



Equine Soundness

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There's always a first...

Every newsletter has it's story. Here is ours:

We, the instructors and consultants of Equine Soundness, have studied horse and hoof care for more than thirty years. We are working every day with clients and their horses. We are trimming in the field, visiting horses for hoofcare on a regular basis, educating horse owners at their barns and in seminars.

Our concern reaches far beyond hoof care:

We have a talented equine dentist, dedicated hoof care specialists, a natural horse trainer, a conventional horse trainer, a nationally known nutritionist and a veterinarian on staff.

We educate about first aid and emergency responses.

We like to take this platform to stay in touch with the horse community, inform you about upcoming events and changes in our programs.

We invite your comments and questions and hope to build a strong relationship with our readers, friends and students.

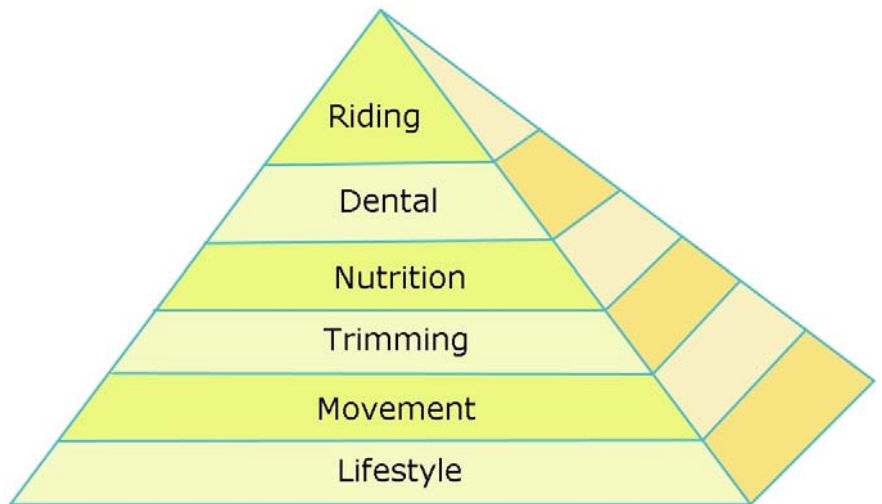


Take heart, Spring is right around the corner

The Holistic Horseman’s Husbandry Pyramid

This pyramid reflects the basis of our work with horses.

Optimal lifestyle means herd life, exposure to the elements, free access to water. Movement is paramount to the horse’s well being. Correct trimming influences far more than the absence of lameness. In this age of environmental toxins and nutritionally depleted fields, we have to reach for a new understanding of nutrition requirements. Without regular dental care, the best nutrition and bodywork program may fail, and finally most of us have horses because we like to ride. Without a correct basis in the pyramid, we will run into a multitude of problems.



Freedom Farm, Port Angeles, WA

The first time I came to Freedom Farms there was a different kind of energy to be felt. It was buoyant, uplifting, encouraging. There were so many things to see and experience. Horses of incredible caliber—may I say international quality? Smiling instructors, barn help, trimmers and owners. Everyone was positive and helpful. Encouraging all the way. The facilities—a working cattle ranch and a natural horse barn—are light and inviting. The lecture room is overseeing the covered arena, The office is adjacent to that and the horses have the luxury of living outside year round. They are fed organic hay grown right there on the farm, are subjected to expert hoofcare, dentistry and emergency care. Here you can learn about natural horsemanship.

The owner Mary Gallagher is a most accomplished horse woman and a Parelli Instructor. Her husband Jerry Schmidt is an incredibly talented trimmer and expert in equine dentistry. Their associate Audrey Bryant has developed a holistic first aid kit (<http://www.soundhorsesolutions.net>) and together they are teaching seminars about holistic horsemanship. To inquire about their services, please e-mail freedomf@olypen.com or check out the website <http://www.freedomfarms.net>

“Freedom Farm has so much positive energy, it’s contagious”



Programs at Equine Soundness

Equine Soundness is offering Hoof Care Courses for the discriminating Horse Owner, Professional Student, Veterinarian and Farrier. Years of experience in the field and in the class room have brought us to this learning platform. We are proud to offer you cutting edge information in an appealing format. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

