

Paddock Paradise Academy®
Curriculum
2023



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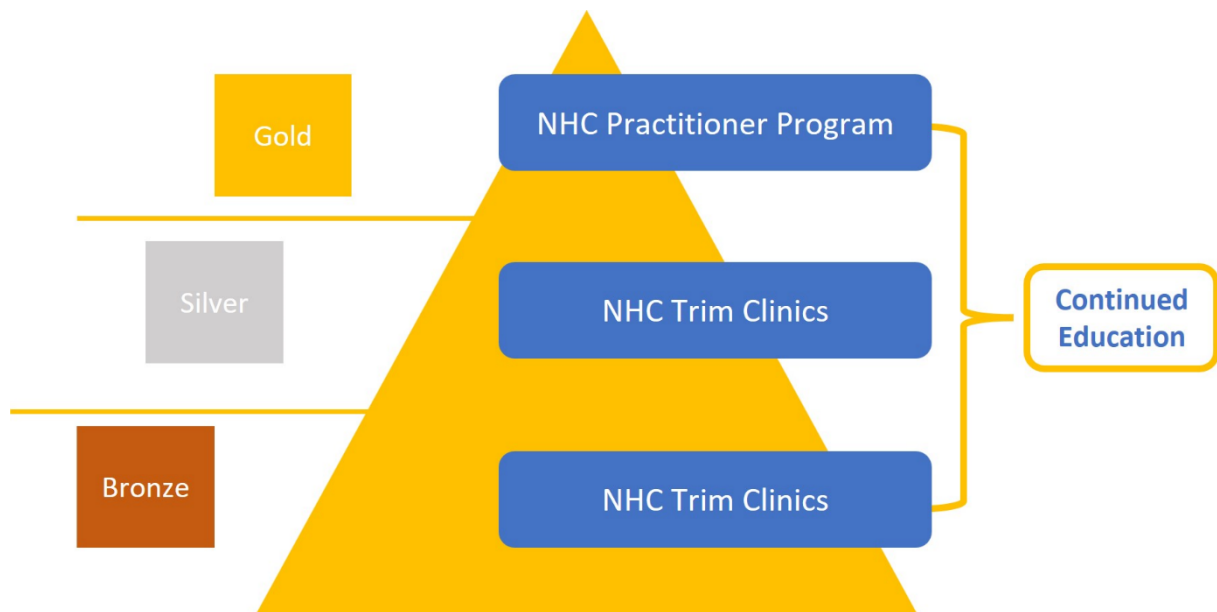
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Introduction

The Paddock Paradise Academy is a fully independent organization devoted to improve the lives of domestic horses through worldwide education on the science of Natural Horse Care (NHC). NHC is the holistic approach to hoof and horse care, principally founded on research obtained from free and wild roaming equines living in the U.S. Great Basin by Jaime Jackson.

For this purpose the Paddock Paradise Academy offers both online and in person training for horse owners and equine professionals. We offer a growth oriented program accessible to anyone with a genuine interest in horse care, regardless of background or nationality. Our high quality Learning Management System with 24/7 access to anyone listed allows us to attract a global network of students. Our Learning Management System monitors student progress and allows communication within the platform.

The Paddock Paradise Academy is also supportive of the wellbeing of feral horses as these may serve as a model for excellence and health.



NHC Practitioner Program

General course description:

Our step-by-step training program is aimed at any individual who wishes to learn how to handle, trim and care for horses in a professional manner. The program is accessible to anyone with a genuine interest in equine management and natural hoof care. The NHC Practitioner course takes you through the principles and practices of Natural Horse Care safely and at a reasonable pass.



Our online teaching environment allows students to prepare and evaluate their practical training both independently and with the help of our dedicated instructors.

General course requirements:

- no serious debilitating back, hip or knee problems
- reasonable comprehension of the English language
- suitable clothing for various weather conditions
- leather shoes
- protective gloves
- trimming chaps

General course policies:

- practical training is scheduled as regular in-person events taking place at various locations
- common language spoken: English/Dutch (depending on venue)

Content overview:

- Module 1: Independent Study
- Module 2: Training week
- Module 3: Independent Study
- Module 4: Mentor & Evaluation Program
- Module 5: Final Theoretical Exam
- Module 6: Independent Study

Module 1: Independent Study

During this module, participants will prepare themselves for **Module 2** by studying their online learning materials and our required text books.

