

Welcome!

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us here at Master's Touch Recreational Riding. We look forward to serving you and your family for many years to come. MTRR is a faith-based, board-supervised, nonprofit 501c3 corporation. Master's Touch specializes in working with individuals with developmental, physical or cognitive delays and autism spectrum disorder, while also providing traditional riding lessons for all ages and skill levels. Although the primary focus of the program is the student's success, the facility creates a relaxing, rejuvenating environment for families and caregivers as well.

Founder & Program Director

Makayla Parr is the Founder and Program Director of Master's Touch Recreational Riding. Raised here in Social Circle, GA, Makayla developed her love for animals and the outdoors at a young age. As a middle-school student, she began to study the value of hippotherapy and foster a dream of using her beloved animals to enrich the lives of others. In her sixteen years of experience as an equestrian, Makayla participated in multiple disciplines such as, hunt seat, working cow, reining, cutting, mounted drill team, driving and vaulting. She holds regional, state, and national titles in many of them. Makayla began her teaching career as a high school student while competing at a national level with 4-H, IEA, Mounted Drill, the NRHA. She went on to win a NCAA scholarship for the University of South Carolina Equestrian Team. While there, Makayla served all four years as the team prayer leader and continued to nurture her dream for a therapeutic riding career through equestrian work with Curing Kids Cancer, volunteering at a hippotherapy therapy barn, and working as an assistant coach for the Georgia Equestrian Special Olympics. She was awarded as a MVP, recognized consistently on the SEC Honor Roll, and was appointed to the 2017 SEC Community Service Team. In May of 2017, she returned home to achieve her lifelong dream of opening a therapeutic riding facility. With the generous help of family, close friends, and numerous volunteers, her dreams have become her reality.

Program Goals and Vision

On December 3, 2017, MTRR opened officially as a Recreational Riding Facility and has plans to become a P.A.T.H. Certified Therapeutic Riding Facility in the future. Recreational Riding differs from traditional riding in that it focuses on developing more than basic riding technique. With equine-assisted activities directed toward improving motor, verbal and communication skills, sensory integration, socialization, coordination and emotional control, the horse is used as a catalyst to bring about the best in the rider. In addition to Recreational Riding, the program has grown to include Small Spurs (for ages under 5), Silver Spurs (for the young at heart), traditional riding for all ages, and Recreational Driving, with each new program continuing to follow the recreational riding model. Riding (or driving) is many more things than simply riding or driving. We learn about relationship - to care and empathize with another one of God's creatures. We learn to communicate verbally and non-verbally. We balance and breathe and learn to be brave. We fail and try again to succeed. And with God's help, we will succeed. Thank you for taking this journey with us. We hope you enjoy the ride.

Blessings,

Marcus Crowe,
Board Chairman



Riding Covenant

In order to ensure coordinated care, staff and volunteers are provided with information about abilities/disabilities of participants.

Participant's Name _____ Preferred Name _____
Date of Birth _____ Age ____ Male or Female (circle one) Height _____ Weight _____
Street _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Phone _____ (home/cell) Phone _____ (home/cell)
Email address: _____

School Name _____ Grade _____

Diagnosis (optional):

Primary _____ Secondary _____

Emergency Medical Treatment

Physician's Name _____ Phone _____

Health Insurance Company _____ Policy # _____

Preferred Medical Facility _____

Allergies/Allergies to medication _____

Current medications _____

In the event of an emergency contact: Name _____

Cell phone _____ Relationship _____

Consent to Emergency Medical Treatment

In the event emergency medical aid/treatment is required due to illness or injury during the process of receiving services or while being on the property of Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Academy, I authorize Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Academy, Inc. to: 1. Secure and retain medical treatment and transportation if needed. 2. Release records upon request to the authorized individual or agency involved in the medical emergency treatment. This authorization includes x-rays, surgery, hospitalization, medication and any treatment procedure deemed "life saving" by the physician. This provision will only be invoked if the person(s) above is unable to be reached.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Adult Participant SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____ Parent/Guardian if participant is under 18 years of age

Relationship to participant if participant is under 18 years of age

Health Survey

Does the student have....	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Have a history of seizures?			
Follow simple directions?			
Have speech or language difficulties?			
Have communication difficulties?			
Have a fear of animals/horses?			
Walk independently?			
Have limited range of motion?			
Have decreased strength/endurance?			
Have poor balance (sitting/standing)?			
Have problems with gross motor skills?			
Have problems with fine motor skills?			
Have altered sensation? (Specify)			

Have heart/circulation problems?			
Have digestion/elimination problems?			
Have bone/joint problems?			
Have allergies or breathing problems?			
Have emotional/behavioral problems?			
Independent Ambulation?			
Assisted Ambulation?			
Braces/Assistive Devices?			

