



**ED DABNEY Gentle Horsemanship, LLC
Horse Training Contract**

This agreement is entered into this _____ day of _____ by and between
_____ “Owner” and ED DABNEY Gentle Horsemanship, LLC “Trainer”.

In exchange for the sum of \$1,800. per/month, ED DABNEY Gentle Horsemanship, LLC agrees to board and perform training for Owner’s horse using natural horsemanship techniques.

Owner’s horse will be in an individual paddock and trainer will provide hay, water and salt block. Trainer will feed any grain and supplements Owner provides. Trainer will administer wormer if Owner provides wormer and advises us of date to administer.

Owner may come and visit your horse at any time without an appointment or prior notice to trainer.

Training and boarding fees are due and payable at the beginning of the training period, and at 30 day intervals thereafter. No invoice will be sent for training fees. It is the owner’s responsibility to pay in advance for each subsequent 30 day training period. Any balance of fees must be paid in full before the horse leaves the training premises.

Horses in training will be worked with on a regular basis consistent with their progress and ability.

The owner and/or principal rider is welcome to be present, by appointment, to observe two training sessions per week with their horse. Included in the training program is two hours of instruction for each 30 days of training for the owner with their horse. Because consistency in the use of cues and directions by the rider is very important to successful horsemanship and since some undesirable behavior traits displayed by a horse are due to improper handling by the rider rather than problems with the horse itself, trainer prefers to work with both horse and rider together for some time toward the end of the training period.

Owner is strongly encouraged to use this time to work with the horse and the trainer to reinforce the training program and transfer the exercises, cues and leadership from the trainer to the owner.

The owner may come and visit their horse at any time during daylight hours.

For the safety of all horses on the premises, Owner will supply ED DABNEY Gentle Horsemanship, LLC with health records showing proof of current negative Coggins, current vaccinations and worming, dental and farrier schedule.

Prior to beginning any training program Owner must take the necessary steps to rule out or treat any pain or medical or dental issues which may cause the horse discomfort, affect his balance, or impair his full and normal range of motion.

An examination by an Equine Dentist is imperative. There are many dental complications that can cause a variety of negative responses from a horse. We require, prior to beginning the training program, that a horse have a complete dental treatment preferably by our excellent Equine Dentist, Dr. Diane

Febles of Georgia Equine Dentistry. She is a graduate of UGA as a vet and also has a degree as an Equine Dentist. She has been treating our personal horses and our client's horses for years. A full dental treatment by an Equine Dentist should be performed on every horse annually. The cost is normally \$150 - \$350 depending on how much work the horse needs.

You can arrange your own appointment for Dr. Febles to come to your place to do the treatment or you can arrange for her to do the treatment at our facility immediately after your horse arrives here. Dr. Febles sets appointments by email through her website at <https://www.georgiaequinedentistry.com/>. We have found that many behavior problems originate from dental issues. Having a vet float your horse's teeth is only about 30% of a full dental treatment.

Horse behavior problems could also be a saddle fit, chiropractic or deep muscle pain issue that should also be addressed prior to training. Once any pain or medical issues have been ruled out or successfully treated and the horse is diagnosed as sound and healthy then a training program can begin.

Our veterinarian, Dr. John Elliott of Piedmont Equine Associates, recommends a protocol to help prevent stress ulcers in horses that are being moved to a new location and embarking on a training program. *"I think a preventative program would be very beneficial and accelerate the learning process. I wish more programs would be proactive."* Dr. John Elliot, Piedmont Equine Associates

Attached to this packet is a document describing Dr. Elliott's protocol which we highly encourage you to use. Because of the change in your horse's location and routine, he could develop ulcers which would cause pain and distract him from learning the new movements and skills we will be teaching him. We want to give your horse the best opportunity to be as successful as possible during his stay with us and after he goes back home

Once the horse is in training with us, if soundness, pain or balance issues become evident, Owner agrees to have the horse examined and treated by an agreed upon equine practitioner or cease the training program. The horse must be sound and pain free to continue the training program.

Owner is responsible for supplying and arranging for the administration of vaccines, wormers, updated coggins tests and farrier work if needed while the horse is in training with us. We do not keep up with dates on which these items are needed for owner's horse.

If Owner is supplying their own feed, supplements and hay, it is the Owner's responsibility to monitor the quantity of these items we have on hand and keep us supplied so we don't run out of these items for your horse. If your horse is using the Tribute Feeds we use for our horses and our hay then we will always make sure we have sufficient quantities on hand to take care of your horse.

Owner authorizes ED DABNEY Gentle Horsemanship, LLC to obtain all necessary emergency veterinary care to maintain the horse in good health. All non-emergency care needs shall first be approved by Owner. Owner shall pay all such veterinary costs upon receipt.

In the unlikely event of a required evacuation, EDGH will, to the best of its ability, transport Horse Owner's horse to an approved facility unless otherwise notified by Horse Owner that they intend to transport their own horse.

If Owner's horse is boarded after the training period has ended or taken out of training for an extended period due to weather, injury or for any other reason, Owner shall continue to pay all boarding fees. Of the \$1,800 monthly training and boarding fee, \$850 is for boarding.

Any special services requested by Owner which are not included in the standard training program shall be billed accordingly, in addition to the monthly training fee. Owner is responsible for supplying all blankets, grain and supplements for their horse. If we purchase grain or supplements for the owner's horse the owner will be invoiced for those items.

If your horse causes any appreciable damage to any fence, gate or stall on our property, Owner will be advised immediately and will be billed for Trainer's actual cost of repairs of those damages.

Owner authorizes Trainer to transport horse to other locations for training purposes.

Owner agrees to hold harmless ED DABNEY Gentle Horsemanship, LLC, Ed Dabney, his family, employees, landlords, associates, assigns, and heirs from any liability arising from the horse's injury, illness, theft or death while in trainer's possession.

Signed: _____ date: _____
Horse owner

Signed: _____ date: _____
Elizabeth Dabney Or

Signed: _____ date: _____
Ed Dabney

ED DABNEY Gentle Horsemanship, LLC