash or money order for final payment.

**Release Forms** - Please ensure that Release Forms are signed by every participant over 18 and everyone under 18 a parent or legal guardian must sign.

**Meals** – Our kitchen is not open for public use, so if meals are required U-turn Ranch and staff will provide all meals and clean up. We do have a fridge that you are welcome to use during your stay in the dining hall right outside the kitchen. Please ensure that no one enters the kitchen at any time.

Please ensure that your group follows all posted public health guidelines. We require that everyone wash their hands before eating, especially after handling animals.

**Arrival /Departure** – Generally groups come around 9:30 and leave around 2:30. We are flexible on this as we do not book groups in the evenings except for Fridays. Please contact us if you desire to make use of this.

**Alcohol, illegal drugs and restricted movies are not prohibited on the premises.**

**Smoking** is prohibited in all building and around barn area. If this is something that is an issue for any member in your group please let us know and we will see if we can arrange a spot that is good for everyone.

**Facility Care** – School groups using U-Turn Ranch facilities are responsible for all damages beyond normal wear and tear to equipment, buildings, facilities and grounds, and will be charged accordingly.

**Supervision** – Groups are required to provide adequate supervision for participants at all times. U-Turn Ranch staff will be present to assist with serving meals, and while running activities. But we ask that an adult from your group be with every activity and present during meal time to supervise participants.

**Nature & Wildlife** – We ask that you let the nature of U-Turn Ranch not be disturbed. No cutting or removing twigs, leaves and bark from trees or picking flowers. We also ask that you respect all wildlife.

**Garbage and Recycling** – Garbage cans and blue boxes are available throughout the camp grounds. Please use them and do not litter.

**Vehicles** – All vehicles should be parked in the U-Turn Ranch parking lot. No speeding, driving vehicles in any area other than U-Turn Drive way and parking lot.

**Pool** – We attempt to have our pool up and running for the months of June – September. However there is no guarantee. U-Turn Ranch will attempt to provide a lifeguard. If we can not find someone you are welcome to provide one, but we must have their qualifications on file for your stay and one of our staff is required to be at the pool at all times during swimming.

**First Aid** – School groups are responsible for their own first aid. We do have basic first aid supplies.

**Fires** – are permitted only in existing fire areas.

**Lost and Found** – U-Turn Ranch is not responsible for any lost or forgotten articles. Lost and found articles not claimed within two weeks may be donated to the local second hand store.

**Out of Bounds** – We ask that you keep your group out of the kitchen, barn and pastures, Ranch vehicles and equipment, private residences and program room. The pool and pond is closed unless arrangements have been made.

**Accidents** – We ask that any accidents or damage is reported to the directors of U-turn Ranch.

# RELEASE FORM

For insurance reasons **ALL** persons must fill out the following form and sign prior to participation in any Ranch program or activities. Anyone under the age of 18 must have a Parent sign and complete this form. Please photocopy as many forms as is necessary (one form per person).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergic to bee stings? Yes No

Allergies to food or drugs? Yes No

If YES, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

While every precaution shall be taken to ensure the good welfare and protection of the participant, U-Turn Ranch, its Director, staff members, employees or facilities outside the Ranch grounds are hereby released from any and all liability in the event of any accident or misfortune that may occur to the participant.

I understand that First Aid and basic medical care is the primary responsibility of the group and its leaders and not U-Turn Ranch. I understand that the group, organization school or agency that is bringing the participant in, is responsible to provide adequate insurance coverage for their duration of stay.

I hereby certify that I have read and accept all the above conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant, or Parent/Guardian if under the age of 18

