



## FRIENDS OF COMSU APPLICATION

\$15.00 Donation

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ (Minimum age is 16)

(Ages 16-17 must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian at all activities.)

### **ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO FRIENDS:**

- Friends are invited to participate in meetings, trainings and socials.
- Additional training costs, i.e. First Aid/ CPR, may be required.
- Ages 18 and above may participate on horseback at COMSU only trainings (except simulations), if there is space available. Friends may observe or serve as actors in simulations.
- NO stallions or horses under age 4 are permitted at any event.
- All ages are invited to social rides with their mounts.
- Helmets are required for all official mounted events, and helmets are recommended for social rides.
- There will be email notification of all searches to which COMSU responds, IF the search is open to the public. Friends may serve as lay volunteers but are not guaranteed they would be assigned to a COMSU team by the Incident Command. Friends would not be insured by the Licking County Emergency Management Agency or COMSU.
- Registration is required at all events.

I desire to be put on the Wait List for Membership. You must be 18 to apply.

***By signing this document, I agree to all the requirements set out for each activity.***

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Signature

Parent/ Guardian



## FRIENDS OF COMSU GUIDELINES

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- I. While attending trainings or simulations, FRIENDS are encouraged to abide by the following code of conduct:
  - Exhibit a professional, dignified demeanor
  - Refrain from using foul, derogatory or discriminatory language
  - Refrain from consumption of alcoholic beverages during trainings or simulations
  - Refrain from “cowboying” or similar unsafe practices with horses
  
- II. Teamwork and Safety are essential. Therefore, please:
  - Make an effort to get to know each member including his or her strengths and weaknesses.
  - Be accepting of those strengths and weaknesses without prejudicial judgment.
  - Be willing to accept constructive criticism—we can always learn from each other.
  - Be considerate of all members.
  - Always clean up after yourself and/or your horse.
  - Any problems encountered during a training or simulation will be discussed at a debriefing.
  - Any problems specific to COMSU are never to be aired to the public, other units or agencies.
  
- III. Some attributes of a volunteer are:
  - Commitment—be committed to the cause and ideals involved.
  - Cooperative—be a good team player. Looking out for and helping other members is vital.
  - Organized—maintain your equipment in good working order.
  
- IV. IF as a FRIEND you choose to participate in a search which is open to the public, please keep these points in mind:
  - Search work is not glamorous; instead it is hard work.
  - Hours are irregular and can occur at any time for as long as necessary.
  - Personnel must be willing to accept directions from officials in charge. Your role is to assist at the direction of the Incident Commander.
  - Teamwork is paramount.
  - Be mindful that: a) hurry up and wait is the mantra of search and rescue work; and 2) egos are best left home.
  - In the event of a missing person be keenly aware of the presence of a victim’s family and friends and sensitive to their feelings.
  - Please refrain from speaking with the media. Instead, courteously refer them to someone in command.
  - SPECIFICS OF A SEARCH AND DETAILS OF ANY VICTIMS OR EVIDENCE ARE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMSU RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TERMINATE THE MEMBERSHIP OF ANY FRIEND SHOULD SAID INDIVIDUAL CHOOSE NOT TO ABIDE BY THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH ABOVE.