

Cowboy Joe Pony Handler Duties



Cowboy Joe is a long-time symbol of the University of Wyoming

Role of a UW Pony Handler

Mission: As a Cowboy Joe Handler, you represent the University of Wyoming at athletic events, major Wyoming shows such as Cheyenne Frontier Days and Wyoming State Fair, and other notable university activities such as Homecoming and Family Weekend. In addition to interacting with the public, handlers are responsible for escorting Joe to these events, training, and grooming Cowboy Joe.

Training: Each individual handler will be responsible for working with the lead handler and participation in a training program. Training session times/dates will vary throughout the semesters.

Home Football Game Days: Handlers are required to meet at the school farms prior to the game to prep and groom Joe. Handlers must be at Tailgate Park/ Gateway Center for the Pep Rally Cowboy Walk with Joe two hours and fifteen minutes before kickoff time. After leading the band, cheerleaders and players to the locker rooms, handlers will escort Joe through Tailgate Park for “meet and greet” with Joe. Handlers will need to have Joe on the north end of the football field fifteen minutes before kickoff to be in place for running behind the team down the field. Handlers are required to remain with Joe on the field during the

entire game and their presence is required on occasion for halftime festivities. During the game, handlers will run Joe across the south end-zone following a touchdown or field goal.

Parades: Handlers will be expected to participate in selected summer events such as Laramie Jubilee Days Parade (first week in July), both Saturday parades at Cheyenne Frontier Days (last two Saturdays in July), and the Wyoming State Fair (3rd week in August). During the school year, handlers will also participate in the UW Homecoming parade and other university oriented activities.

Handler Code of Conduct: As representatives of the University of Wyoming, handlers will conduct themselves in a manner that will have a positive reflection on the handler program and the university. The requirement for professional conduct extends throughout the event and during travel to and from events. If selected, handlers are members until graduation or their fourth year of college attendance. Handlers must remain in good academic standing to remain as members of the handler team. In the event of a report of inappropriate actions or failure to remain in good academic standing, the Cowboy Joe Handler Selection Committee will review the information and take appropriate action. Those chosen to be handlers of Cowboy Joe will be asked to read, sign, and adhere to the handler code of conduct.

Handler Award: In appreciation for volunteering, each handler will receive a performance award of \$500/semester generously donated by members of the Cowboy Joe Club and alumni handlers.

Attire: Each handler is expected to dress professionally for every Cowboy Joe appearance. Each handler will need to provide clean, appropriate jeans, cowboy boots, and a straw hat. The rest of the uniform (e.g. long-sleeve shirts, T-shirts, jacket and belt buckle) is provided and paid for with the Cowboy Joe Handler Fund.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Full time student
- In good academic standing with the University of Wyoming
- Planning to be in Laramie for the full 2016/17 academic year

In addition for filling out the Cowboy Joe Handler Application, applicant must read and understand the Handler Duties and Code of Conduct. When submitting the application, a signed copy of the Handler Duties must be submitted.

Signing below states that
you the applicant
understand and agree to the
terms of the Handler Code
of Conduct and Duties

Signature:

Date:

Please submit the Handlers Duties with the Cowboy Joe Handler Application via hard copy or electronically to Anne Leonard at AGRDean@uwyo.edu

If you have any specific questions or concerns, feel free to contact the Head Handler, Taryn Chapman: (719) 429-7843, tchapma5@uwyo.edu