



ESSENTIAL EQUINE EXERCISE

We have made a rota of access for those requesting time to exercise their horse, **your (and your sharers) slots will be emailed to you.** There are still no strict government guidelines about the essential nature of exercising horses or whether a journey to exercise a horse is counted as 'essential travel'. Across the country authorities are treating this issue differently (interview with senior West Country police officer on BBC new was supportive, but other authorities have deemed it unnecessary). So please be aware that you may get stopped by the police and possibly fined, I have issued everyone with a 'certificate of access' which you can carry with you, but I have no idea if this would help you in any way if challenged by police!!!

Here's the rules (sorry more rules) about equine exercise:

1. You must not hack out or exercise your horse outside of the confines of GBEC. Anyone can have an innocent fall or trip, which can result in a horse loose in a public area, or worse still on a road. This could have a major impact on someone's else's safety & life and our local police and emergency services, so we ask that you do not take this risk.
2. We request that you don't engage in any risky riding activities, jumping is discouraged as not essential.
3. Access to riding paddocks may be temporarily removed because of ground conditions, i.e. if it becomes wet or permanently removed if gateways are left open.
4. If riding in the mid/late afternoon or evening, you must leave your horse rugged for the night, please bear in mind your level of activity and the temperature on the day to achieve this!

About your booking

Good news 😊 The slots you have been given are yours for the next 4 weeks, so you can plan your week. Bad news 😞 They are fairly non-negotiable. However, if your slot is not going to be possible for you for the duration, please get in contact and I'll try to find you an alternative for the duration.

How things will operate (changes may be made if things are not working):

- You have been allocated either one hour or half an hour depending on your horse's needs. You can turn up 10-15 minutes before your slot and stay 10-15 minutes after your slot to tack-up, un-tack, clean tack, brush off, wash down etc.
- Please, please do not abuse, stretch, change or otherwise shuffle your slot. We have a strict duty of care to spread out footfall and minimise interactions between people.
- If you cannot/are not attending for any individual slot, you do not need to tell us as slots will not be reallocated or shuffled on a day-to-day basis. However, if you want to give up your slot for the remaining period (until 27th April), please let me know.
- Kindly remember, your slot is for equine exercise, not socialising. Not that there will be many people to socialise with!!
- Generally, there is no need to pre-book a school, but the following **indoor booking for exclusive use** have been reserved:
 - Daily at 12.30pm and 5.30pm for 30 minutes.
 - Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 3pm for one hour.
- If you require a guaranteed indoor-to-yourself booking for rehabilitation or behaviour problems, please let me know and I'll add to the indoor rota, but unless we get new requests for this, only the above slots are reserved for indoors so you can choose which school you use when you arrive.
- The top 'show' fields are accessible from about 3pm onward and into the evening. **As you leave, you must shut all gates into and out of every paddock you use** – and any others you see that have been left open. **This is a very important safety rule that could affect the safety of horses on daily turnout.** It is recommended that you closed the gate to the paddock you are riding in so that you are in an enclosed space, but understand it is not always practical. We will try to put a mounting block in each Ring to assist you.

Hopefully we can enjoy some nice weather and keep our horses ticking along until restrictions are lifted. I would wish you a cherry 'happy hacking' but that would be entirely inappropriate!!