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CARING FOR YOUR HORSE

A GUIDE ON HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR HORSE

This guide will help you with things to consider for looking after your horse(s) whilst you are staying at *Lagoballo* in Royalla, NSW.



HORSE CARE

ENSURE YOU CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING

- Farrier: every 6-8 weeks.
 - a. Have your horses hooves trimmed/shod
 - b. *Lagoballo* has a regular Master Farrier attend (we can include your horse(s) in this session please let us know)
- 2) Dental: minimum annually.
 - a. Have your horses teeth checked and maintained
 - b. For geldings, ensure their sheath is cleaned during this procedure
 - c. A good time to have your horse have a general check up with bloods etc. with your veterinarian
- 3) Vaccinations: minimum annually.
 - a. Tetanus and strangles injections are important
- 4) Feed: daily.
 - a. Ensure your horse has a balanced diet that provides them the nutrients they need to keep them in optimal condition for their age and work levels
 - b. Usually consists of hay and hard feeds (covering supplements)
 - c. Ensure you have sufficient stocks on hand (so you don't run out, always get a little more than you need)
- 5) **Grooming**: daily.
 - a. Check and pick out your horses hooves
 - b. Use a curry comb to loosen dirt and dander at the base of the coat
 - c. Use a shedder when in transitional seasons to help remove shedding fur
 - d. Use a brush to remove the dirt/dust/dander
- 6) Rugs cleaned & re-proofed: seasonal.
 - a. If you rug your horse, ensure they are cleaned regularly to help reduce wear & tear
 - b. If you have winter or rain sheets, ensure they are regularly re-proofed at the end of the season prior to storage so you are ready for the following season!
- 7) Saddle fitting: minimum annually.
 - a. Horses change shape and ill-fitting tack can cause pain and damage, ensure it is checked by a professional saddle fitter
- 8) Exercise: 3-5 times a week.
 - a. Your horse needs to be kept fit (at all ages), ensure you have a workout plan to fit your horse's conformation, breed and age
 - b. Variety is key mix it up with groundwork, flat work, jumping, trails, obstacles have fun!

EQUIPMENT CARE

ENSURE YOU CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING

- 1) Check tack
 - a. Any loose stitching/ fraying or breaks on your equipment (get it checked and repaired)
 - b. Replace any unsafe equipment components
- 2) Clean tack
 - a. Any leather or synthetic equipment, ensure you clean and condition as per the manufacturing guides to ensure a longer life and comfort for your horse (dirt and sweat build up can cause horse skin irritations)
- 3) Horse First Aid Kit
 - a. Ensure you review your vet/first aid kit for your horse annually and discard any out-of-date pieces/medications
 - b. Ensure you have a well-stocked first aid kit for your horse and have it readily available so you can give your horse the best chance at handling injuries/wounds
 - c. If you'd like to understand what should be in your hors first aid kit, have a chat to the Lagoballo team and they can assist

GOING AWAY

ENSURE YOU CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING, WHETHER YOU ARE HEADING TO A CLINIC/LESSON OR GOING ON HOLIDAYS

- Ensure you pack double the quantity of hay/feed
 - a. This is in case of emergencies and also, when your horse goes away, they work harder and need more nutrition to support the physical stresses or travelling, working and being away from "home"
- 2) Ensure you pre-prepare any hard feed that you would like the *Lagoballo* team to feed your horse whilst you are away in bags
 - a. Leave in your allocated feed storage area
- 3) Ensure you pack your Horse First Aid Kit
 - a. This is in case of emergencies... better to be safe than sorry!
 - b. Have veterinary contact details of where you are heading to saved to your phone
- 4) Ensure you feed your horse electrolytes
 - a. This helps keep the horse hydrated, drinking and reduces the risk of colic
 - b. Also helps in times of additional horse exercise
- 5) Pack saddle, girth, bridle, saddle pad and other riding equipment you may need
 - a. Pack an extra halter and lead rope in case anything breaks
- 6) Pack any rugs you may need (if required)
 - a. Are you going to a place that is wet/cold or lots of insects?
 - b. What about a fly veil to help your horse manage insects on their face?
- 7) Take a few buckets for water and/or feed
 - a. You may need to ensure your horse has access to water, pack a bucket to hold (at least) a days' worth of water
 - b. If you hard feed your horse, ensure you have a bucket you can feed them from
- 8) Pack your grooming kit
 - a. Give your horse some TLC by grooming them every day
 - b. This helps calm their nerves/stresses
 - c. Improves your connection with your fur baby
- 9) Check your float is in working order
 - a. Service annually
 - b. Tyres prior to every use (put air in them)
 - c. Check lights are working
 - d. Don't overload! Check your float and car towing measurements and ensure you are not over what it can safely manage.
 - e. Fill up your vehicle with petrol prior to leaving
- 10) Take time to pack what you need (as the owner/human) It's important you look after yourself too!
 - a. Food/water/drinks
 - b. Medications
 - c. Clothes & sun protection
 - d. Mobile phone & charger
- II) Are you going on holiday? Work with the *Lagoballo* team to ensure your horse(s) have what they need whilst you are away, consider making arrangements for (these can be booked online here):
 - a. Feeding
 - i. Bought plenty of hay/supplements to last the time away
 - ii. Ensure you have arranged feeding services
 - b. Rugging
 - c. Exercise
 - d. "Day Spa" treatments
 - e. Farrier
 - f. Vet ensure you have provided the team with your preferred vet in case of any emergencies whilst you are away

