



Equestrian Crossings
A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation

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MEMBERSHIP POLICY

EqX is a member-based organization. The idea of being a member-lead and member-driven organization comes from our "birth" as an organization. EqX was founded on the principle that decisions should not be in the hands of a few Board members or an Executive Director, but should instead be in the hands of our members.

Who Are Our Members?

EqX members are comprised of our students, their families, our volunteers, our Board of Directors, our instructors, our suppliers (arena owners, horse leasers, tack or veterinary providers, our donors, etc.), and we make decisions in an open and transparent way about the direction and operation of our organization from input and support of our members.

When EqX was created, it was very important that members have a voice to bring about policy changes or initiate new ideas for the organization. Each member is part of the decision making body of the organization. As EqX continues to grow, and as policies change with that growth, there may come a time when there are significant questions on the direction of that expansion. The membership input is important and valuable.

Are "Members" and "Volunteers" One and the Same?

We are a volunteer-based organization. EqX volunteers are an integral part of our program, they are extremely vital to the success of EqX, and they are appreciated for all they contribute. But volunteers are not automatically members.

As a program we offer a unique opportunity to volunteers, whether they are involved in the arenas with the horses or behind the scenes with administrative support. Our riding programs provide essential services to a wide range of clients. Rewards to volunteers include being a part of an often-times incredible service program; an opportunity to 'give back' to a community or someone in need; and, it is a great way to learn about horses and to develop horsemanship skills.

Is There a Fee to Become a Member of EqX?

Yes, there is a minimal Membership Fee – mainly because EqX is a small non-profit, and as a program we rely on all funds from many sources to help cover program costs.

Why Does EqX Advocate Volunteers and Students Pay a Membership Fee? Are There Benefits?

As a program our goal is to keep costs low to our clients. Our class fees do not begin to cover the costs of each class. Costs include insurance, instructor fees, horse leasing fees, horse maintenance and vet costs, hauling fees and equipment maintenance, and so on. Time and talent contributions from volunteers and our lesson fees, although important to running our program, are not the same as financial support and frankly, not enough. EqX needs its volunteers and its students, but it also needs people willing to offer financial support in order for us to be a viable organization. Membership benefits will grow as EqX grows, and all members 18 and over will have a vote at our Annual Meeting held each November and our Bi-Annual Meeting/BBQ held each year in May. And remember, all donations, including membership fees to this 501(c) (3) are tax-deductible.

New Membership Levels

Effective January 2014, EqX will have 2 classes of Membership: Individual and Lifetime. Individual memberships are \$30/year. Lifetime memberships are \$300.

How Do I Join to Become a Member of EqX?

Complete this application and attach your check or go online to our website at www.equestriancrossings.com and click on the "Give" tab and go to the "Membership" link to pay your fee directly through PayPal. Memberships are valid from January 1 to December 31.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: Home: _____ Business: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Class of membership: Individual \$ 30.00 Lifetime \$ 300.00 \$ _____ Donation

\$ _____ Total

Consent to Electronic Transmissions? Yes No

SUMMARY: I agree to allow EqX to send me Membership and Organizational information, meeting notices, voting opportunities, event notices, etc. via EMAIL transmission, and I agree to keep my EMAIL address current and notify EqX if there is a change in my EMAIL address.

[To read the full text of the EqX "Consent for Electronic Transmissions", please go to our website, www.equestriancrossings.com and click on the GIVE tab and follow the MEMBERSHIP link.]

Include My Contact information in EqX Member Directory? Yes No

For office use only:

Member #: ____ Renewal? Y / N Check # ____ / Cash / PayPal Date Received: ____ Processed: ____