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Please provide any additional information that you feel would be helpful in lesson planning for this participant.

How did you hear of our program? _____

Please check service of interest: (See page 2 for description of services)

- Recreational Riding
- Western/English Riding Lessons

- Group lessons
- Small Spurs
- Silver Spurs
- Recreational Driving
- Vaulting
- Drill Team

Please check your primary goal(s) while at MTRR.

- Equestrian/horsemanship (goals _____)
- Recreational/therapeutic (goals _____)
- Social (goals _____)
- Other _____

Describe previous riding experience, if any:

Fees and Payment Procedures

- Private Fees
 - Recreational Riding: \$45/\$40 (when enrolled) for 45 min
 - Small Spurs: \$40/\$35 (when enrolled) for 30 min
 - Silver Spurs: \$45/\$40 (when enrolled) for 45 min
 - Recreational Driving: \$45/\$40 (when enrolled) for 45 min
 - Vaulting: \$30/\$25 (when enrolled) for an hour and a half
 - Western/English Riding: \$50/\$45 (when enrolled) for 1 hr.
 - Group Western/English Riding Fee: \$35 per lesson. (must be enrolled, evaluated by instructor)
 - Drill Team Fee: \$100 per month (must be enrolled and evaluated by coach)
- **Discounted fees at a rate of \$20.00 per month are available when students enroll for an entire semester and pay the monthly enrollment fee by the first of each month.**
(This is a savings of more than \$80 for the semester)
- Fees must be paid by check, or card using square (at barn or online).
- Fees paid after the 10th of the month are subject to a “late fee” of \$25.00.
- All bank fees charged for returned checks are the responsibility of the participant.
- Fees for using a card will be paid by participant
- Payments can be paid by mail or in person– Send payments to Master’s Touch 2794 McGarity Road Social Circle, GA 30025. Fees paid in person are to be placed in the drop box located beside the office. Please put the payment in a closed envelope and label it with the rider's name and the date of the lesson. They should not be given to the instructors or volunteers.

Initial _____

Please check preferred schedule/payment

- Winter Semester** (pay by month)
 - Dates: January 8 – March 31
 - No Classes: Jan. 15th (MLK Day)
 - No Classes: Feb. 19th (President’s Day)
- Spring Semester** (pay by month)
 - Dates: April 1- May 31
 - No Classes: May 27 (Memorial Day)
- Summer Semester** (pay by session at mo/rate)
 - Dates: June 1- July 31
 - No Classes: July 4 (Independence Day)
- Fall Semester 1** (pay by month)
 - Dates: August 1- September 30
 - No Classes: Sep. 2 (Labor Day)
- Fall Semester 2** (pay by month)
 - Dates: October 1- December 22
 - No Classes: Nov. 11 (Veterans Day)
 - No Classes: Nov 25th-29th (Thanksgiving Holiday)

We will be on break from enrollment for Christmas and New Years December 21st, 2024 through January 5th, 2025.

Students that are not enrolled need to book and pay by the session unless otherwise instructed by the scheduling manager.

Individual sessions may additionally be booked upon request during semester breaks, aside from holidays

Recreational Riding is designed to provide a therapeutic experience for children and adults with physical, mental and emotional disabilities through the development of horseback riding skills. These sessions focus on exercises intended to improve cognitive, physical, emotional, and social. Catering to students 5 years and older, students will participate in activities on the sensory trail as well as learn riding skills in the arena.

Small Spurs is a program caters to children under the age of 5, using equine assisted activities for physical, mental, or social development. All mounted exercises are designed to positively influence cognitive, physical, emotional and social development.

Silver Spurs is Recreational riding sessions for ages 65+ to improve balance, coordination, memory, daily life skills, overall mood and more. During the sessions, the riders will also experience a sense of purpose and responsibility through learning how to take care of their lesson horse.