The learning material consists of a series of books and the online course made available on our platform. Live webinars will be organized monthly if needed to answer questions regarding the learning material.

Module 1 requirements:

- Completion (24 hours) of an online 50 question multiple choice entry test (minimum high score 70%)
- Physical conditioning
- Students initiate finding 3 to 5 horses they can work with practicing a set of horsemanship practices that need to be mastered in order to complete **Module 3**.

Duration:

Typically 2 – 3 months

Module 2: Introduction to Natural Hoof Care

The Module 2 training week consists of 7 consecutive days with a half day break on the 4th day. During this week our team of instructors led by Björn Rhebergen will teach students the principles and practices of Natural Hoof & Horse Care. Participants will trim cadaver hooves, practice various horsemanship techniques, learn to measure hooves, handle live horses and discuss various NHC topics. Module 2 serves as the preparatory phase to **Module 3**.

Module 2 requirements, lessons and topics for evaluation:

- Critical measurements
- Safe horse handling
- Sequencing
- Safe and accurate tool handling
- Natural trim techniques
- Safety and fluidity when working under the horse
- Communication of NHC principles

Duration:

7 days

Module 3: Independent Study

After completing Module 2, students will return home where they continue to practice their newly acquired skillset independently in preparation for their upcoming **Mentor & Evaluation Program** (Module 4).

PPA will organize monthly webinars if needed for the purpose of continued education and Q&A. Students are encouraged to organize extracurricular study meetings with fellow students if possible in order to strengthen their knowledge of NHC in a class room format.

Module 3 requirements:

- 3 to 5 horses to work on practicing horsemanship, sequencing and measuring techniques.
- Students are required to submit **1 sequencing video** showing their progress **every 2 weeks**. These video's must display consistency and if possible improvement on horsemanship and sequencing skills. The purpose of these video's is to monitor student progress during this independent stage of our program.

Students are advised to acquire a freezer for the storage of cadaver hooves. For training purposes, these hooves can be trimmed unsupervised.

Duration:

Minimum of 30, maximum of 90 days

Module 4: Mentor & Evaluation Program

During this phase of our training program students will accompany their instructors as they visit their clientele. All students are required to complete a minimum of 12 mentorships. Ongoing evaluation during this module will determine if students can demonstrate consistency and improvement on their trimming techniques and horse handling skills.

Module 4, requirements, lessons and topics for evaluation:

- Critical measurements
- Safe horse handling
- Sequencing
- Safe and accurate tool handling
- Natural trim techniques
- Safety and fluidity when working under the horse
- Communication of NHC principles
- Client relations

Duration:

Typically 6 to 12 months

Module 5: Theoretical Exam

Upon successful completion of Module 4 students are eligible for a their final theoretical evaluation. This exam will test students on their theoretical understanding of NHC by ways of a theoretical exam consisting of 100 open questions. All exams are scheduled independently with each student.

Module 5 requirements:

- a minimum high score of 90% and completion within 48 hours after receiving the exam.

Module 6: Independent Study & Final Evaluation

During Module 6 students will officially initiate their independent NHC practice. During and upon completion of this module students are invited to sit in or assist on all clinics and workshops organized by instructors of the academy, free of charge.

Module 6 requirements:

- joining monthly webinars for continued education and Q&A
- submitting 4 case studies documenting their work over a period of 5 to 6 months
- submitting practical assignments
- submitting a minimum of two sequencing video's for evaluation

Upon successful completion of these case studies and their assignments students will be listed on the PPA website as qualified Natural Horse Care Practitioners.

Duration:

Typically 6 to 12 months

Continued Education (CE)

Upon successful completion of our training program students will be listed on the Academy's website and receive a certificate of competence stating their qualifications as NHC Practitioners.

