

Triple Creek Riding School

The Triple Riding School is the premiere program in the state for the development of complete riders. The development of a Riding School at TCR has been refined over the last 10 years of providing high quality riding lessons to Boulder County, and has evolved into a comprehensive program for riders of all ages. We provide services to horse lovers from their first lesson to competing on a national level.

Lessons at Triple Creek

Our highly qualified instructors schedule lessons for 60 minutes at a time. We provide the majority of our lessons in a group format once riders are able to safely steer and control their horses on the arena rail and complete basic figures. Group lessons have been proven to be the most effective teaching method for riding so that students have visual example during their riding. We also value the camaraderie that group environments build.

Horsemanship Levels

The horsemanship levels developed for Triple Creek riders are a valuable teaching tool for our instructors as well as our riders and parents. The six levels provide clear, measurable goals and provide a roadmap for progression on the rider's journey.

TCR's Learning Philosophy

In our riding program, we are proud of providing a strong foundation for our riders, establishing a basis for whatever your student chooses to do in their riding career. This foundation takes strength, focus, and most of all, time. Riding is a sport filled with detail, muscle memory, and repetition. TCR believes in not pushing a rider beyond their capabilities or skills allow, and this process is not to be rushed. Students can and should be challenged, but we do not push students nor do we allow them to move further or more quickly than they are ready. This is at the discretion of your instructor.

TCR BEGINNER LESSONS

LEVELS 1-3

Triple Creek exclusively provides beginner lessons on Saturdays. Our beginner instructors excel at providing students with a strong foundation in their riding equitation (position in the saddle) and offer a safe and comfortable environment for a student to fall in love with riding.

Riders enjoy learning the skills in Levels I-III. This means that our beginner riders learn how to tack up and untack their horses, lead them, catch them, balance in the tack, gain complete control at the walk and trot, and may begin learning to canter. Most of our lessons are taught in the English saddle. We do teach in a western saddle if that is preferred, however at the lowest levels, English and western are the same. We do not teach jumping on the weekends.

To begin, riders attend only a 60-minute lesson and part of that time is learning to get their horse ready. However, as they gain independence, riders may begin coming before and staying after lessons to tack and untack their horse, while riding time extends to fill the full 50-60 minutes.

Progression:

Once a rider is confident with independently tending to their horse on the ground, preparing for riding, putting their horse away, is completely confident at the walk and the trot, and is beginning to canter, the instructor may suggest (as space allows) to progress to the intermediate instructor at TCR.

Timeline:

A rider may remain in the beginner program anywhere from 6 months to years. Factors determining this timeline are: the rider's age, maturity, muscle development, consistency in lesson attendance, and above all, the rider's desire to learn.

Programs available to beginner students:

- TCR Show Team
- TCR Camp Helpers
- TCR Schooling Shows

TCR INTERMEDIATE PROGRAM LEVELS 2-4

Our intermediate lessons are blended into weekday lessons, as well as Saturday lessons. As space allows and student progression is evident, your instructor may recommend shifting to our intermediate instruction program. Intermediate students generally ride on Tuesdays/Thursdays/Fridays and Saturdays. Intermediate students begin to learn the basics of dressage as well as cementing their equitation for over fences.

An intermediate student is learning at Levels II-IV. In general, this means they are perfecting the canter work, learning some lateral movements, and building their jumping foundation. Students are taking 1-2 lessons per week and are committed to riding as a sport. Students show leadership at the barn, support the communal barn culture, exhibit how to properly maintain equipment, clean up after themselves, and care for their horse with a high level of detail according to best industry practices.

Jumping Lessons at TCR

Beginning November 1, 2021, in order to preserve the safety of our students, we will require a flat lesson in addition to a jumping lesson. This means students must be committed to 2 lessons per week if they are to pursue jumping. Jumping is a skill that is predominantly developed from hours of foundational lessons on the flat. In order to safely pilot a horse over fences, a rider must be putting in the time for their equitation, strength, and stamina. This is only developed from flat and pole work, and reinforced in their over fences work.

Progression:

If a student wishes to compete at a higher level beyond that of our on-property shows, they will need to increase their commitment to the sport and advance to the highest levels of education

available at TCR. However, we COMPLETELY understand if your rider wants to enjoy their day-to-day life at the barn and enjoying horses without competing.

Becca Caulfield is the head trainer at TCR and will only accept students who are at Level IV and up. This means they are showing and competing at a regional level of showing off-property. Students must own or lease their own horse, as TCR lesson horses do not show off-property. If a student is actively looking for that in 6-12 months in their future, she can accommodate them in her lessons.

- Learning to jump- Students must be cantering crossrail courses with their correct leads to be considered to move to the advanced lessons at TCR.

Timeline:

Students may progress through the intermediate lessons, with determining factors at a rate of one year or more. The critical skills learned here, as well as the leadership skills at the barn, are absolutely the foundation for being an advanced, polished rider and teammate.

Programs available to Intermediate Students:

- 2 lessons a week
- Jumping lessons
- Leasing horses
- Saturday Lesson Helper
- TCR Camp Helper
- TCR Show Team
- TCR Schooling Shows
- Some clinic opportunities
- Adult Show Team
- Goal Meetings with Instructor/Head Trainer

TCR ADVANCED LESSONS

Levels 4-6

A Triple Creek advanced rider has shown their commitment to not only the program but to their own development as a rider and athlete. They have progressed to the point of jumping and cantering small fences, have complete control of their horse at the canter, are completely independent on the ground and show leadership in the barn with other students. Advanced riders have a commitment to developing their dressage work and improving their connection with their horses.

Riders who progress to lessoning with head trainer Becca Caulfield take a minimum of 2 lessons a week, lease their own horse, and use practice rides to actively advance the skills learned in the lessons. An advanced rider may be looking at full leasing or owning their own horse, if their goals are to show off-property. They also take advantage of weekend

opportunities such as clinics, educational opportunities, and accompany the traveling riders off-property to learn about the showing environment.

Head Trainer, Becca Caulfield, is a proficient Eventing trainer who specializes in the development of the lower level Eventing horse and rider. Triple Creek Eventing travels to local schooling shows, regional USEA Horse Trials, national USEA horse trials and national USEA Championships for qualified riders/horses. Riders typically begin the sport at the Intro level (2'-3") and progress to training level (3'-3") and beyond in Eventing. Triple Creek Eventing has proudly produced riders who are now showing all across the country in Eventing.

Opportunities:

- Weekday lessons with Sunday as supplemental make-up day
- Lessons with Becca Caulfield and other trainers supplementing TCR advanced lessons
- Clinic opportunities with high level riders/instructors
- Show Jumping Practices at TCR (seasonally)
- Hauling to Horse Shows
- Coaching at Horse Shows
- Involvement with USEA (United States Eventing Program), USEF (United States Equestrian Federation), and other national programs.
- Horse Purchasing Program

TCR Programs available to Advanced students

- All intermediate/Beginner programs
- Limited Employment/Leadership opportunities at TCR
- Leasing Advanced Horses