Recreational Driving sessions are offered but not limited to children and adults who struggle with physical, mental, sensory or emotional disabilities. It allows students the opportunity to experience control of a horse while sitting in a cart. During the session, the individual will have the opportunity to learn how to care for the horse, tack up and control the horse from their buggy. The service provides a riding alternative for those who are unable to ride in a saddle due to weight, balance, fatigue, allergies, fear of heights, asthma, anxiety or are unable to sit astride.

Western/English Riding sessions are traditional western riding sessions available to anyone over the age of 5 years old. Students will focus on mastering basic riding and horsemanship skills as well horse care.

Group Western/English Riding sessions are limited to students with more experience in the program and must be approved by instructor. They focus on increasing horsemanship skills and knowledge of multiple riders.

Drill Team is a group of horses and riders performing synchronized maneuvers to music. The teams are intended to entertain, show sportsmanship, horsemanship, teamwork and dedication. Members must be approved by instructor to join.

Vaulting is a combination of gymnastics and dance on horseback. This sport improves a rider’s seat, rhythm, balance, coordination, and horsemanship skills overall.

Private fees:

- Recreational Riding fees: \$160/mo or \$45 by the session
- Small Spurs fees: \$140/mo or \$40 by the session
- Silver Spurs fees: \$160/mo or \$45 by the session
- Recreational Driving fees: \$160/mo or \$45 by session
- Western Riding Lessons fees: \$180/mo or \$50 by session

Group fees:

- Western/English Group: \$140/mo (enrolled only)
- Drill Team fees: \$100 per month (enrolled only)
- Vaulting fees: \$100/mo or \$30 by session

Make-Up Days

When making up during the week is not possible, make-up days will be offered on a designated Saturday. These dates are subject to change by each instructor. Your instructor will reach out the week prior to discuss the number of makeups each rider has, and the specific times of the clinic. It is the client's responsibility to make sure these dates are on their calendar.

January clinic: the 27th

February clinic: the 24th

March clinic: the 16th

MTRR Guidelines

Benefits of Becoming an MTRR Member

- What is a member: students committing to a semester with signed contract and monthly payments
- Priority scheduling: There is a waiting list for many after school session hours. Clients with current contracts will be given priority when choosing lesson times. Schedule opportunities for the next semester will be provided to enrolled members before non-enrolled members.
- Events: Members will have priority in obtaining spots for camp, clinics and other events and services offered during the year with limited space available.
- Fee discounts: Paying per month is a \$20 savings overpaying per session.

Lesson Standard

- A horse will be provided for the participant based on a number of factors. The participant is not promised to ride the same horse every session. Horses have bad days like humans and occasionally may be unavailable for a session.
- In the event the client does not have a mounted lesson (due to non-cooperative behavior) payment is still expected. There will be a one-time grace period for rescheduling for this session.

Dress Code for Participants

- Appropriate attire is essential for the comfort & safety of the participant. Long pants are required. Pants that are made of nylon, polyester, or other “slippery” materials are not acceptable.
- Boots are mandatory for all participants. Participants riding with stirrups will need appropriate riding boots.
- Please refrain from wearing revealing clothing, clothing with inappropriate or offensive messages, blood, gore, skulls, and the like.
- Please provide jackets, sweaters, gloves, etc. in the event of colder temperatures. Remember, the arena is not heated.
- Shorts, skirts or dresses are not permitted. Participant’s legs can become irritated unless they are protected.
- The participant may NOT ride if not dressed appropriately. If a participant comes to sessions in inappropriate footwear or clothing, the participant will not be permitted to ride, but will still be charged for the session.
- Helmets must be worn by all participants prior to and through the entire session time. MTRR will provide an ASTM/SEI certified helmet if the participant does not have their own.
- Boots may be available at MT in limited sizes for the use of students who cannot obtain their own.

