Tahquitz Wrangler Program 2020

Horses at Tahquitz

This is a unique experience that you will only find at Camp Tahquitz. This is a “immersion” program for any Scout attending Tahquitz, regardless of riding experience. The Scout will be able to develop and improve horsemanship skills, experience care and feeding of horses, build confidence, and have an unforgettable experience.

Attending Scouts will be assigned a horse for the week during the 8 AM to 12 noon morning session or the 12 noon to 4 PM afternoon session. They will be responsible for feeding, cleaning, tacking, watering, and of course, riding “their” horse. First year Wrangler Guests will be enrolled in the 1.0 level program to learn the fundamentals of horsemanship and work on the Merit Badge. Our 2.0 level, a more advanced class of skilled horsemanship, is offered to graduates of our 1.0 level.

There will be group riding lessons, first in a controlled ring, then on the trail, and then possibly have a chance to earn bragging rights on our renowned Endurance Bridle Path. When not on the horse, Scouts will be able to experience ranch skills such as pasture maintenance, and stable management, as well as water and feed selection.

Program Structure & Availability
This program is designed to fit into the existing Camp Tahquitz program that has mornings for merit badge classes, and afternoons for Troop and Patrol Adventures. Each scout must determine how to complete the days at Tahquitz by selecting "

- Wrangler Morning Session: 8:00 am – 1:00 noon (Lunch from 12 noon to 1 PM)
- Wrangler Afternoon Session: 12:00 noon – 5:00 pm (Lunch from 12 noon to 1 PM)

(IMPORTANT PROGRAM NOTE: Both the morning and afternoon session groups will be in the Stable area during lunch – food will be provided for them).

Cost
There is an additional $100 program upgrade fee, payable through the troop’s Camp Tahquitz account to participate in the full week wrangler program. This is believed to be a bargain when considering that just 2 hours of riding at a local trail stable down the hill would be $60.
Limited Enrollment
To ensure that all participants who participate in the Wrangler Program have a high-quality experience, participation is limited to 12 riders per session (e.g., 12 in the morning session and then 12 in the afternoon session).

Reservations
To make reservation for this program, a troop will need to be registered in CampMaster for the general camp program. Scouts must be listed in the CampMaster Troop Roster before they can Wrangler Reservation can be submitted for them.  *(If you are a parent submitting for your scout, please be sure that your Scoutmaster has entered your scout’s name in the Troop Roster!)*

Request for wrangler reservations cannot be made through CampMaster. Instead, submit a “Reservation Request/Rider Information” form directly to the Wrangler Staff (wrangler@camptahquitz.org). This form can be found in the Camp Tahquitz Leader’s guide section “CF-Camp Forms”, as well as at the end of this document.

All Wrangler Rider Information forms will be processed on a first come first serve basis to hold the spot for that Scout. You will receive a notice from the wrangler staff when your reservation has been accepted.

We will keep a waiting list in case a scout with a wrangler reservation drops out. However, to avoid giving any false hope, the waiting list will also be limited to 10 individuals.

Enroll early!
This is a VERY popular program, and the number of horses are limited. We encourage leaders to get their scouts enrolled in the Wrangler program as soon as possible.

Safety Restriction
Camp Tahquitz Wrangler Staff reserves the right to restrict any person from taking part in a horse-related activity who may pose, in their opinion, a safety risk to themselves, to others, or to the horses.

Ability of riders over 250 pounds to participate is dependent on the number of available horses that can carry riders of that size. For questions or additional information about the weight restrictions please be sure to email wrangler@camptahquitz.org.

Required Clothing
Anyone in the Tahquitz Stable area, both participants and visitors, are required to wear long pants and closed-toe shoes (no sandals).

All riders are required to have boots or hard soled shoes with a heel (this helps to avoid having a shoe slipping through and get caught in the stirrups.)

If there is a possibility of rain, bring rain gear. For chilly weather rides dress warm in layers.

The Wrangler staff are not allowed to allow any Scout or leader to ride if the rider is ill-prepared or dressed inappropriately.
Helmets
A riding helmet will be provided by the camp, and all riders are required to wear the helmet whenever they are on a horse. It is important that helmet be worn correctly so that it has a proper fit.

Personal Equipment
The camp will supply horses and safety equipment for participants.

Use of personal horses, or personal equestrian equipment (including helmets), are not allowed without written request sent at least two weeks prior to arrival at camp. The request will be reviewed by the Camp Director and the Wrangler Director.

Leadership
Trail guides will be provided by the Camp Tahquitz Wrangler Staff.

While troops are not required to provide adult leadership, adult leaders who want to come to the stables and help out are always welcomed and appreciated.

Age Requirements
This is open to all registered Scouting members who are attending Camp Tahquitz with their troop. Registered adult leaders may also participate; however, priority will be given to youth members.

Merit Badges
If a Scout wants to work on earning the Horsemanship Merit Badge, we suggest the Scout purchase the MB book soonest possible and not rely on it being available at the Camp Tahquitz Trading Post. The MB Blue Card needs to be submitted to the Wrangler Staff the first day of program.

