

**Questionnaire for  
ALL RIDERS and OWNERS  
of  
DEMONSTRATION HORSES**

Your thoughtful responses to the following questions will assist Leslie in helping you to help your horse, and your students. Please complete and return with your deposit.

To get the most out of the time you plan to work with Leslie and horses, it is highly recommended (but not mandatory) that you familiarize yourself as much as you can with his philosophical and technical approach to horse handling and riding through feel.

If you are familiar with the foundation tools / learning library that Leslie and Bill Dorrance have prepared for students who want to learn more about feel & release, check the materials you have studied.

Leslie's 3-DVD set "American Horsemanship for Young & Old"? \_\_\_\_\_

"True Horsemanship Through Feel" by Bill Dorrance & Leslie Desmond? \_\_\_\_\_

The 102 track, 10-CD Audio Book "Horse Handling and Riding Through Feel"? \_\_\_\_\_

*Leslie encourages her students to study these materials. She suggests that you download all of her articles, too, in order to become more familiar with the ways of horses and the optimum manner in which to approach them using their own frame of reference about YOU as a guide! Your ability to work inside the horse's world -- and to understand your optimum role in it -- will help you succeed at your goals and rapidly increase your skills at understanding the things that are most important to each horse you work with.*

*By incorporating the horse's own point of view into your decisions and actions, you will soon reap great rewards -- joy in and confidence about your work with the horse being the first things that will change. No matter where you are in the wide range of possible aptitude and skill levels, this approach will be the benefit of expanded awareness and insight, and provide good general advice and "hand-on" "how-to" tips for handling horses, pony, donkey or mule. Detailed, custom instructions for those involved in equine sports and competitions is part of each course.*

*It is not recommended to take a clinic, private instruction or bring your horse to a demonstration unless you are familiar ahead of time with this work.*

**“American Horsemanship for Young & Old” by Leslie Desmond (3-DVD Set, run time 2 hrs. 48 min. 1995.)**

**“True Horsemanship Through Feel” by Bill Dorrance and Leslie Desmond (386 pp., 750 illustrations. Paperback, 1999.)**

**“Horse Handling and Riding Through Feel” by Leslie Desmond (102 tracks in a 10-CD Audio Book, 2006.)**

These learning tools and many articles you will find at

**[www.lesliedesmond.com](http://www.lesliedesmond.com)**

You are welcome to download Leslie’s articles. Some have also been translated into Swedish, Norwegian, German, Finnish, Spanish and French.

*To complete this questionnaire use as many additional pages as you wish!*

*Please, write neatly, or type your replies.*

# Questionnaire for Riders and Horse Owners | 2016

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CLINIC HELD ON: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

VENUE LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ (City, State, Country)

COMPLETE CONTACT DETAILS FOR  
Name, postal address, e-mail and phone(s)

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What is your age and physical condition? What do you do for exercise?

How long have you ridden horses?

Trained horses?

Owned horses?

What is your current involvement with horses?

What are your long term goals with respect to horses?

Please provide a candid assessment of your limitations. This could be a physical limitation, emotional concerns where learning new things is concerned, could be anything. This information will help in developing a flexible, customized approach to you and your horse, and the dynamic between you in the circumstances that unfold over the course of the clinic.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PHYSICAL CONDITIONS:

Please describe as fully as you can, the horse-related injuries, or injuries sustained elsewhere, that currently or potentially affect your physical capacities with your horse or your mental/emotional perspective about certain exercises, tasks or this clinic generally.

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THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT FOR ME TO KNOW IN ORDER TO DEVELOP THE OPTIMUM LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND PACE FOR YOU AND YOUR HORSE.

*FAILURE TO DISCLOSE YOUR MEDICAL HISTORY AND CURRENT CONDITION COULD RESULT IN A SITUATION THAT LEADS TO YOUR COMPROMISED SAFETY AND WELL BEING. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO FULLY DISCLOSE THIS INFORMATION, PLEASE INITIAL THIS PARAGRAPH.*

\_\_\_\_\_ *(First and last initials.)*

I currently take the following medications prescribed by a physician. (REMINDER: YOUR ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTION, AND ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE ARE HELD IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE.)

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I have sustained the following injuries (not necessarily horse-related) and undergone surgery for the following medical conditions. (Please date the following incidents / entries.)

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## Questionnaire for Riders and Horse Owners | 2016

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Do you take riding or driving lessons currently? Please explain the methods you are learning and your current goals you are trying to achieve with this approach.

What aspects of horsemanship are most important to you?

What other things do you do to improve your horsemanship?

What specifically about your horsemanship would you like to improve through working with Leslie?

## Questionnaire for Riders and Horse Owners | 2016

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Have you ridden in one of Leslie's clinics previously? If so, have you been able to develop and expand on any of the things you learned, please be as specific as possible here.

*INFORMATION ABOUT THE HORSE(S) I WILL BRING TO THE CLINIC  
(please complete a separate form for each horse)*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE & GENDER: \_\_\_\_\_

BREED: \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR: \_\_\_\_\_ HEIGHT: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNED SINCE: \_\_\_\_\_ RIDDEN SINCE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the horses you are bringing to the clinic . . . include details physical and mental condition, past and current training, and use history. If there is something that you feel especially proud of, do not hesitate to let Leslie know. If there is something about the horse that you are not feeling good about, and it was not already stated in your answers to the previous questions, please state that situation, episode or character trait as clearly as you can.

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*Use additional paper or the backs of these pages, as needed.*

Why are you bringing these horse(s) to the clinic?

If not already stated, what is your assessment of your horse's strengths?

Limitations?

What do you like best about the horse that you are bringing to the clinic?

What do you like least about this horse?



## Questionnaire for Riders and Horse Owners | 2016

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Does your horse eat from your hand? If so, how often?

Are these horse(s) well suited for the current work you do together?

What short-term and long-term goals have you set for your horse, if any?

If or when your horse becomes pushy or distracted, and if he bumps into you or cannot seem to give you the space you require, please describe the circumstances. Write as much about this as you like, use more paper if needed.

How much handling has this horse had on **the right side of his body** during routine (day-to-day) handling?

Formal training (**on the right side of his body**) ?

Tacking up (**on the right side of his body**) ?

Mounting and Dismounting (**on the right side of his body**) ?

How are his upward and downward transitions?

Turns left and right in hand?

Turns left and right when mounted?

Stops?

Lead changes?

Please describe how your horse handles on the end of a short (6 - 8 ft.) lead rope.

And on a 15-20 ft. lead?

Longer?

What amount of time do you set aside in order to load your horse a trailer, and how would you describe the experience of loading and unloading this horse from the trailer?

Please include details such as: what types of trailers does he load into easily? What sort of trailer presents you or the horse with a formidable challenge when it is time to go somewhere?

Last, please tell me a little bit about the way he responds to having his feet picked up by you?

By your farrier or trimmer?

Can he still while tied by a single line? (As opposed to cross tied.)

How does he behave when you bridle and saddle him?

Do you believe that your saddle fits the horse you are riding in the clinic?

Does he stand still for mounting?

Have you schooled your horse in "collection" or "in a frame"?

If so, was this with or without the use of training aids (draw reins, biting rigs, side reins, running martingales, etc.)? Please explain.

***Thank you for giving your thoughtful consideration to these questions.***

***Welcome!***