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Certified Horsemanship Association Certified Instructors Can Provide Rider Certification as One of Their Services

(July 2018) – Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) Certified Instructors have a great opportunity to offer their riding students through the CHA Rider Certification program. CHA Certified Instructors can certify their students at the various CHA levels from Level 1 to Level 4 in English, Western, flat, and jumping. The curriculum can be found in the *CHA Individual Level Manuals* and the *CHA Composite Manual of Horsemanship*. Only CHA Certified Instructors can offer student certifications and awards.

7 Benefits to Offering CHA Rider Certification

The CHA Rider Certification program offers multiple benefits, including:

1. “The CHA manuals provide a tried-and-true curriculum for the safest and most effective methods of teaching horsemanship,” writes Julie Goodnight in the forward of the *CHA Composite Manual of Horsemanship*. The composite manual has become a valuable asset to many riding instructors. It is used as a training manual for 4-H programs, as a guide for numerous college programs, and also as a reference for the U.S. Pony Club, PATH International instructors, and for others.
2. It can help CHA Certified Instructors to provide more value for their customers through an additional service.
3. It can set those instructors that offer the program apart from their competition.
4. It helps instructors to evaluate where each of their riders are skill wise and knowledge wise. The instructor and the student can find out which skills are lacking, which can help the instructor develop his or her curriculum and emphasize certain areas of weakness until those skills are learned by all students.
5. It gives each rider an idea of how they are progressing as a riding student.
6. The well-researched curriculums can provide ideas for deeper areas of study for an instructor to develop beyond the manual’s information.
7. Allowing students to achieve the various CHA Rider Certifications looks good for that student’s high school and college requirements, work applications, and resumes, and it gives others a frame of reference to understand the skills and knowledge that a rider has achieved.

Each level offers a list of requirements, a suggested riding test, and a written test. The arena test is not a requirement, but just one way of testing the rider. Each level's riding skills can be tested individually, in a group, or by checking off a requirement as a rider passes each one in a lesson. Students are scored on their technique and safety rather than on the performance of the horse.

The manuals for CHA Rider Certification are available and easy to order from the CHA website at [http://cha-ahse.org/store/categories/Books%2C DVDs and Posters/Books](http://cha-ahse.org/store/categories/Books%2C%20DVDs%20and%20Posters/Books). In addition, there are patches, pins, and award certificates available for CHA instructors to award to students for sale at [http://cha-ahse.org/store/categories/Program Supplies/](http://cha-ahse.org/store/categories/Program%20Supplies/). Bulk discounts are available for program members when purchasing in bulk for certain items.

For more information on CHA's curriculum, educational materials, and other certifications, please visit www.CHA.horse.

CHA Instructors Change Lives Through Safe Experiences with Horses. The purpose of CHA is to promote excellence in safety and education for the benefit of the horse industry. CHA certifies instructors and trail guides, accredits equestrian facilities, publishes educational manuals, produces educational horsemanship DVDs and YouTube Safety shorts, and hosts regional and international conferences. For more information on the largest certifying body of riding instructors and barn managers in North America, the Certified Horsemanship Association, please visit www.CHA-ahse.org or call 859-259-3399. To find a certified horseback riding instructor or accredited equine facility near you, visit CHAinstructors.com.

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