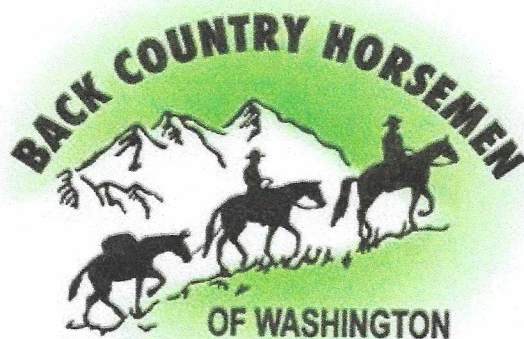


Junior BCHW Program Curriculum Standards

Module	Trail Riding Skills	
Expectations	This Trail Riding Skills module is designed to help Junior BCHW members get out of the arena and discover the "joy of the trail". Trail riding frees up our minds and the minds of our horses and makes them better, all around horses. For Juniors to grow up and carry on our BCHW vision, we must first help them experience and appreciate the wonders of our great back country. This begins with front country rides and fun, easy campouts.	
Learning Concepts	The goals of this module will be accomplished through multiple clinics followed by front country trail rides throughout the year. Clinics will include "Trail Etiquette and Safety", "Trail Horse Obstacle Skills", "Leave No Trace" and "Saddle/Tack Cleaning and Care".	
Skills Demonstrated	Juniors will demonstrate proper trail etiquette while riding in a group, the ability to keep safe spacing between horses, how to ride their horse over rocks, logs, and bridges, through water, and past bicycles and hikers. Each Junior will also learn how to tie a quick release knot, how to safely and securely tie their horse on the trail, how to set up a highline, and how far to tie up and camp from rivers and lakes.	
Foundational Elements		
Safety	Junior members should always be observant, but particularly when on horseback on the trail. Juniors need to identify safety hazards to themselves, their equines, and their fellow riders.	
Service	Through this training, Junior members will learn skills that will prepare them to ride on front country trails and eventually ride back country trails. The goal is to serve others by joining a BCHW work party and learning to maintain trails for future generations.	
Horsemanship	Juniors will learn to properly care for their horses and equipment, as well as when shoes/boots are needed on the trail. They will build a new relationship with their trail horse partner as they discover the joy of riding the trails and camping together with their friends.	
Core Understanding		
<p>By participating in the Trail Riding Skills training, the Junior BCHW member will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gain new knowledge and appreciation for trail riding and experiencing nature • discover an interest to trail ride on both front country and back country trails • desire to do what is necessary to help maintain and save our trails for future generations 		

Junior BCHW Program Curriculum Suggestions

Additional suggested materials:

"Trail Etiquette" video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n-ie68TvLaE&feature=youtu.be>

"Stop-Speak-Smile" video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-oSMRzu7YU>

"Untrammeled" video

<https://vimeo.com/88438495>

"Trail Etiquette and Safety" handout

"What's In Your Saddle Bag?" handout

Suggested Rules and Policies for the Trail Riding Program

Junior BCHW Program
Curriculum Suggestions
Trail Riding Skills

Trail Etiquette and Safety

- Wear an ASTM/SEI F1163 approved helmet if you are under 18 years of age.
- Check cinch/girth before mounting.
- Keep at least two horse lengths behind the horse in front of you.
- Lead horse should be well-trained.
- Lead rider should be experienced and know where they are going.
- Put riders with less experience in the middle of the group.
- Keep kickers in back; identify them with a red ribbon on their tail.
- Let others know when you would like to pass and what side you will pass on; choose a wide spot in the trail.
- Riders should pass each other at a walk.
- If passing a branch, do not let it swing back into next rider's face—can lift it straight up or duck under.
- Always be considerate and friendly with others you meet on the trail.
- Hikers and bikers and vehicles should yield to you, but they may not—be prepared!
- All riders should step to the same side of the trail to let other riders pass.
- When coming up behind a hiker, call out to them and let them know you are coming.
- If you need an equipment adjustment, let lead rider know and stop the horses to fix it.
- Lead rider should block the trail with mount if in a safety situation or for tack adjustment while backup rider attends to situation.
- If your horse needs to stop to pee, shout out “Pee Break!” Other riders should stop and wait.
- Keep your horse moving while they poop, to spread out the mess.
- Lead rider should alert other riders to holes, stops, hikers, bikers, wildlife, hazards on the trail.
- Leave gates as you find them. If they are open, leave them open. If closed, close them after riding through.
- Never chase or spook livestock or wildlife if you encounter them. Keep your distance.
- Never tie a horse with the bridle reins and tie only to safe/secure items on trail.
- If your horse is attacked by bees or hornets, shout out “BEES!” and everyone should move forward quickly at the trot.

**Junior BCHW Program
Curriculum Suggestions
Trail Riding Skills**

What's in Your Saddle Bag?

The following items are recommended:

- Rain gear
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Lip balm
- Insect repellent for you/your horse
- Halter/lead rope
- Riding gloves if desired
- Water
- Snack
- Lunch
- Tissues or toilet paper
- Hoof pick
- Pocket knife
- A multi-tool
- A form of identification
- Small flashlight
- Small first aid kit
- Map/GPS
- Compass
- Whistle
- String or leather for tack repair

Junior BCHW Program
Curriculum Suggestions
Trail Riding Skills

Trail Riding Program
Suggested Rules and Policies

1. All junior members who are new to this BCHW Trail Riding Program will attend an Orientation/Introduction meeting with a **parent/legal guardian**.
2. Junior members must always wear an ASTM/SEI helmet and riding boots when participating in the Junior BCHW Trail Riding Program.
3. Junior members are encouraged to use a safe, well-mannered, quiet-natured horse for trail riding.
4. Members cannot use stallions in the Junior BCHW Program.
5. All Junior members, regardless of age, must have the appropriate riding skills to ride independently on the trail. If they do not yet have those skills, they may be ponied by a parent or qualified adult who is not a team leader in this program.
6. All Junior riders will be evaluated by the team leaders before leaving the trailhead to ride on the trail. This will be done by showing abilities to cross over a log, walk over a bridge, stand as a bicycle is rolled by, etc.
7. Junior members who are not ready to ride on the trail are still welcome to attend the non-riding meetings and clinics so that they may learn.