

# FMF Zoom Meeting 2: Working Student Information

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March 18, 2021

# Eligibility

- Riders aged 12+
    - Adults, too!
  - Ridden at FMF 6+ months
  - Able to groom, tack, & lead horses independently
  - Friendly, outgoing, & responsible
  
  - Prepare:
    - [fullmoonfarm.com](https://fullmoonfarm.com) → Get Involved → Working Students → [“Working Students Guide”](#)
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# Getting Started

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Ask instructor or call farm line

WSt Coordinator: Audra Burns

Two to four 3-hour shifts: shadow, assist, learn

Schedule regular shifts or sub

# Dos...

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Arrive on-time

Be outgoing & proactive

Follow instructions

Take responsibility & speak up

Lead by example (leading; attitude)

Be sure (turnout; tack; blankets)

Get coverage

Check in

# ...& Don'ts

Make assumptions (turnout; adults)

Slack off / Snack / Be on your phone

Say “there’s nothing to do”

Be shy

Do everything

Rely on Ms. Audra

Mix up halters/leads/blankets/etc.

Skip treatments

# Start of Shift

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**Check:** Lesson Board, Update Board, In/Unused, Turnout, etc.

**Note:**

- Pre-assigned stall numbers & post-lesson location
  - Add notes: Treatments?
- Changes: muzzles, chains, stalls, fields
- Are horses in fields?
- Any new riders?
  - Be extra-friendly & read the room
  - Release form

**Tidy up:** Grooming Barn, tack rooms

# Before & After

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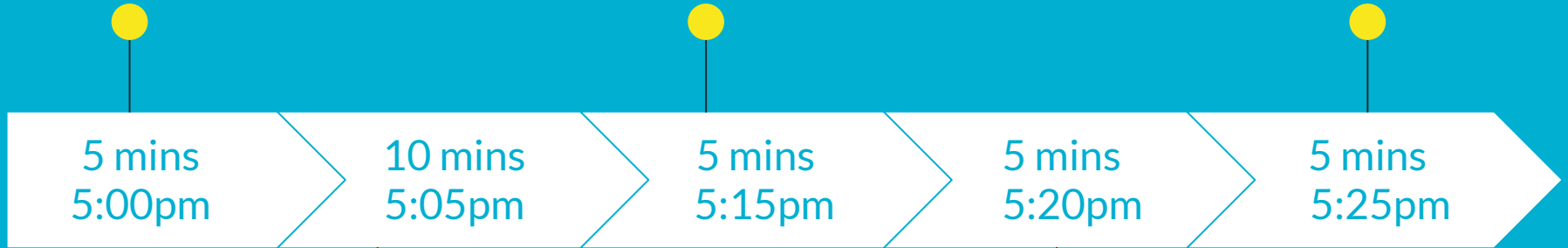
- Before riders arrive:
  - Make sure the tack rooms are in working, clean order.
    - Tack room: always a mess 😞
    - Properly put away: browbands facing out, saddle pads sorted, bounce-/half-pads stacked,, etc.
- After riders leave / Before you sign out:
  - Dump trash, muck tubs
  - Tack room, sweep
    - Teach riders properly– so you don't need to be their maid!

# Example: 5:30 lesson

Pull tack  
& horse

Saddle

Walk to ring



Pick hooves,  
curry, & brush

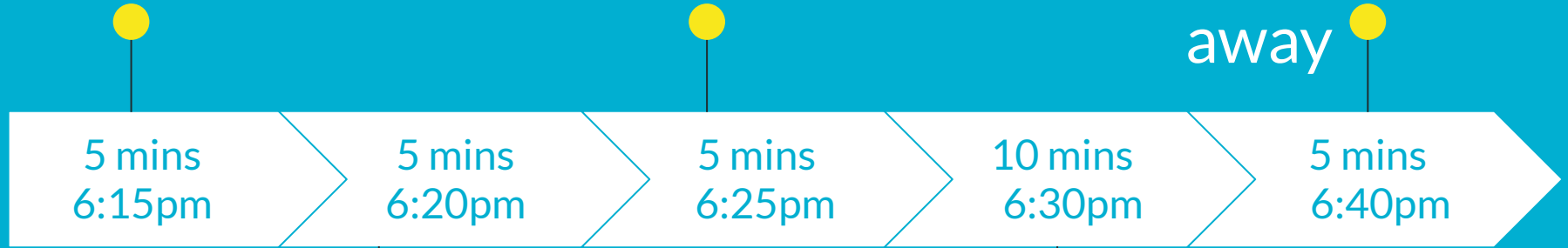
Bridle

# Example: 5:30 lesson

Walk down  
to arena

Walk up to barn

Put horses  
away



Dismount, stirrups  
up, girths loosened

Untack  
& groom



# First-Timers

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- 1) Release Form!!!!
- 2) Payment
- 3) Attire
- 4) Experience?
- 5) Lesson board
- 6) Tack cards
- 7) Tack rooms
- 8) Getting the horse
- 9) Grooming
- 10) Tacking



# Young & New Riders

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- 1) Pay attention
- 2) Be patient
- 3) Don't assume
- 4) Ask questions
- 5) Let them show you what they know
- 6) Set a good example



## What you should know

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Tacking / Adjusting stirrups

Grooming

Lead chains

Halters & muzzles

Blanketing

Leading a horse / Turning out

Time management

## What your riders should know

Tacking / Adjusting stirrups

Grooming

Lead chains

Halters & muzzles

Blanketing

Leading a horse / Turning out

Time management

*Don't just do... TEACH!*

# Make things run smoothly

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## Riders show up late?

Tell them to arrive on-time.

## Riders slow at grooming/tacking?

Pull tack, horses, pre-pick feet, etc.

## Getting to the ring late?

Bridle sooner, tack sooner...

## Riders uncooperative?


Be a tattletale.

## Riders get distracted?

Keep them engaged. Make it a game.

## Mounting take forever?

Pre-adjust stirrups, girth, etc.

“I can’t” = 

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**Why?**

“I don’t know how” → Teach them (again, and again, and again...)

“I can’t reach” → Grab a stool

“It’s too heavy” → Take multiple trips; lend a hand

**Give them homework!**

Can’t do a snap? a buckle?

“There’s nothing to do” =



—  
Have you SEEN the tack rooms?! The driveway? The girths?

SWEEP! TIDY UP! ORGANIZE!

CLEAN TACK! MAKE THRUSH!

DUMP MUCK TUBS!

FOLD BLANKETS!

If you say there’s nothing to do... you better mean it!

“I wasn’t sure” =



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Be sure... BEFORE you do things.

Tack, fields, feed...

**IF YOU DON'T KNOW, YOU NEED TO ASK.**

“I think”... “I don’t know”... “I’m pretty sure”...