In order to maintain their status and to ensure the safety of the animals in their care, mandatory training is required for all practitioners listed. These Continued Education training events will be organized by the Academy each year and take place at various locations. These clinics will not only serve as educational events but also as network engagements helping us grow a stronger NHC community.

General policies:

- should significant changes to our program or craft emerge, all members will be notified promptly
- any changes in structures or programs that may affect our work as practitioners will officially come into effect January 1st of the upcoming coming year, allowing our members time to prepare

Membership dues:

€16,95 per month or €220 yearly starting 12 months after enrollment into the training program.

Tools, Equipment & Learning Materials

All equipment and learning materials will be offered to enlisted participants or students on site, online or via local postal services.

Text books by Jaime Jackson:

- The Natural Horse
- Paddock Paradise
- The Natural Trim, Principles & Practice
- The Natural Trim, Basic Guidelines
- The Hoof Balancer
- Basic Guidelines
- Laminitis
- The Natural Trim, Advanced Guidelines
- Navicular

Online Learning Environment:

- NHC Advocate Course
- Webinars

PDF's:

- Student data forms

Measuring Equipment:

- Hoof Meter Reader
- Hoof Balancer Tool
- tape measurer
- caliper
- clipboard
- sharpie
- pen

Trimming Equipment

- Backsaver (tripod hoofstand)
- flat rasp + handle
- nippers
- bowsander
- hoofknife
- hoofpick
- radius rasp (2x)
- sole rasp (1x)
- shoe puller
- nail puller

Summary of Cost

Module 1 : Independent Study	€ 650	
Module 2: Introduction to NHC	€ 2.300	
Module 3: Independent Study	€ 240	
Module 4: Mentor & Evaluation Program	€ 3.360	€280 per day
Module 5: Final Review	€ 100	
Module 6: Independent Study& Final Evaluation	€ 220	
Tools & Equipment	€ 1.900	
Total Expenditure	€ 8.770	

- Prices include 21% VAT (business to business reverse charge upon request)
- Tuition payments are to be payed in full 30 days prior to attending each module.
- Mentorship days with instructors during Module 4 will be invoiced upon your scheduled appointment for a mentorship.
- All tools and required learning materials needed to prepare for or complete this program are included.
- The tools and equipment offered are highly specialized and mandatory for attending our program. Any **exclusions** will only be made if and when a student can provide similar and suitable equipment
- Prices do not include food and travel arrangements required for our practical courses or modules

Typical timeframe for a student to finish our program is 10 tot 18 months. The speed at which a student progresses will highly depend on the talent, skillset and determination of the individual.

Ethos

“Cause no harm, respect the healing powers of nature.”

The Paddock Paradise Academy was founded on the principles and practices of Natural Horse Care as described throughout our training program. Practicing members of PPA will diligently follow this system of horse care that facilitates the healing powers of nature in order to restore and or maintain equine vitality.

PPA practitioners will not participate, advocate, suggest or council in any pernicious act or procedure, including any manner of fixed shoeing or orthopedic treatment which impairs the hoof mechanism, obstructs the natural gaits or causes psychological or physical trauma upon any equine.

PPA practitioners remain respectful of other professionals involved in equine care and maintain confidentiality with their clients. Whatever connected or not connected to their professional services, seen or heard, with respect to the perpetration of serious and inhumane injuries of any equine, including transgressors of their own craft, practitioners are advised to report to officers of the law immediately.

Code of Conduct for practicing members of the Paddock Paradise Academy (PPA)

The Code of Conduct for our students and instructors are integrated below. They outline PPA rules for conducting training and rules governing appropriate behaviors that are expected of both teachers and students.

1. Ethics statement:

PPA holds that everyone should be treated equally regardless of race, sex, gender identification, sexual orientation, national origin, native language, religion, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, genetic information, pregnancy, or any other characteristic protected by law.

2. Training preparedness:

both instructors and students must come prepared to all clinics and with all required tools and equipment specified by the PPA prior to their training.

