



SIDE WALKER DUTIES

- Horse Handler's counterpart in ensuring the safety of the client, be attentive to patient, horse, therapist, and surroundings
- Help set up equipment/stations in arena before therapy sessions, and/or break down arena at end of day.
- Upon approval, and with training completed, may assist horse handler in the grooming and tacking of the horse.
- Assemble and help don safety/gait belts and helmets worn by rider, per therapist's request.
- Open/close gates, when prompted by therapist, for the team when entering/leaving arena
- Assist therapist to facilitate session goals, when called upon by therapist, for assistance, for eg: with sensory stations, getting balls, position changes... minimal to no small talk during therapy.
- Establish who will be the "tied in" side walker.
- Discretely inform therapist if/when you need a position change during a treatment session
- Be informed about and confident in your ability to perform in an emergency dismount if needed
- Clean and return all tack and equipment to its place.
- Help keep all areas neat and clean: arena between riders, barn isles, and stalls.
- Help enforce the Barn rules with patients, visitors, and families.
- If you open a gate/gates, for other than therapy team, please make sure they are closed.
- If observing or not involved on a therapy team, please assist parents or guardians to closely supervise other children or visitors while waiting in the designated waiting/observation areas. Do not dangle arms/legs off, throw things into arena, shout yell, be disruptive etc. when on the viewing deck.
- Be familiar with the evacuation procedures and roles.