# C:\Users\Gretchen\Documents\Darkhorse Lodge\DHLLogoRed.png 1951 Swor Rd.

# Springville, TN 38256

# 731-363-3616

# 100 Miles Rules of Engagement

Dear Darkhorse Lodge Trek Representative,

My Name is Jerry Oleson. I am a board member for Darkhorse Lodge and the coordinator for the 100 mile Trek For Troops being hosted by Darkhorse Lodge. Thank you for joining the trek! Your commitment to raise funds to make this lodge a reality is beyond measure.

The goal of our trek is for each team to walk a total of 100 miles to help raise funds to build Darkhorse Lodge and raise awareness for the need of a retreat for combat veterans. However your team chooses to split the 100 miles is up to you. The people who commit under your guidance during this challenge will be your sole responsibility. I need you to be even more committed as you are the driving force of motivation for these go getters. Perhaps you can get your local schools involved (it’s a great opportunity for kids to learn about Veterans Day!) or maybe the gyms or running clubs in your area. How about recruiting stations for the different branches of service? Hopefully, you will even make the trek yourself.

We do ask that you take a photo of your team with a sign showing the city and state in which your trek will take place. Please email this photo to darkhorsetrek@gmail.com or post to our Darkhorse Lodge Facebook page.

I have established some rules of engagement. This is solely to ensure that this event remains organized, safe and successful. The trek will be done across the country on the same weekend and will be a coordinated effort.

1. The course you choose must be off state highways as much as possible. You may cross them or use them if it’s a main route in a town or city where walking is permitted in that area.
2. Participants will be doing this on a VOLUNTEER ONLY basis, for the sole purpose of raising monies for Darkhorse Lodge, a 501(C)(3) organization.
3. Your job is to set a course, make sure there are resources within 10 miles at all times (water, food, & EMS response). Gas stations are a perfect safety point. EMS must be available if called upon. No need to have them on standby for your whole event since we cannot pay them.
4. Each pledge will be by the mile in increments of one quarter. $0.25, $0.50, $0.75, or $1.00 (or more) per mile. If a sponsor so chooses, they may pledge a set amount instead of pledging per mile.
5. We will accept checks made out to Darkhorse Lodge.
6. You are supplied with a pledge sheet, a waiver and a separate sheet that will list all of your walkers. Please make a copy of the pledge sheet and the waiver for each person on your team. After all pledge money is collected, you will turn in the master list of walkers and one pledge sheet and waiver for each participant along with the pledge money
7. Participants may walk solo or in teams that will collectively walk a total of 100 miles. Our goal is for each participant to obtain at least 10 pledges. We encourage teams to challenge each other to see who can get the most pledges!
8. You are responsible for managing accountability of those making the trek and for making certain that you have a signed waiver for each person.
9. When the trek gets closer, we hope that you will notify your local media regarding your walk. Contacting the newspaper office and maybe your local TV and/or radio station just may get you on the news! It is our goal to get as much press as possible to raise awareness for Darkhorse Lodge. For media questions, please direct them to call # 731-363-3616.
10. Don’t forget to notify your local law enforcement agencies and make them aware of your route.
11. Please ask your participants to collect their pledges within 2 weeks of completing the trek. You are requested to mail your paperwork and pledge money to the address at the top of this letter, no later than December 1st.

Please understand that your support and participation is not taken for granted. Being the representative for your area is a responsibility. I get it. I am walking the trek as well. Our combat veterans walked miles in their boots so that we may live the life we choose. Yes I am a formerly active duty Marine, but I am an even bigger patriot. I believe the least I can do is to walk 100 miles to honor these men and women who have been called upon and have seen more than any person should. They deserve a safe haven to relax with other combat veterans who have “walked in their boots”. Let’s show them how much we care about and appreciate what they have done for our country!

I can’t thank you enough for stepping up to this larger than life responsibility and taking part in such an amazing and special event that you helped create!!!

Jerry Oleson

Board Member, Darkhorse Lodge