



A Hearty Howdy to all our Rawhide Families!

With camp quickly approaching there's a few things you need to know BEFORE sending your camper to Rawhide Ranch this summer 2018.

We are announcing a new strategy for a better and safer camp experience for your ranch hand. For the last 15 years or so and as a part of our overall safety guidelines, Rawhide Ranch has provided a shared riding helmet for each camper. While this has definitely helped to protect the kids from serious head injury, due to growing summer camp registration numbers it has also presented another safety concern; namely; keeping so many helmets sanitized and clean for each camper.

For example, each week roughly 185 campers will ride horses during 8 daily sessions. This means that this summer your camper would share his/her helmet with 7 other kids each day and each new day would bring 7 different helmet buddies.

We've done our best in the past to spray, disinfect and wipe each helmet each time but, with this year's increase in numbers, if you do the math you will quickly see the logistically unsafe and unsanitary situation that could possibly arise.

So, in order to continue to provide your camper with the utmost care and safety, we will work to transition away from providing shared helmets as a part of the program. Instead, we are encouraging each camper to purchase his/her own riding helmet to use exclusively this summer.

Riding helmets are available for anywhere between \$35 and \$75. We will also be making them available for purchase in our Country Store at a substantially discounted price. We will be certain to add them to our Country Store website as soon as we receive our first order from our supplier.

The helmets must be rated **ASTM – SEI** and **Equine Approved, with a helmet age of not older than 5 years**. Also, if you buy one before you arrive this summer it is important that the **camper's name be prominently written on the helmet** for identification purposes. All helmets will be checked by our riding staff prior to their first day's riding class. Any camper whose helmet does not comply with these requirements will be loaned one of Rawhide's helmets for each riding class.

Of course, if any camper is not able to purchase a helmet this summer we will still have some available to use and share at no charge, as usual.

We're so sorry for any added hardship or inconvenience this new strategy will cause for you. Still, we know you are trusting us with something/someone very special and we want you to know that we will keep them as safe as possible. This strategy is part of that effort.

Well, thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to read this long email. As always let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We're so glad that you are coming this summer and can hardly wait until you arrive.

See you all soon!

Scott Koop (or just Koop)  
Director, Rawhide Ranch  
[info@rawhideranch.com](mailto:info@rawhideranch.com)  
(760) 758-0083