MTRR Etiquette

- The covered family gathering area, playground, lawn, garden, and hiking trails (when not being used by horses) are available for your enjoyment while you are waiting on a lesson. Please ask one of our staff members before you go on any trails or in the mini barn for the safety of our animals and clients. Our first priority is to our participants, so please be considerate of sessions in progress

- Only the instructor, volunteers and participant directly involved in sessions are allowed in the arena, sensory trail and tacking areas at all times, unless directed otherwise by the instructor.
- If a previous session is in progress or dismounting, stay in car or quietly go to parent/participant waiting areas.
- All participants are to wait in designated non-rider areas until volunteer or instructor comes to escort them.
- If you need to talk to the Instructor about medical or physical problems which may have a safety implication for the current session, please do so before the mounting phase begins.
- While a riding session is in progress all parents, family members, and guests are welcome to use our playground, trails (ask a staff member first), garden, or other family areas previously listed.
- All scheduling must be done outside of session times through square services or the instructor to provide for an effective teaching/therapeutic environment.
- Please do not run around animals or through the barn. While our horses are not easily spooked, they are still flight animals and can cause dangerous situations when startled.

Social Media

- Please ask your instructor before posting pictures/videos taken of our animals during lessons on personal social media accounts.

Initial_____

Supervision Requirements

- All participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or adult unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director. An adult must remain on the premises that will be responsible for any dependent's needs and/or emergencies and must accompany participants unless approved by the instructor.
- Children under the age of 18 are not permitted to enter the miniature animal enclosure without an adult unless advised by instructor.
- All participants must follow the rules and guidelines posted at the miniature animal enclosure. Failure to do so will result in dismissal of the enclosure.
- If guardian is approved to leave the premises during the session, guardian must arrive back before the session ends.
- Participants are responsible for any guests accompanying them

Horses

- Please do not feed any of the horses unless authorized by the instructor. Our horse's diets are supervised solely by our Equine Director.
- If you are bringing any type of treat for our horses such as carrots, apples, etc. you may let the instructor know and the proper treat can be given (with the instructor's help) at the end of the session.
- Participants are not permitted to go into the barn area or pasture without an instructor's authorization.

Pets

- While we strive to provide a safe environment for the whole family, pets are not permitted on the premises. Exceptions are made for certified companions or working therapy support animals. Therapy animals are not allowed at any time to enter or approach the MT miniature animal enclosure.

Smoking or Vaping

- No smoking or vaping is permitted on the property by participants, volunteers or guests at any time. Even vaping or smoking in the car at the parking lot with a window cracked is enough to spook a horse that your child might be riding.

Parking

- Please park in the designated areas
- Help us maintain the safety of everyone involved by using a 10 MPH courtesy standard when entering and exiting the property. We could have horses and/or participants moving from one area to another. Your cooperation is appreciated.
- When entering the driveway and parking lot, please treat this as a quiet zone. Sessions are in progress and loud noises or unexpected movements have the tendency to spook even the best horses.

Attendance

- Punctuality is required! Please let us know if you are going to be late. Classes are planned in advance for you; our dedicated team of volunteers and instructors will be waiting. So, if you're late, communicate! Call the barn at **770-672-5759**. We will wait for fifteen minutes past the scheduled ride time. Horses will be put away after this 15-minute period and no longer available so as to not disrupt the current active class. NO credit will be issued. If clients communicate or arrive less than 15 minutes late, the lesson will continue as scheduled, but will still end at the original set time.
- Absences must be reported in advance and will be considered eligible for make-up as long as we receive 24 hour notice prior to the scheduled session. Exceptions to the attendance and fee rules can be made in unusual and extenuating circumstances per written request and review of circumstance by instructor and or board of directors.
- Any participant that cancels or reschedules a lesson more than four times per semester will be excused from enrollment. This DOES NOT include reschedules due to weather, extreme illness, or reschedules on behalf of the instructor. Online bookings will still be available as an alternative for the participant if desired. Exceptions under certain circumstances can be made by the executive director.
- Cancellations must be called into MT at 770-672-5759. Email notification is not sufficient since MT email is not monitored on a 24/7 basis. Cancellations received less than 24 hours are considered to be a NON EXCUSED FORFEITED absence and the cost for the session is still due. Eligibility for make up sessions will be determined by instructor based on circumstance.
- Extended Illness or surgery – An extended illness is considered to be an illness which is in excess of two weeks. MT must be notified of the participant's extended illness or surgery when the surgery is scheduled or the illness begins. Credit towards make-up sessions will be provided when the participant is able to return. Refunds will be done on a case by case basis and must be submitted in written form for documentation.

- Any participant missing three lessons within the semester without prior notification (no call/no show) will be dropped from the program.