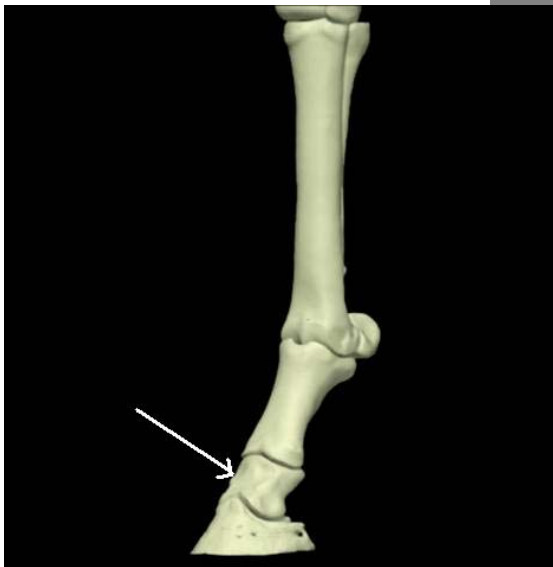
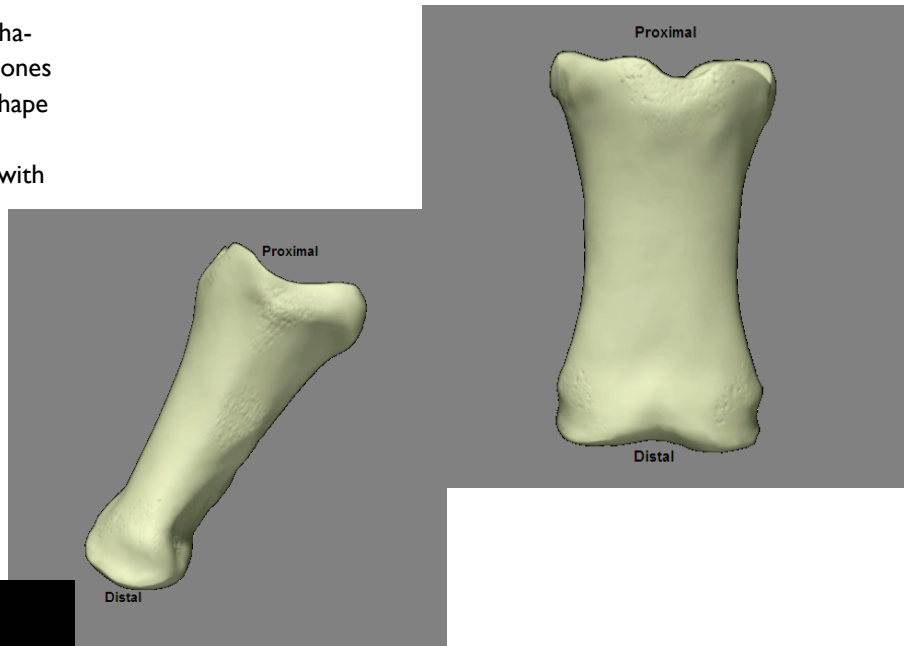
- All of our programs are self-paced
- Quality and affordable distance education
- No classes to attend
- Enrollment is open and students may begin their studies at any time

Long and Short Pastern Bones, Sesamoidal Bones

The long pastern bone, also named the first phalanx or P1, is the more proximal of the two bones in the pastern. P1 has a flattened, cylindrical shape and is slightly flared at each end. It articulates proximally with the cannon bone and distally with the short pastern bone (second phalanx or P2). It can be felt immediately under the skin and the extensor tendon.

The joint surfaces of P1 are concave proximally and convex distally (at the pastern joint).

Both proximal and distal surfaces have a clearly defined central groove that runs front to back.



Left: The short pastern bone (2nd phalanx or P2) is the middle one of the three bones that form the bony column of the digit. It has a similar appearance to P1, except that it is generally only half the length of P1 and so is more formed like a cube. Like P1 the articular surfaces are concave proximally (at the pastern joint) and convex distally (at the coffin joint), but P2 has a sagittal ridge at its proximal end that fits into the sagittal groove on the distal end of P1. Additionally, it has a shallow indentation on its distal articular surface that fits with a median bulge in the articular surface of P3.

Right: The proximal palmar sesamoids are the pair of bones that lie on the palmar surface of the fetlock joint, imbedded within a mass of ligamentous tissue that unites the suspensory (interosseus) ligament with the distal sesamoidian ligaments and the collateral ligaments of the fetlock joint.





Equine Soundness

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Education For A Better
Tomorrow Around The
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