

# Orinda Horseman's Association Application Form: Proprietary Member

Return to PO Box 904, Orinda CA 94563

## Applicant's Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
home work e-mail

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
street city state zip

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Names of family members \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have health insurance?  yes  no Do you have personal liability insurance?  yes  no

How did you hear about OHA? \_\_\_\_\_

Horse experience includes:  ownership  sponsoring  other

Check applicable setting(s):  stable  pasture  private residence  other

Briefly describe your experience with horses \_\_\_\_\_

Have you participated in volunteer work, or been involved in a cooperative?  yes  no

Describe \_\_\_\_\_

List special skills that you have that may be beneficial to OHA \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently own a horse?  yes  no If yes, how many?  1  2  more

If applicable, answer the following in regard to the horse you plan on placing at OHA:

Horse's name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Date Foaled \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_

Has the horse been vaccinated/wormed on a set schedule?  yes  no

List regularly given vaccinations and type/regularity of worming. Describe the annual schedule \_\_\_\_\_

Does the horse have a history of any of the following?  founder  colic  allergies

chronic lameness  other

Describe \_\_\_\_\_

List any you horse-related organizations to which you belong \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

New members are considered probationary members for one year following the signing of this application and the placement of their horse on the pasture. Probationary members will be granted proprietary membership following a review by the Board of Directors one year after the member's horse arrives at OHA. The Board reserves the right to cancel membership if the terms of this agreement are not upheld.

**Orinda Horseman's Association**  
**Membership Agreement**

By signing this Membership Agreement of the Orinda Horseman's Association (referred to as "OHA"), I agree to:

1. Abide by the rules, procedures and bylaws of the association, as adopted by the Board of Directors, as may be amended from time to time, including but not limited to any procedures for resolution of grievances and disputes.
2. Participate in the CHA Association as an active and contributing member, and fulfill the membership obligations such as work hours and payment of dues;
3. Pasture only horses that are legally owned by or leased to me.

I understand that personal liability insurance is highly recommended.

I acknowledge that the rules of OHA include the following:

A) Arbitration of Disputes Between Members

- 1) If any dispute between members remains unresolved after exhaustion of the dispute resolution procedures described in the rules, the dispute shall be resolved through binding arbitration, and not by court process. The arbitration shall be in Contra Costa County and be conducted under the rules of, and administered by, the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its arbitration rules for decision by a single arbitrator. Judgment upon the award rendered by the Arbitrator may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. The laws of the State of California shall apply in any arbitration. The single arbitrator shall be chosen by mutual agreement of the parties. If the parties are unable to agree, each shall choose one arbitrator, and the two chosen shall select a third who shall serve as the arbitrator. The filing of a judicial action for an order of attachment, an injunction, or other provisional remedies, shall not constitute a violation of the requirement to arbitrate under this provision.

B) Arbitration of Disputes Between OHA and Members

- 1) Any dispute between a member or members and OHA arising out of, or relating to, the member(s) membership in OHA shall be resolved by binding arbitration, and not by court process. The arbitration shall be in Contra Costa County and be conducted under the rules of, and administered by, the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its arbitration rules for decision by a single arbitrator. Judgment upon the award rendered by the Arbitrator may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. The laws of the State of California shall apply in any arbitration. The single arbitrator shall be chosen by mutual agreement of the parties. If the parties are unable to agree, each shall choose one arbitrator, and the two chosen shall select a third who shall serve as the arbitrator. The filing of a judicial action for an order of attachment, an injunction, or other provisional remedies, shall not constitute a violation of the requirement to arbitrate under this provision.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Orinda Horseman's Association Information**

### The Association

Orinda Horsemen's Association is a non-profit cooperative of horse owners. We have about 33 members, including "Proprietary" members who board their horses at the pasture,, "Associate" members who help care for and ride horses belonging to proprietary members, and "Riding Partners" who can only be at OHA with a Proprietary Member.