Evening Ride
A special Wrangler event is the 1 hour evening trail ride, offered Tuesdays and Thursdays only. This ride will depart from the Stable area at 5:00 PM. Check in time is 4:30 PM. Tardiness will be cause for cancellation.

This ride is open to all scouts and adult leaders for only $35. Rider pre-register through the Program Office upon arrival at camp, or at the Trading Post during the week. There is a rider weight limit of 250 lbs.

NOTE: Like all Wrangler activities, this is dependent on weather and other safety conditions.

Cancellations and refunds policy
Partial refunds may be provided if, in the opinion of the wrangler, weather conditions make riding dangerous. The amount of the refund is dependent on how much program must be cancelled for weather-related events.

Since participation is limited, there are no refunds for no-shows or for cancellations (including failure to attend camp itself), nor are we able to provide refunds for participants who are excluded because they failed to follow directions, and/or who pose a danger to themselves, to others, or the horses.
Wrangler Award
The Wrangler Award Patch is earned by completing the series of tasks listed below. There are colored beads that accumulate throughout the week that are counted up and tabulated at the end of the week.

| For demonstrated mastery of horsemanship skills. |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Blue            | Name and point out parts of the horse.         |
| Brown           | Name and point out parts of the saddle and bridle. |
| Turquoise       | Demonstrate the proper way to tie a horse securely. |
| Orange          | Demonstrate the proper way to feed a horse a carrot. |
| Pink            | Demonstrate the proper way to pick all 4 horse hoofs. |
| Red             | Demonstrate the proper way to fully clean and brush a horse. |
| Yellow          | Demonstrate the proper way to saddle a horse. |
| Tan             | Demonstrate the proper way to feed a horse his hay allotment. |
| Purple          | Demonstrate the proper way to bridle a horse. |
| Silver          | Demonstrate the proper way for a rider to mount a horse. |
|                 | Assisting with Stable Maintenance             |
| White           | Paint fully one 10 ft section of ring or pasture fencing. |
| Black           | Remove one wheelbarrow of horse manure and dispose of properly. |

While a scout can earn beads by demonstrating mastery of these skills, the scout could also lose a bead by demonstrating the following behaviors:

✓ Lack of scout spirit during one or more of these tasks;
✓ Failure to abide by all safety regulations (including wearing of helmets)
✓ Actions endangers fellow scouts, horses, or staff members.

Best Wrangler
Each week the Wrangler Staff will recognize a Scout who has demonstrated not only improvement in their horsemanship skills, but who has also been the best example of scout spirit. They will be recognized with a special award at the end of the week, during the Friday night campfire.
# Wrangler Program Schedule

This is an example of the type of 1.0 level, first year level, and 2.0, second year level, where noted, excitement your scouts may experience during the Tahquitz Wrangler Program. *All events, especially trail rides, are subject to weather and safety conditions.*

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<th>Instruction topics</th>
<th>Hands on Demonstration</th>
<th>Riding</th>
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| **Monday**<br>Riding: 1 hour | • Importance of Helmets  
• Safety Rules  
• Review helmets and no running or yelling policy.  
• Parts of the horse, saddle, bridle, halter and lead rope.  
• Horsemanship I: “How do horses think.” | • How to approach and lead a horse safely  
• How to tie the horse securely.  
• How to feed a horse hay  
• Horse Care: ✔ Picking;  
✔ Brushing;  
✔ shoeing  
• How to care for tack  
• How to mount and dismount  
• How to start, stop, and steer | • Meet your horse!  
• “Horse and Rider Ground Games”  
• Introduction to riding skills:  
✔ Walking;  
✔ Trotting;  
✔ Turning |
| **Tuesday**<br>Riding: 2 hours | • Review.  
• Horsemanship II: “How do horses talk.”  
• Horsemanship III: conformation, lameness, and unsoundness. | • Care for saddle, blankets, bridle  
• How to feed a horse a carrot | • Arena riding skills (1.0 Level):  
✔ Walking;  
✔ Trotting;  
✔ Turning  
✔ Trail Ride  
• Introduction to cantering (2.0 level) |
| **Wednesday**<br>Riding: 2 hours | • Review.  
• Horsemanship IV: “Ask your horse: what can we do for you?” (2.0 level)  
• Horsemanship V: Wound care (2.0 level) | • Colic – what is it and how to treat it  
• Dealing with a horse under duress.  
• How to deal with “problem horses” | • Arena riding skills (1.0 Level)  
✔ Walking;  
✔ Trotting;  
✔ Turning  
✔ Trail Ride  
• Introduction to Bridle Path (2.0 Level)  
• Backwoods Long Trail (2.0 Level) |
| **Thursday**<br>Riding: 2 hours | • Review | • Merit Badge work | • Arena riding and trail riding  
✔ Competition tasks (1.0 and 2.0) |
| **FRIDAY**<br>Riding: 2 hours | • Review | • Merit Badge work | • Arena riding and trail riding  
✔ Competition tasks (1.0 and 2.0) |