3. Dress Code for Clinics and Field Mentorships:

- a. Wear leather boots or other sturdy foot wear.
- b. Steel-toed boots are optional, but not recommended. While competence in Sequencing is viewed as the most appropriate way to avoid hoof related foot injuries, a foot injured in a sturdy leather boot is a better outcome than one crushed and cast in a steel-toed boot.
- c. No bare feet, sandals, thongs, or other foot wear that expose the bare foot.
- d. No woven or soft shelled shoes.
- e. Wear clothing that is both modest and appropriate for our work and weather conditions. Appropriate clothing includes a shirt and full length pants (footwear, gloves, and aprons are defined as “accessories.”).
- f. Respect others by bathing before arriving for training each day and not overusing perfumed cosmetics

4. Clinic and Field Mentorship training requirements and compliance:

- a. Students are to be compliant with current training step requirements posted on the PPA website or otherwise communicated.
- b. Students are to be compliant with training prerequisites pursuant to attending any clinic or field mentorships. Prerequisites are posted on the PPA website or listed in this Syllabus.
- c. Students are required to notify the PPA of any scheduling of training steps.

5. Clinic and mentorship conduct:

- a. Training can only be completed and conducted under the direction of appointed PPA instructors.
- b. All clinic and mentorship instruction is limited to training specified through the PPA website, Training Manuals and other currently listed PPA learning materials.
- c. Neither student or instructor student – nor anyone else – should attend clinics or mentorships while in possession, or under the influence, of alcohol or any other behavior modifying prescription or non-prescription drug. Our instructors are authorized to remove intoxicated students from their clinics, and report them to PPA leadership.
- d. PPA has no interest in regulating any discussion among students and teachers, providing the discussion does not elevate to unprofessional behaviors that alienate others or disrupts the training agenda. This would also apply to language that is generally considered to be inflammatory and offensive to others.
- e. The PPA encourages individuals to be tolerant and respectful of others opinions and beliefs. When this is not possible, individuals are free to take their conversations outside the clinic environment and resolve, mitigate or magnify their differences there as they please. All PPA instructors are charged with the responsibility of bringing disruptive individuals into compliance with acceptable professional behavior. This includes removing them from the clinics if necessary to maintain order.
- f. Although it is not uncommon for students to be dropped off by a companion, PPA clinics are accessible to instructors and students ONLY.
- g. PPA clinics and mentorships are not available for auditing or “sit ins”. Only registered PPA students are authorized to attend these training sessions.
- h. It is recommended to avoid night time activities that result in inattentive behaviors (“hangovers”/sleep deprivation) during clinic hours, and in tardiness. The PPA leaves it to the discretion of the lead instructor to remove such students from their clinic or field instruction.
- i. Do not engage in any behaviors that are intentionally or otherwise disruptive to training. This applies equally to students, practitioner or attending instructors. The PPA leaves it to the discretion of the lead instructor to remove disturbing individuals from their clinic or field instruction.
- j. All acts of violence, both physical or verbal, are prohibited.

- k. Firearms, knives, and other instruments that constitute a weapon are not acceptable in any PPA teaching environment or student gathering. Violators will be reported to PPA leadership and/or local authorities.
- l. All acts of sexual harassment, both physical or verbal, are prohibited.
- m. PPA has no interest in meddling in participants' personal or intimate relationships that may arise willfully by parties as a consequence of our clinics and field mentorships. However, such relationships should not impinge upon nor interfere with student training. The PPA encourages participants having such interest in each other to consider exploring the relationship after the entire clinic has been concluded.

5. Basis for disciplinary actions or expulsion from PPA

A member is subject to expulsion from the Paddock Paradise Academy for the following:

- a. non-payment of dues
- b. violation of our oath of allegiance
- c. the commission of any private or public act deleterious of the goals of the PPA (or otherwise detrimental to the interests of, or tending to cause disrepute to, the PPA, its leadership or members)
- d. exceeding recommended or customary periods of time in the training program without advancement
- e. failure to successfully complete continuing education requirements mandated by PPA leadership
- f. refusal to comply with leadership mandates
- g. the commission of any inhumane act to any equine or other animal
- h. failure to adhere to the Code of Ethics for practicing members

This document may be revised at any time PPA leadership deems it necessary to clarify and strengthen its content.