There are 38 horse spaces in the pasture (per the EMBUD lease) at this time. Proprietary members may own one or two horses, but no member may have more than two horses at the pasture. Stallions may not be boarded at the pasture.

The Association leases approximately 500 acres of hilly rangeland from East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD). The horses live as a herd and roam freely across the pastureland. These living conditions keep the horses in excellent physical and mental condition. It keeps members in shape as well, as strenuous hiking is sometimes necessary to find the herd!

OHA is administered by a Board of Directors consisting of seven members elected by the membership. The Board meets monthly, and all members are welcome to attend. A meeting of the entire membership is held once or twice annually.

As tenants of EBMUD, the public utility that provides water to local residents, we are required to follow certain regulations to ensure the health of the watershed. These responsibilities include rotational grazing, protection of certain wetland areas, removal of invasive weeds, and maintenance of the facilities, including removal of waste from stalls and paddocks. In addition, for liability reasons, EBMUD allows only OHA members and family members access to the leased property.

### The Pasture and Facilities

The land we lease is divided into multiple pastures. We rotate the horses between the pastures throughout the year, depending on the growth patterns of the grass. During the winter months when forage is limited, we feed the horses hay (blend chosen by membership, usually grass/alfalfa mix) once per day.

The facilities at the pasture are minimal. There are 8 paddocks with covered stalls. These are available for short-term use, such as when a horse is recovering from an injury. Cold running water and electricity

are available at the main "saddling area." There is a fenced but uncovered riding arena with dirt footing, usable during the dry season.

Trail access is excellent from the property, and most members are avid trail riders. Riders may head west or north into Tilden Park, south on to the Seaview Trail, or, with a trail permit, east on to EBMUD land around San Pablo and Briones Reservoirs.

#### Responsibilities of Membership

Members pay annual dues, currently \$880 paid in two installments in March and September. The dues cover the cost of leasing the land, purchasing hay for winter feeding, several wormers per horse per year, and the costs of maintenance and administration of the organization.

All members must participate in the maintenance of the pasture. Members are currently required to perform 25 hours of work per year if they own one horse, or 40 hours per year for two horses. In addition, during the winter months when we supplement the grazing with hay, each member is responsible for 8, or 16 for two horses, feedings per year.

All members are expected to follow the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

If you have questions regarding OHA or the filling out of the application form, more information is available.

-- visit: <https://orindahorsemen.org>

-- email [prospective\\_member@orindahorsemen.org](mailto:prospective_member@orindahorsemen.org)

### Membership Criteria and Qualities

1. Criteria currently **required by Rules & Regulations**
  - a. The primary member must be at least 21 years of age, and
  - b. Must have health insurance.
  
2. **What we're looking for in a member/preferred criteria:**
  - a. They should have an **ability and willingness to partake in a co-op environment**, including: 1) conducting themselves in a collegial way with other members, even when involved in a conflict or disagreement; and 2) participating in pasture-related activities and work parties, serving on the board, and performing all of their work hours.
  
  - b. They should have a basic **knowledge of their horse** and should have a general understanding of what to do in a horse emergency. They should possess basic horse care and safety skills and know or be open to learning about a herd environment (we're not just looking for experienced horsemen and do not want to preclude consideration of novices who want to learn). They should be able to provide a previous barn owner, or other relevant reference who can attest to their abilities with horses.

- c. **Their horse** should be able to do well in a herd situation and be able to maintain its health primarily on pasture. The horse should be in good health and be ride-able (not placed at OHA for retirement). The horse must be sufficiently sociable as to not be likely to injure other horses or people. (If a horse turns out to be a chronic aggressor, causing injuries, the member may be asked to move the horse out of OHA).
- d. They should be able to commit to **seeing their horse at least weekly** and plan to be actively involved in its care and maintenance.
- e. Live or work within 25 miles of the pasture.
- f. Own no more than two horses with which they are actively involved.
- g. Have personal liability insurance.