Cancellations due to weather:

- Cancellation of classes due to weather is at the sole discretion of MT and is not determined by school closures. Participants will be notified by the instructor in the case of severe weather no earlier than two hours prior to the start time of the sessions for the day.
- In the case of rain, the participant will have the option of alternative activities to better horsemanship skills as well as benefit from therapeutic activities. Every effort will be made to offer make-up sessions, if participant does not attend session due to weather.
- Lessons will be rescheduled if the weather is below 30 degrees unless otherwise directed by the instructor, as our grounds will freeze. When taking the heat into account, typically we will add the humidity level plus the temperature. If that number combined exceeds 170, then it is too hot for our horses to be working. The wind is also taken into consideration during lessons, as horses tend to get spooked more easily when it is windy. If there are wind gusts that exceed 15-20 MPH, then lessons will be rescheduled.
- All cancellations due to weather are subject to change by each instructor, depending on the conditions, the horse being used, and each individual rider. Under all of the weather conditions, your instructor will do their best to provide a ground session instead of a mounted session. Lessons will only be rescheduled when absolutely necessary, and makeups will be offered as an alternative.

* Exceptions to the attendance and fee rules can be made in extenuating circumstances but is solely at the discretion of MT. Any client/family with such a situation can submit all pertinent requests in writing to MT.

- **The client must provide 30 days written notice of intent/desire to take off more than two weeks from their contracted term for any reasons other than those outlined under _____ . During that 30 day period, the client is still responsible for all costs associated with scheduled lessons for the participant.**

***Please sign waiver with whoever will be on the property at the time of the lesson. This includes parents, siblings, and any guests in addition to the rider. All names can go on the same waiver.**

Initial _____

Equine Activity Release and Hold Harmless Agreement

1. I, _____, the undersigned have read and understand, and freely and voluntarily enter into this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement with Masters Touch, understanding that this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement is a waiver of any and all liability.

2. I understand the potential dangers that I could incur in mounting, riding, walking, boarding and feeding horses; including, but not limited to, any interactions with other horses. Understanding those risks I hereby release Company, its officers, directors, shareholders, employees, property owner, and anyone else directly or indirectly connected with that Company from any liability whatsoever in the event of injury or damage of any nature (or perhaps even death) to me or anyone else caused by or incidental to my electing to mount and ride or interact in any way with a horse(s) or any other animals owned by me or owned or operated by Masters Touch.

3. I understand and recognize and warrant that this Agreement is being voluntarily and intentionally signed and agreed to, and, that in signing this Agreement I know and understand that this Agreement limits the liability of Masters Touch, its officers, directors, shareholders, employees and anyone else directly or indirectly connected with that Masters Touch, while participating in any activity, whatsoever, involving an equine that results in death, personal injury and/or damage to property.

4. I recognize and agree that Masters Touch has made reasonable and prudent efforts to determine my ability to engage in equine activities, and has sufficient knowledge of my equine and horseback riding skills as to relieve, release and hold harmless Masters Touch Recreational Riding from any continuing duty to monitor my equine activities.

5. I further voluntarily agree and warrant to Release and Hold Harmless Masters Touch, its officers, directors, shareholders, employees, property owner, and anyone else directly or indirectly connected with Company from any liability whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any incident caused by or related to Masters Touch negligence, relating to injuries known, unknown, or otherwise not herein disclosed; including, but not limited to, injuries, death or property damage from: mounting; riding; dismounting; walking; grooming; feeding; use of horse barn, paddock, trails or horse ring, in any capacity; falling off horse whether horse is bucking, flipping, spooked; or my failure to understand any equine professional's directions relating to my riding or otherwise use and control, or lack thereof, of my horse or the horse I have been assigned to.

Person voluntarily entering into this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

If minor, person representing himself/herself to be the lawful Guardian under this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Photo Release Permission Slip:

I hereby consent to the use of photographs/videotape taken during the course of any activity at Master's Touch for publicity, promotional and/or educational purposes (including publications, presentation or broadcast via newspaper, internet or other media sources). I do this with full knowledge and consent and waive all claims for compensation for use, or for damages.

Yes, I give consent for Master's Touch to photograph myself/ my child for any purposes and/or at any riding events.

No, I do not authorize Master's Touch to photograph myself or my child for any event.

Participant/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Participant Name: _____