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Diane Meyer

Ground Staff Position

**Personal Profile**

I have worked in the Equine Industry in various roles for more than 15 years’ and have been riding horses since I was a young child. I am passionate about horses and strive to stay up to date with the ever-changing requirements in the Equine Industry as they evolve, particularly regarding new trends and techniques.

I have been involved in the veterinary treatment of my own horses as well as those I work with in my professional capacity. I have assisted with stitching of wounds, vaccinations, drenching and colic treatments. I am very aware of how important it is to follow veterinary instruction when it comes to medication and dosages and believe in top quality wound care. I have implemented treatment regimes under Veterinary guidance for pulled and torn tendons after surgery and am able to keep up the exercise program for horses that have been diagnosed with Kissing Spine.

I have empathy for the thoroughbred breed and I find working with them very rewarding especially when they complete their racings careers and they can be retrained for a second career. My passion for Horses has been a lifelong experience and I enjoy working with all breeds of horses as each has its own unique qualities and talents.

Show Jumping together with my studies in Equine Science, has taught me to be very aware of prohibited substances which together with the regulations of the FEI, assists me in ensuring that horses in my care are not exposed or introduced to any prohibited substances. I believe that all the horses that I ride and take care of should get the very best care possible.

During my career I have been involved in the sale of Horses, Show Jumping as well as Coaching and Training. I ensure that Horses are prepared for turnout. I have doen backing and breaking in of youngster to saddle, as well as schooling up and getting fit for sales.

I possess considerable organisational skills and consider myself to be a team player. I follow instructions well and demonstrate a high degree of follow through. I work well on my own as well as in a team and consider myself to be an experienced, task orientated employee that is proactive and mission orientated. I have a solid understanding of the Equine Industry. I am highly professional, adaptable and persistent and have a strong preference for adhering to established rules, regulations and protocols that have been proven to work.

I am recognised as a tenacious and results driven employee with excellent customer service forming the baseline of my career philosophy and employ a participative management style, being calm and dependable under pressure.

I manage a multi-levelled workload, meeting deadlines and challenges head-on with great attention to detail and believe in maintaining high standards.

**Strengths**

* Managing Yards
* Able to handle Foals, Weanlings, Yearlings and Brood Mares with confidence and skill
* Excellent Horse Grooming & Skills
* Solid experience in Horse Grooming & Care
* Educating Horses with an emphasis on difficult horses
* Starting the yearling’s education and yearling prep
* Strong rider with excellent results with difficult horses
* Teaching Students Horse Care, Horse Riding, Show Jumping (Theory & Practical)
* Natural affinity and passion for Horses
* Strong Management Skills – directive, action-oriented and responsive
* Excellent interpersonal skills and work very well in a team
* Superb customer facing and client relationship management skills
* Excellent time management and communication skills
* Reliable and always have a positive attitude
* Drive for excellence and strong work ethic
* Loyalty
* Dedication
* Constantly learning new skills to keep up with trends

**Technical Skills / IT Skills / Professional Memberships**

* **Registered with Council of Equine & Equestrian Professionals of South Africa as a Professional Head Groom and South African Show Jumping and South African Equestrian Federation**
* MS Office – Full Suite
* Pastel & Sage1 V1 – online portal
* VIP – Payroll
* Register MS Partner
* MS Excel – Pivot Tables & Graphs

**Qualification / Education / Training**

* **Matric**, ZA – 1994
* **Diploma Equine Sciences**, Tshwane University of Technology. Pretoria, ZA - 1995 – 1996
* **Equine Qualifications Authority of South Africa, ZA January 2018 - current**

**Professional Groom, Professional Head Groom & Stable Manager Qualification Professional Groom (Module 1/NQF1)**

Blankets & Boots / Grooming / Yard Management / Equine Physiology & Behaviour 1 / Tack 1

**Professional Head Groom (Module 2/NQF2)**

**Tack 2 / Equine Physiology & Behaviour 2 / Grooming & Turnout / Trucking & Travel / Lunging 1 / Yard Management 2**

**Stable Manager (Module 3/NQF3)**

Stable Yard Business Management / Conformation / Equine Health Care / Equine Dentition / Equine Foot Care / Equine Functional Systems / Equine Nutrition / Lunging 2 / Equine Unsoundness

**Completed my NQF4, awaiting my results.**

**Scored 98% on my ridden proficiency tests.**

* **Level One First Aid**

**Achievements**

* **South African National Children’s Championship - Rand Easter Show - 1989 & 1993**
* **6th Place Inter Africa Cup Championship 2019**
* **Coached by the world-renowned international showjumper Gonda Betrix**

**Work History**

**Al Shama Arabian Stud & Equestrian Centre, ZA**

**September 2014 to Current**

**Instructor & General Assistant**

* Teach basic horse riding from beginners to advanced
* Teach basic stable management and grooming
* Assisted with backing and breaking of youngsters under saddle
* Prepare all horses and pupils for shows including turnout and plaiting
* Accompany all pupils to shows and assisted my pupils to compete in the Inter-schools’ league
* Assisted with running of stables and general Horse Care
* Assisted with covering of Mares during breeding season
* Responsible for the early handling of Foals, as well as working with Weanlings and Yearlings
* Responsible for foal and yearling education and development
* Assist with getting the Thoroughbred yearlings ready for sales

**Harveston Stables, ZA**

**2011 to August 2014**

**Instructor & General Assistant**

* Teach basic horse riding from beginners to advanced
* Teach basic stable management and grooming
* Prepare all horses and pupils for shows including turnout and plaiting.
* Accompany all pupils to shows.
* Educated very difficult horses and schooled them up.

**GFM Computer Solutions, ZA**

**April 2008 – Current**

**Office and Administration Manager**

* Managing all invoicing, quotations and stock orders
* Processing the company books and banking.
* Processing all the tax and personal tax transactions for the company.
* Customer relations and answering customer queries.
* Was responsible for debtors and creditors.
* Was also responsible for sales, stock and stock counting.

**Own Business, ZA**

**1999 – 2007**

**Buying and Selling Horses**

**Buying promising young horses from the race track, schooling them up and reselling.**

* Managed my own yard and looked after between 6 and 20 horses on my own.
* Backed and broke in youngsters under saddle for owners
* Trained the youngsters myself and took to shows and was responsible for turn out.
* Managed the books and sales for the business, customer relations and advertising.
* Identifying promising horses from the track

**Referees**

**Chardine Kirchner**

Owner of Al Shama Arabian Stud and Equestrian Centre

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**Barend Kok**

My instructor for more than 10 years

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